

**DALLAS BLACK
DANCE THEATRE**
RELENTLESS EXCELLENCE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Dallas Black Dance Theatre Presents "Disco Fever" at The BIG Dance

*Annual fundraiser transforms Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center into Studio 54 on June 7;
100% of proceeds support Dallas Black Dance Academy*

DALLAS (April 1, 2025) – Dust off your platform shoes and shine those disco balls! Dallas Black Dance Theatre (DBDT) is bringing "Disco Fever" to its sixth annual BIG Dance fundraiser, transforming the elegant **Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center** into the ultimate disco paradise.

Media powerhouse **DeDe McGuire** (host of "DeDe in the Morning" and DBDT Board Member)

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joins forces with nationally acclaimed event planner **La'Wonda Peoples** (President, Eventfully Yours Special Event Management Company) to co-chair this dazzling celebration of philanthropy and dance.

The Special Edition Band will keep the dance floor packed with live performances of classic disco hits while guests embrace the "Studio 54 Chic" dress code. This year's gala will honor three pillars of support for Dallas Black Dance Academy: **Sheena M. Payne**, **The Kirk Family**, and **The Willis Family**, whose unwavering dedication has helped countless young dancers pursue their dreams.

Parents can fully immerse themselves in the disco experience thanks to "**The Little BIG Dance**" **childcare services** offered in partnership with the **T. Boone Pickens YMCA**, available as an add-on ticket option.

Every dollar raised directly supports Dallas Black Dance Academy's mission to make dance education accessible to all. Funds provide:

- 40% tuition reduction for students at the Arts District facility
- In-school dance residency programs reaching over 3,000 K-12 students across 24+ DFW schools
- Opportunities for DFW metroplex students experiencing geographic and economic challenges to access the arts

Now in its 51st year, Dallas Black Dance Academy continues to transform lives through dance education while building the next generation of artists and arts advocates.

The Academy's impact speaks volumes: Since 2012, **100% of DBDA senior students have graduated from high school and attended college**. The program has produced **nine Presidential Scholars** in dance and four graduates who have received full scholarships to the prestigious dance program at **The Juilliard School**. Many more Academy students have received the **Texas Young Masters Award**, the state equivalent to the national award.

Tickets for The BIG Dance 2025 are on sale now! For details and more information, visit www.dallasbigdance.com.

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ABOUT DALLAS BLACK DANCE THEATRE

Founded in 1976 by **Ann M. Williams**, **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**, ranks in the **top 10 largest contemporary modern dance companies in the U.S.** and is included among **the nation's 50 largest ballet companies**. Located in the Dallas Arts District, the top-ranked arts district in the United States, DBDT has performed worldwide for **over 5 million arts patrons and 3 million students in 33 states and 16 countries on five continents**. The performances include three Olympics (1992, 1996 & 2012), the nation's most prestigious venues (**Lincoln Center, Kennedy Center, Broadway, Jacob's Pillow and Joyce Theatre**), 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 43 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). In 2023, President Joe Biden awarded the **National Medal for the Arts** to the **International Association of Blacks in Dance (IABD)** on behalf of its five founding leaders and organizations that established the association, which include Dallas Black Dance Theatre.



For more details about **Dallas Black Dance Theatre**, visit www.dbdtd.com.