



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release: July 23, 2009
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Participants Selected for New Dance Touring Initiative

Atlanta, GA - The Southern Arts Federation (SAF) announces the 11 participating presenters in its dance touring initiative, a major new effort to develop stronger dance presentation and audiences for modern dance and contemporary ballet. Those selected to participate in the program will engage in block booking, technical assistance, networking, and professional development at festivals and conferences.

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; selection of a dance company for touring to their venues; 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.

Dance Touring Initiative Participants

Eric Fliss, Miami-Dade County – Dept. of Cultural Affairs, South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center
Bart Lovins, Hardin County Schools Performing Arts Center
Brad Downall, Glema Mahr Center for the Arts, Madisonville Community College
Dennis Sankovich, Mississippi State University, MSU Riley Center
Shannon Hooker, University of North Carolina Wilmington - UNCW Presents
Michael Crane, East Carolina University
Sharon Moore, North Carolina State University Center Stage
Gene Conroy, Ballet Spartanburg
Angela Gallo, Coker College, Department of Dance, Music and Theatre
Moirra Logan, University of Memphis, College of Communication and Fine Arts
Charles Irvin, Cumberland County Playhouse

The consultant team for this project includes Rosemary Johnson, D.M.A., executive director, Alabama Dance Council; Ivan Sygoda, director, Pentacle; and Stephen Wynne, founder and artistic director, TALK Dance Company.

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.

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