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South Arts Places the Call for New Presenters for the Second Cycle of the Dance Touring Initiative

Atlanta, GA—South Arts invites performing arts presenters in our nine-state region to submit an application to participate in the Dance Touring Initiative (DTI) from summer 2012 to fall 2015. Presenter participants will receive intensive professional development, peer mentorship, and tour development assistance, as well as substantial touring subsidies to engage modern dance and contemporary ballet companies for residencies and performances.

DTI successfully completed its first cycle with an enthusiastic mix of presenters from the region. Dennis Sankovich, Executive Director of Riley Center for Education and Performing Arts at Mississippi State University stated that, "Overall this residency project was a terrific experience and I think was rewarding on many levels for all the participants. I had no idea of what to expect when we first were notified of being accepted as a member of this initiative. This has been a very rewarding and thought provoking experience for me as a professional presenter." Another presenter from the first cycle, Moira Logan, Associate Dean of the University of Memphis Department of Theater and Dance shared the impact that DTI had on students. "The greatest and most lasting impact of the residency was on the students who had direct contact with the dance company throughout their three days here. For these students it was transforming," said Logan.

DTI provides dance presenters a galvanizing, transformative process that creates a dynamic impact on artists, audiences, and communities. This process empowers presenters to develop a sustainable approach to the art of presenting modern dance and contemporary ballet. Participants selected will be a part of increasing the understanding of dance in their community and the development of dance audiences. Additionally, by developing and tailoring programs into meaningful residencies, presenters assist in building relationships with dance artists and the dance community in their area. Participation involves attending dance festivals, meeting artists, and helping build a strong network of dance presenters in the South Arts region.

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South Arts' Dance Touring Initiative is a three-year project to enhance the presentation of modern dance and contemporary ballet for both presenters and audiences. Visit the [Dance Touring Initiative](#) website for information on how to become a participant. Presenters will only be selected from South Arts' nine-state region. The application deadline is **April 9, 2012**. Questions: contact Nikki Estes, Grants Program Director, at nestes@southarts.org.

About South Arts

South Arts, a nonprofit regional arts organization, was founded in 1975 to build on the South's unique heritage and enhance the public value of the arts. South Arts' work responds to the arts environment and cultural trends with a regional perspective. South Arts offers an annual portfolio of activities designed to address the role of the arts in impacting issues important to our region, and to link the South with the nation and the world through the arts. For more information, visit southarts.org

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