

DALLAS BLACK DANCE THEATRE



RELENTLESS EXCELLENCE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 22, 2017

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Dallas Black Dance Theatre's 12th Annual DanceAfrica Celebrates Founders Life, Dr. Charles "Baba Chuck" Davis And his Mantra "Love, Peace, Respect for Everybody"

Dallas, TX - **Dallas Black Dance Theatre (DBDT)** presents its 12th Annual DanceAfrica celebrating the life of National DanceAfrica Founder, **Dr. Charles "Baba Chuck" Davis**, Friday October 6, 2017 through Saturday October 7, 2017. This year's DanceAfrica, co-sponsored by **MUFG Union Bank and PurePoint Financial** celebrates the rich heritage and ancestry of Africa with community outreach activities, two evening concert performances and a free festival and marketplace.

Audiences from across North Texas will experience the beauty, rhythms, instruments and dances of African culture with five Dallas Black Dance Theatre companies: **DBDT, DBDT Encore!, Allegro Performing Ensemble, Senior Performing Ensemble and Junior Performing Ensemble**. Featured guest artist and crowd pleaser **Bandan Koro African Drum and Dance Ensemble** under the artistic direction of **Tony Browne**, who was mentored by "Baba Chuck" will entertain and energize everyone. A special tribute to "Baba Chuck" will be woven throughout the performance with his words of wisdom and mantra "*Peace, Love, Respect for Everybody*" on video.

The evening performances will be held Friday, October 6 and Saturday, October 7 at the Moody Performance Hall (formerly City Performance Hall) at 7:30 p.m. DBDT: *Encore!* Director, **Nycole Ray** and Director for the 12th Annual DanceAfrica says, "We have all learned and loved "Baba Chuck" for the way he spread love and understanding through the community using African dance. We are asking our patrons to wear white and bring a white handkerchief for the evening performances which will include audience participation in the finale."

Fun for the whole family, the free outdoor marketplace is planned for Saturday, October 7, 2017 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The marketplace will kick off with a parade and processional at 9:30 a.m. in the Arts District. An array of festivities including vendors, food, art, children's activities, face painting, a fashion show and performances by local community artists will all be a part of the free event. Local artists highlighting the marketplace's stage performances include **Texas Women's University International Dance Company, World Dance Ensemble Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts, Dallas Youth Repertory Project, DC3 of Lancaster High School, Concord Church GEiMs Youth Praise Dancers, Terry Jackson and 8 & 1**. Admission is FREE.

FREE AFRICAN DANCE MASTER CLASSES

Dallas Black Dance Theatre will present free African master dance classes in the community on Wednesday, September 27, 2017 from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at the South Dallas Cultural Center, 3400 S. Fitzhugh Avenue, Dallas, TX 75210. A second class will be

held on Sunday, October 1, 2017 from 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. at the Pan African Connection, 4466 S. Marsalis, Dallas, TX 75216

DANCEAFRICA PERFORMANCES

Friday and Saturday, October 6-7, 2017

7:30 p.m.

Moody Performance Hall

2520 Flora Street

Dallas, TX 75201

Tickets \$35.00

DANCEAFRICA MARKETPLACE FESTIVAL-FREE

Saturday, October 7, 2017

10 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Annette Strauss Artist Square

2389 Flora Street

Dallas, Texas

TICKETS

Performance ticket prices are \$35.00.

For single tickets visit www.attpac.org or call 214-880-0202.

Group tickets are available by calling 214-871-2390.

For more information, contact 214-871-2390 or www.dbdt.com

2017 - 2018 | Performance Sponsors



Co-sponsor: **MUFG Union Bank & PurePoint Financial**

Supporting Sponsor: **Dallas Arts District**

Guest Artists Sponsor: **Dallas Tourism and Public Improvement District**

Media Sponsor: **Trendy Africa**

2017-2018 | Season Sponsors

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Season Sponsors: Office of Cultural Affairs - City of Dallas, Texas Instruments, NBC 5, I Messenger, Yellow Cab, The Downtown Business News, TACA, Paper City, American Airlines, The Industry Consultants, The Dallas Weekly and DART.

2017 - 2018 | Season Supporters

Season Supporters: NorthPark Center, Texas Commission on the Arts, National Endowment for the Arts, Lexus, OverseeMyIT, The Dallas Examiner, KZMJ Majic 94.5, The Dallas Post Tribune, Elite News, AT&T Performing Arts Center and Arts+Culture.

About Dallas Black Dance Theatre

*Founded in 1976 by **Ann Williams**, Dallas Black Dance Theatre (DBDT) is the 10th largest minority arts organization in 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. For 41-year history, Dallas Black Dance Theatre, the nationally and internationally recognized modern dance company, 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.

*Dallas Black Dance Theatre is comprised of five performing companies and its training Academy. Under the helm of Artistic Director Bridget L. Moore, Dallas Black Dance Theatre's professional company, **DBDT**, consists of 12 full-time salaried dancers performing a mixed repertory of modern, jazz, African and spiritual works by national and international choreographers. **DBDT: Encore!** 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 44 years of delivering dance instruction to a community of diverse backgrounds. Over 550 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**.*

*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.*

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

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**Dr. Charles "Baba Chuck" Davis leading a former DanceAfrica performance.
Photograph by Richard W. Rodriguez.**



**DanceAfrica 2016
Photograph by Niesha Lanae Graves.**

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

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