
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

May 1, 2023

Ramona Logan
972-346-0034

Dallas Black Dance Theatre 46th Season Finale

Features Two World Premieres

On the Peaks and Valleys of Life

In-person + Streaming + On-demand

Dallas, TX – **Dallas Black Dance Theatre (DBDT)** marks the finale of its 46th season with its **Spring Celebration** performance series showcasing the works of national choreographers and home-grown talent. Spring Celebration provides a visual feast for the eyes with powerful and emotionally charged works. **The Dallas Tourism Public Improvement District** is the Presenting Sponsor for performances on Friday and Saturday, May 19-20, 2023, at 7:30 PM in the Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora Street, Dallas, TX. 75201. **Frost Bank** is Supporting Sponsor.

Choreographer **Chanel DaSilva's** world premiere of *T A B E R N A C L E* features elaborate Afrofuturism costumes, a Pantheon-styled set design, and celebrates and magnifies the beauty, the complexities, and the many facets of Black people. DaSilva charts an artistic journey in a Wakanda-like land through layered emotions and concepts with the overall goal of paying homage to what it means to be Black in America. The Brooklyn, NY native developed the concept for *T A B E R N A C L E* after the death of **George Floyd** in 2020. She considers herself an ARTivist using dance as a vehicle for social change and evolution toward a more diverse and inclusive dance industry and society. *T A B E R N A C L E* is the recipient of a grant from the **TACA New Works Fund**. Additional support comes from the **CeCe Smith Lacey and John Ford Lacey Fund at Communities Foundation of Texas**.

DBDT veteran dancer **McKinley Willis** choreographs her first mainstage world premiere for the company. *Smile.*, a full-company ballet, is filled with whim and wonder, suspense, and unpredictability. Willis grew up in Dallas and has a long history with the company starting as a young student at **Dallas Black Dance Academy**, the official training academy of DBDT. She graduated from **Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and**

Visual Arts and received the **Texas Commission on the Arts Young Masters Scholarship**. She went on to earn a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Modern Dance Performance with a minor in Health and Exercise Science from the **University of Oklahoma**. DBDT founder **Ann Williams** hired McKinley straight out of college. **The Kaleta A. Doolin Foundation** is supporting the works of female choreographers like Willis throughout the 46th Season.

Choreographer **Kirven Douthit-Boyd** takes us on a journey from anguish to bliss through the movements of his leading figures in *Furtherance*. This audience favorite is a ballet based on overcoming a personal struggle that ends with a celebration of triumph. Douthit-Boyd is the Associate Director of Dance Production & Artistic Director of **COCAdance** in St. Louis, MO. He performed nationally and internationally with the **Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater** for 11 years.

DBDT | SPRING CELEBRATION SERIES

May 19-20, 2023 - 7:30 pm Wyly Theatre Dee & Charles Wyly Theatre 2400 Flora St.
Dallas, TX

In-person + Live streaming + On-demand

NO GROUP DISCOUNTS FOR THE 46TH SEASON

Dallas Black Dance Theatre limits seating capacity to allow for social distancing in all performance venues. Because of the limited in-person ticket availability, DBDT will not offer discounts to groups.

DBDT encourages the use of masks at its performances.

In-person tickets, \$45 - \$65.

Live streaming tickets, \$25 per household.

VIRTUAL OPTIONS

Watch a live stream of the performance at 7:30 PM CDT on Saturday, May 20, 2023, or on-demand from 10:30 PM CDT Saturday - Monday, February 22, 2023, at 11:59 PM CDT.

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

2022-2023 | Legacy Sponsor

Harold Simmons Foundation

2022-2023| Catalyst Sponsors

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Ford Foundation, Texas Instruments, The Eugene McDermott Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, Anonymous

2022 - 2023 | DBDT Season Sponsors

City of Dallas Office of Arts and Culture, NBC 5, The Dallas Morning News, Texas Metro News, American Airlines, Oversee My IT, Shubert Foundation, Inc., DART, TACA, Dallas Weekly, and Texas Commission on the Arts

2022- 2023 | DBDT Season Supporters

The Rea Charitable Trust, Lexus, fyi50+, The Dallas Examiner, The Dallas Post Tribune, Elite News, Trendy Africa, and Arts+Culture

ABOUT DALLAS BLACK DANCE THEATRE

Ann Williams founded Dallas Black Dance Theatre in 1976 and retired in 2014. The dance company is now under the direction of Artistic Director **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 and 38 states. 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) and a co-recipient of the **National Medal of Arts** (2023).

For details on Dallas Black Dance Theatre
visit www.DBDT.com.



Photograph by Kent Barker.



Furtherance photograph by Amitava Sarkar.



You are receiving this email because you have signed up for our email list. Click on the Unsubscribe link in this email if you no longer wish to receive emails from us.

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