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**Contact:**

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Ramona Logan  
972-346-0034

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**Dallas Black Dance Academy Launches  
Adopt-A-School Dance Program  
An Intense Dance Curriculum to Support Schools**

Dallas, TX – **Dallas Black Dance Academy** is launching a new **Adopt-A-School Dance Program** providing an intense dance curriculum to support middle and high schools with existing dance programs. The program was launched November 1, 2022, and will continue through May 31, 2023, providing dance instructors to two schools in the **Dallas Independent School District**. Funding for the DBDA's new expanded arts education initiative is provided by the **Genesis Inspiration Foundation**.

"Our Adopt-A-School Dance Program offers free training to help elevate students by enriching their in-school dance class instruction. Dallas Black Dance Theatre partners with the classroom dance teachers to provide opportunities to develop skills for careers in dance," explained **Dallas Black Academy Director Katricia Eaglin**. "This program allows us to continue to connect with our community as well as recruit students to our academy who are seriously interested in dance. We are excited to announce this year's program will support **W.E. Greiner Exploratory Arts Academy of Fine Arts** and **North Dallas High School**."

"Through the support of Genesis retailers nationwide, the Genesis Inspiration Foundation is proud to support the Dallas Black Dance Academy and this exciting initiative that will bring dance to more students," said John Guastaferrro, the foundation's Executive Director.

Dallas Black Dance Academy, the official school of **Dallas Black Dance Theatre**, has a history of producing dance professionals for over 49 years. The academy trained the first student in the nation to receive the **Presidential Scholar Award** in Dance in 1980. Four of its students have received full scholarships and graduated from the prestigious **The Juilliard School**. Numerous DBDT Alumni have received full scholarships in dance to prestigious universities across the nation.

For more information on how your school can join the Dallas Black Dance Academy's Adopt-A-School Dance program, email [academy@dbdt.com](mailto:academy@dbdt.com). For more details on Dallas Black Dance Academy, visit [www.dbdt.com/academy](http://www.dbdt.com/academy).

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**ABOUT DALLAS BLACK DANCE ACADEMY:** *The official school of Dallas Black Dance Theatre celebrates 49 years of delivering dance instruction to a community of diverse backgrounds. It was founded by Ann Williams. The academy trained the first student in the nation to receive the Presidential Scholar Award in Dance in 1980. Students participate weekly in 36 dance classes, including ballet, jazz, tap, modern, and African on-site at DBDT's studios. Classes are held at Dallas Black Dance Theatre's studios and are open to students ages four to adult. The academy has three performing ensembles: **Allegro Performing Ensemble**, Dallas Black Dance Theatre's premier academy ensemble, **Senior Performing Ensemble**, and **Junior Performing Ensemble**. For details on Dallas Black Dance Academy visit [www.dbdt.com/academy](http://www.dbdt.com/academy).*

**ABOUT DALLAS BLACK DANCE THEATRE:** *Founded in 1976 by Ann Williams under the direction of Melissa M. Young, Dallas Black Dance Theatre's mission is to create and produce contemporary modern dance at the highest level of artistic excellence through performances and educational programs that bridge cultures and reach diverse communities. As the largest and oldest professional dance company in Dallas, DBDT is the fourth-largest Black dance company in the nation, the ninth-largest contemporary modern dance company, and ranked 40th among the nation's leading ballet companies. Located in the thriving downtown Dallas Arts District, DBDT has performed worldwide for over 4.5 million arts patrons and 2.7 million students in 32 states and 16 countries on five continents. The performances include two Olympics (1996 & 2012), the nation's most prestigious venues (**Lincoln Center, Kennedy Center, Broadway, Jacob's Pillow**), and for such luminaries as **Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II** and **South African President Nelson Mandela**. Since the pandemic began in 2020, DBDT performances have also been viewed virtually in 34 countries. The Company has been recognized by the **National***

**Endowment for the Arts as an American Masterpiece Touring Artist (2008) and received the Texas Medal of the Arts Award for Arts Education (2017).**

For more details about Dallas Black Dance Theatre visit [www.DBDT.com](http://www.DBDT.com).

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