



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Dallas Black Dance Theatre Launches 43rd Season Four World Premieres Featuring Mold-Breaking Theatrics

Dallas, TX. – **Dallas Black Dance Theatre (DBDT)** launches its 43rd season with four world premieres, including new works by Bessie Award-winner **Hope Boykin** of the **Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater**.

DBDT kicks off the season with the 14th Annual DanceAfrica series October 4-5, 2019, at the Moody Performance Hall. Friday and Saturday evening performances feature guest artist **Muntu Dance Theatre of Chicago**. Energized by the beat of the drums and fierce power of the dancers, Muntu Dance Theatre performs ancient and contemporary African dance with its unique synthesis of dance, rhythm, music, and folklore. This family-friendly event includes the FREE daytime DanceAfrica Festival and Marketplace on Saturday, October 5, 2019, with mainstage performances, vendors, and fun activities at Annette Strauss Square from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

The Director's Choice series, November 1-3, 2019, has a history of showcasing the best in the future of dance by helping to launch the careers of choreographers like Garth Fagan, Donald Byrd, Ralph Lemon, and Kevin lega Jeff. This season DBDT selected **Nijawwon Matthews**, teacher/choreographer for both **The Joffrey Ballet School** and **Broadway Dance Center**, to create a new work on perseverance providing the audience with a raw, yet elegant, transformative experience.

The Cultural Awareness series, February 14-16, 2020, navigates culture and the human spirit through music and dance with mold-breaking, inspiring ideas. Celebrating 20 years with **Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater** as a dancer and choreographer, featured choreographer Bessie Award-winner **Hope Boykin** combines her spoken word with her movements to describe a heart's longing.

The bold and fearless dancers of **DBDT** display tremendous energy, ingenious creativity, and powerful artistry in the season finale Spring Celebration, May 15-17, 2020.

Choreographer **Joshua L. Peugh**, **Dark Circles Contemporary Dance** artistic director, crafts a new work using his gift for tackling thought-provoking topics and translating them into effortless motion.

DBDT: *Encore!* celebrates its 20th anniversary with **Nycole Ray** celebrating her 10th season as its artistic director. The Rising Excellence series, April 3-4, 2020, features a world premiere from dance/choreographic duo **Madison Olandt** and **Derion Loman**. The duo danced with DIAVOLO-Architecture in Motion and was a divisional finalist on NBC's World of Dance Season 3 in 2019. The team creates a new work where **DBDT: *Encore!*** dives into an innovative style of movement, embodied by an abstract narrative, percussive, and rhythmic dynamics. The series is part of the **Nancy A. Nasher and David J. Haemisegger Family SOLUNA International Music & Arts Festival** curated by the **Dallas Symphony Orchestra**.

Both **DBDT** and **DBDT: *Encore!*** command the stage in Dancing Beyond Borders. The companies will perform audience favorites from the 43rd season in Fort Worth at the W.E. Scott Theatre on March 14, 2020, and in Richardson at the Eisemann Center on March 28, 2020. Experience a diverse repertoire of contemporary modern dance performed by two companies in one evening.

Dallas Black Dance Theatre returns to New York City for a seventh season at the **Ailey Citigroup Theater**, April 17-18, 2020, with its mesmerizing artistry set to brilliant choreography. Among the featured works is *Execution of a Sentiment* by **Darrell Grand Moultrie**, which DBDT commissioned in 2019. Moultrie describes the work as “exploring the beauty of both classical ballet technique and of modern dance molded into one” by moving people in unexpected ways.

DISCOUNTED PARKING OFFERED WITH SEASON SUBSCRIPTION!

Subscriptions go on sale August 23, 2019. Patrons can now build-their-own subscription starting with any three Wyly or Moody performances of their choice. Season subscribers now have the option of purchasing discounted parking for \$10 per performance when they buy season tickets. Season subscribers can save up to 15% off single ticket prices that range from \$22-58. For details on subscription and parking packages, visit the AT&T Performing Arts Center at www.attpac.org or call 214-871-2376 ext. 413. Single tickets go on sale September 3, 2019.

Groups of 10 or more can also take advantage of the build-your-own subscriptions and save 30% off single ticket prices when booking multiple performances. This option is great for organizations that want the convenience of a single process to purchase multiple seats at three or more performances. For group ticket information call 214-871-2376 ext. 413 or email groupsales@dbdt.com.

For single tickets, visit www.attpac.org.

For more performance details, visit www.DBDT.com.

2019-2020 | DBDT Season Sponsors

Legacy Sponsor: Simmons Sisters Fund of The Dallas Foundation

Season Sponsors: Office of Cultural Affairs – City of Dallas, Texas Instruments, International Association of Blacks in Dance, NBC 5, *The Downtown Business News*, *The Dallas Morning News*, *I Messenger*, TACA, American Airlines, The Shubert Foundation Inc., DART, and *The Dallas Weekly*.

2019 – 2020 | DBDT Season Supporters

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

ABOUT DALLAS BLACK DANCE THEATRE: *Dallas Black Dance Theatre (DBDT) is an internationally recognized professional dance company that engages the cross-cultural community through contemporary modern dance presented from the African-American experience. The National Endowment for the Arts designated the 43-year-old company as an American Masterpiece Touring Artist in 2008. The company also received the Texas Medal of Arts Award for Arts Education in 2017. As Dallas' oldest and largest professional dance company, DBDT ranks as the 10th largest minority arts organization in America and the fourth largest black dance company in the nation.*

Ann Williams founded Dallas Black Dance Theatre in 1976. **Melissa M. Young** took over the helm as Artistic Director in 2018 after starting at the company as a dancer in 1994. **Zenetta S. Drew** has led the administrative side of the company since 1987 as Executive Director.

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. The virtuosic dancers of Dallas Black Dance Theatre have mesmerized 4.3 million arts patrons across 16 countries, including two Olympic Cultural events.

Five performing companies comprise Dallas Black Dance Theatre and its training Academy. DBDT consists of 13 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 who support DBDT's growing local and regional educational outreach. 2.7 million students, grades K-12, have experienced the dance company's performances and educational outreach programs.

Dallas Black Dance Academy, the official school of Dallas Black Dance Theatre, celebrates 46 years of delivering dance instruction to a community of diverse backgrounds. The academy was the first in the nation to train a student who received the

*Presidential Scholar Award in Dance in 1980. More than 500 students participate weekly in 50 dance classes, which include ballet, jazz, tap, modern, and African. Classes are held at DBDT's studios and are open to students ages four to adult. The academy has three performing ensembles: **Allegro Performing Ensemble**, DBDT's premier academy ensemble, **Senior Performing Ensemble**, and **Junior Performing Ensemble**.*

*Dallas Black Dance Theatre's primary home in the historic Moorland YMCA building in the Dallas Arts District includes dance studios, training facilities, and administrative offices. Dallas Black Dance Theatre is a resident company of the **AT&T Performing Arts Center** and its performance home is the **Dee and Charles Wyly Theatre**.*

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



DBDT dancer Sierra Noelle Jones in a photograph by Brian Guillaux.



DBDT dancer Lailah LaRose in a photograph by Brian Guilliaux.



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