



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**EXPERIENCE DANCE COMPANIES FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY
DURING THREE NIGHTS OF PERFORMANCES IN DALLAS
BY INTERNATIONAL DANCE ORGANIZATION**

Dallas, TX. - Three dozen premier and emerging dance companies from across the nation will dazzle Dallas audiences during a three-night showcase of the **29th Annual International Conference and Festival of Blacks in Dance**. **Dallas Black Dance Theatre** is hosting the conference and festival as part of its 40th Anniversary Season. The festival performances will be held Thursday-Saturday, January 26-28, 2017 nightly at 7:30 p.m. in the Majestic Theatre, 1925 Elm Street, Dallas, TX. 75201.

Professional dance companies from Los Angeles to New York and South Korea will command the stage on Saturday night. It is a chance to experience prominent dance companies on one stage in one night. Among those performing are the founding companies of the **International Association of Blacks in Dance (IABD)** as well as national and international guests. The Saturday night lineup includes **Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater** (New York, NY), **B. Moore Dance** (South Korea), **Cleo Parker Robinson Dance** (Denver, CO), **Dallas Black Dance Theatre** (Dallas, TX) **Dayton Contemporary Dance Company** (Dayton, OH), **Forces of Nature** (New York, NY), **Lula Washington Dance Theatre** (Los Angeles, CA) and **PHILADANCO!** (Philadelphia, PA).

The Friday night performance features established artists and IABD member showcases including **Atlanta Dance Connection** (Atlanta, GA), **DBDT: Encore!** (Dallas, TX), **Eleone Dance Company** (Philadelphia, PA) and **Leah Glenn Dance Company** (Williamsburg, VA). **Texas Ballet Theater** (Fort Worth, TX) is the special guest artist for the evening.

Thursday night, the talents of emerging artists and youth ensembles will be showcased. Some of the featured dance ensembles include **Dallas Black Dance Academy Allegro Ensemble** (Dallas, TX), **DIFE Dance Company** (Lafayette, LA), **Duke Ellington School of the Arts** (Washington, DC), **Renaissance High School** (Detroit, MI) and **West Las Vegas Arts Center** (Las Vegas, NV).

"Each night these talented premier and emerging artists will electrify the audience," said IABD Executive Director **Denise Saunders Thompson**. "This is the ultimate dance experience."

Dallas Black Dance Theatre (DBDT) has hosted the conference and festival on seven occasions. Daily panel discussions, workshops will take place at conference headquarters at the Sheraton Dallas Hotel, located at 400 North Olive Street, Dallas, Texas 75201. Master classes will be held at Dallas Black Dance Theatre, Dallas City Performance Hall, and

Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts. 700 people connected to the dance industry are expected to attend the conference.

All public performances will be held at the Majestic Theatre, 1925 Elm Street, Dallas, TX. 75201 and will begin at 7:30 p.m.

For performance ticket details visit www.attpac.org.

For group ticket sales of 10 or more call 214-871-2390 email groupsales@DBDT.com.

For conference details check www.iabdassociation.org/conference.

About International Association of Blacks in Dance (IABD):

IABD has been the national service organization for Black dance professionals for over 25 years. It was formed to celebrate, preserve and promote dance from African origins. IABD also assists and increases opportunities for artists in networking, funding, performance, education, audience development, philosophical dialogue, touring and advocacy. IABD developed out of the International Conference and Festival of Blacks in Dance, which was first held 29 years ago. This event has become an epicenter for all individuals who are interested in the rich history, contributions, and advancement of black dance performance and artistry.

About Dallas Black Dance Theatre

Founded in 1976 by **Ann Williams**, Dallas Black Dance Theatre (DBDT) is the 10th largest minority arts organization in the America, the fourth largest black dance company in the nation and the oldest continuously operating professional dance company in the City of Dallas. The mission of Dallas Black Dance Theatre is to create and produce contemporary modern dance at its highest level of artistic excellence through performances and educational programs that bridge cultures and reach diverse communities. With an ever-expanding national and global audience, the company employs a diverse, multi-ethnic troupe of dancers performing for audiences of all ages and backgrounds.

Located in a historic facility at the eastern end of the thriving downtown Dallas Arts District, Dallas Black Dance Theatre is a nationally and internationally recognized professional modern dance company. DBDT engages the cross-cultural community through contemporary modern dance presented from the African American experience. Dallas Black Dance Theatre is a resident company member of the AT&T Performing Arts Center - Dee and Charles Wyly Theatre located in Dallas's Art District.

During its 40-year history, Dallas Black Dance Theatre has performed on five continents, in 15 countries and 31 states, including two Olympic Cultural events. Over the years, more than 4 million arts patrons and 2.6 million students, grades K-12, have experienced the dance company's performances and educational outreach programs. DBDT serves more than 100,000 people annually, including more than 20,000 youth in grades K-12 in Dallas-Fort Worth area schools. DBDT offers community outreach services through workshops, lecture/demonstrations, master-classes, residences, mini-performances and student matinees that are designed level-specific for elementary, middle, high school and university students. Another 40,000 youth and adults are reached through local, national and international festivals, tours, special performances at universities, social service agencies, professional and corporate organizations, civic events and community venues.

Dallas Black Dance Theatre is comprised of five performing companies and its training Academy. Dallas Black Dance Theatre's professional company, **DBDT**, consists of 12 full-time professional dancers performing a mixed repertory of modern, jazz, African and spiritual works by national and international choreographers. **DBDT: Encore!** (formerly DBDT II) features eight artists of rising excellence from across the nation that support DBDT's growing local and regional educational outreach.

Dallas Black Dance Academy, the official school of Dallas Black Dance Theatre, celebrates 43 years of delivering dance instruction to a community of diverse backgrounds. Over 500 students participate weekly in 50 dance classes of ballet, jazz, tap, modern, and African at DBDT studios for ages four to adult. The academy has three performing ensembles: Allegro (DBDT's premier academy ensemble), Senior Performing Ensemble and Junior Performing Ensemble.

For more details visit www.DBDT.com and www.dbdt.com/academy.

Right click to copy or save photographs. Please call if you need a higher resolution photograph.



Dallas Black Dance Theatre dancers Michelle Hebert and Sean J. Smith. Photographed by The Dallas Dance Project.



PHILADANCO! as photographed by CJ Harris.

Dallas Black Dance Theatre, 2700 Ann Williams Way, Dallas, TX 75201

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