

DALLAS BLACK DANCE THEATRE



RELENTLESS EXCELLENCE

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Dallas Black Dance Theatre Performing at IABD in Denver, Colorado

Dallas, TX - Dallas Black Dance Theatre (DBDT) is performing at the International Association of Blacks in Dance (IABD) 28th Annual Conference and Festival in Denver, Colorado on January 20-24, 2016. The DBDT professional company, DBDT II, and DBDT Academy Allegro ensemble will perform during the five-day conference, celebrating dance by people of African ancestry or origin. This event represents the broadest gathering of Black dance professionals in the United States and internationally; including executive directors, artistic directors, company managers, choreographers, artists, presenters, teachers, historians, educators, funders, and agents.

DBDT founder Ann Williams is a founding member and 2nd Vice Chair of the International Association of Blacks in Dance. Ms. Williams will participate in a panel discussion of living dance-industry legends representing different regions across the United States. "The International Association of Black Dance started out as an organization of five black women who operated dance companies sharing their resources, successes, and challenges, but it has grown into so much more than that," explained Ms. Williams. "Now our organization attracts participants of all races, genders, and ages with a common thread of working to improve and strengthen the African-American dance industry."

More than 30 dance companies from around the world will convene at the international dance conference, including Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater (New York), PHILADANCO! (Pennsylvania), Lula Washington Dance Theatre (California), Forces of Nature Dance Theatre (New York), Dance Theatre of Harlem (New York), and NAISDA Dance College (Australia). Cleo Parker Robinson Dance (Denver, Colorado) is hosting the event. Dallas Black Dance Theatre has participated in the dance conference since 1988 and has hosted the event six times.

During the five day conference and festival, participants will receive invaluable professional development through dance workshops, panels, and master classes designed for all dance levels, student through professional.

National auditions will be held and provide an opportunity for professional dancers

to be seen by potential employers from across the nation. For the first time, International Association of Black Dance will also hold ballet auditions for women of color who are seeking contracts with premiere ballet companies in the United States, including Ballet Memphis, Charlotte Ballet, Colorado Ballet, Dance Theatre of Harlem, The Hartt School, Houston Ballet, Houston Ballet Academy, Nashville Ballet, School of Nashville Ballet, Pacific Northwest Ballet School, Pennsylvania Ballet, San Francisco Ballet, and Washington Ballet.

DBDT Allegro ensemble performs on Thursday, January 21, 2016, at 7:30 p.m. in the historic Paramount Theatre with other youth groups. Tickets are \$35. DBDT II performs on Friday night, January 22, 2016, at 7:30 p.m. in the Ellie Caulkins Opera House with other IABD member companies from across the country. Tickets are \$65. DBDT performs on Saturday night, January 23, 2016, at 8:00 p.m. at the Ellie Caulkins Opera House/DPAC with other IABD founding companies. Tickets are \$65. For IABD performance ticket information visit www.iabdassociation.org/performances.

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