



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release: May 11, 2009
Contact: Ann-Laura Parks
aparks@southarts.org, 404-874-7244 ext 25

Call for Participants in New Dance Touring Initiative

Southern Arts Federation invites presenters in its nine-state region to participate in a new initiative to support dance; application deadline – June 5

Atlanta, GA - The Southern Arts Federation (SAF) announces its dance touring initiative, a major new effort to develop stronger dance presentation and audiences for modern dance and contemporary ballet. This initiative will provide intensive professional development for a group of 10 -12 presenters over a three year period. Those selected to participate in the program will engage in block booking, technical assistance, networking, and professional development at festivals and conferences. SAF will host meetings and conference calls throughout the program's duration and provide matching funds to support the tour of a dance company for two consecutive years. Technical assistance and professional development will be designed to complement the tour and enhance presenters' organizational capacity, residency activities, and audience development.

Participants will commit to the three-year program running from summer 2009 to fall 2012. The first year includes professional development and training for presenters; planning meetings between the presenters and the dance company; and developing the touring components. The second year includes touring of the dance company and peer convenings. In the final year, participants may apply for a specific grant to present dance and will receive additional technical assistance.

The application deadline is June 5, 2009. Complete guidelines and application form are available on the SAF Web site at <http://www.southarts.org/dance>. For more information, please contact Nikki Estes, Program Director - Presenting & Touring, at 404-874-7244 ext. 16 or nestes@southarts.org.

This program is made possible with support from the National Endowment for the Arts.

About the Southern Arts Federation

The Southern Arts Federation, 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. SAF examines the arts environment and cultural trends from a regional perspective comprising nine states—Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee. SAF offers a portfolio of programs and services designed to address arts-related issues important to our region and to link the South with the nation and the world through the arts. For more information, visit www.southarts.org.