AILEY. EXTENSION REAL CLASSES FOR REAL PEOPLE

BURN UP THE DANCE FLOOR AT AILEY EXTENSION THIS SUMMER WITH NEW WEEKLY CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

From Broadway to Ailey: Beginner Yoga with *The Lion King's* Lisa-Marie Lewis & Theater Dance Workshop with *Hamilton's* Hope Easterbrook

Calorie-Burning Workouts: DanceFit with Karen Arceneaux, Bar Bhangra with Sarina Jain, & SharQui Bellydance Workshop with Oreet

Fun for the Whole Family: West African Family Dance Series with Yah' Ya Kamate



Left to right: Bar Bhangra with Sarina Jain; Hamilton cast member Hope Easterbrook; West African Class at Ailey Extension. Photo by Arthur Coopchik.

(New York) June 21, 2017 – This summer, Ailey Extension is launching new weekly classes and one-time-only workshops for adults and even for the entire family. From dance fitness to bellydance to yoga classes, there's something for students of all levels and backgrounds. Led by New York City's best choreographers and teachers, these classes are held at The Joan Weill Center for Dance – home of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater.

NEW WEEKLY CLASSES

DanceFit with Karen Arceneaux – Tuesdays, 6-7pm

This 60-minute, high-intensity class is a full-body workout with a mix of cardio and strength training to sculpt the entire body. In addition to being a weight loss specialist and certified personal trainer, Karen Arceneaux teaches beginner Horton technique and Zumba three times a week at Ailey Extension.

Bar Bhangra® with Sarina Jain – Wednesdays, 6-7pm

Bar Bhangra is a strength training workout that will effectively tone and build muscle, and burn fat/calories. While dancing to infectious Indian beats for 60 minutes, the workout utilizes one-pound bars or weights that will leave you feeling stronger. Instructor Sarina Jain is creator of the popular Masala Bhangra Workout, a high-energy Indian folk dance class that blends Bhangra steps with exhilarating Bollywood moves.

West African Dance Family Series – Saturdays, 11:30am-1pm

Open to the whole family, this high-energy class is great for adults and kids (ages 10+). With an emphasis on technique, execution, and the rhythm of the drum, this class begins with a warm-up, followed by a sequence of moves across the

floor, and culminates with energetic choreography. A native of the Ivory Coast in West Africa, instructor Yah' Ya Kamate drums live during each class.

Morning Yoga with The Lion King's Lisa-Marie Lewis – Begins July 1; Saturdays, 10:30-11:30am

Blending a strong vinyasa practice with restorative and meditative asanas, this morning class offers yoga practice in full vigor and grace. Postures can be modified or progressed if the body and breath are synchronized with each other, making this class accessible and engaging for all levels. Beginning on her path to yoga 15 years ago, Lisa-Marie Lewis toured with the Dance Theatre of Harlem, performed as a Radio City Rockette/Assistant Dance Captain for 10 years, and currently dazzles the stage in the Broadway production of *The Lion King*.

Each weekly class is \$20 per student. Students must be 16 years or older to attend DanceFit, Bar Bhangra, or Morning Yoga.

SUMMER WORKSHOPS

Theater Dance Workshop with Hamilton's Hope Easterbrook – Saturday, July 1, 4-6pm / \$30

During this special workshop, Hope Easterbrook will share what she has learned as a cast member of the Broadway hit musical *Hamilton*, with a focus on the unconventional combination of theater dance and hip-hop.

Kick It Up Cabaret! Workshop – Saturday, July 29, 2-4:30pm / \$45

During this one-hour workshop, students will work on timing and precision with fun, fast, and modern cabaret bellydance choreography. With muscle-building drills specific to all genres of bellydance, the workshop is set to Nancy Ajram's song "Belhadawa."

SharQui Bellydance Workshop – Sunday, July 30, 11:30am-12:30pm / \$20

This revolutionary bellydance fitness class burns more than 350 calories per hour! Instructor Oreet's breakdown and repetition-inspired method provides an enjoyable, easy-to-follow workout for women of all sizes, shapes, and skill levels. During this workshop, you'll strengthen your core, burn fat, and increase your heart rate.

In addition to these new classes and summer workshops for adults, Ailey Extension offers 25 different dance and fitness classes for the general public, including hip-hop, ballet, Zumba, and Horton. For the complete Ailey Extension schedule or to register for a class, visit <u>www.aileyextension.com</u>.

Electronic Press Kit

About Ailey Extension

Since its inception in 2005, Ailey Extension has fulfilled Mr. Ailey's life-long commitment of bringing dance to everyone by offering "real classes for real people." Ailey Extension offers over 25 different dance and fitness techniques such as <u>Horton</u>, <u>Ballet</u>, <u>Masala Bhangra</u>, <u>West African</u>, <u>Samba</u>, Jazz, <u>Zumba</u>, <u>House</u> and <u>Hip-Hop</u>. Over 125,000 people have taken classes at Ailey's home, New York's largest building dedicated to dance, where dancers of all levels and walks of life can learn and be inspired – body, mind, and spirit! For additional press materials, including photos, videos, and class descriptions, visit <u>pressroom.alvinailey.org</u>.

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