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# ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER

AILEY II | THE AILEY SCHOOL | AILEY ARTS IN EDUCATION & COMMUNITY PROGRAMS | AILEY EXTENSION  
The Joan Weill Center for Dance 405 West 55th St, New York NY 10019-4402 (212) 405-9000 AlvinAiley.org

Robert Battle, Artistic Director Matthew Rushing, Associate Artistic Director Bennett Rink, Executive Director  
Alvin Ailey, Founder Judith Jamison, Artistic Director Emerita

## AILEY SHARES HOLIDAY REVELATIONS WITH FREE BROADCAST OF #REUNITEDWEDANCE OPENING NIGHT GALA BENEFIT PREMIERING WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22

Performances of Robert Battle's *Ella* with Vocalist Jazzmeia Horn, *Love Stories* Finale Set to Stevie Wonder's "Fingertips," Alvin Ailey's American Masterpiece *Revelations* and more

**NEW YORK – December 17, 2021** —The Ailey organization is sharing the gift of **Holiday Revelations** with a **free broadcast** of the [#ReunitedWeDance Opening Night Gala](#) on **Wednesday, December 22 at 10am ET**. Viewable via [Ailey All Access](#), [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#) through Dec. 28, this first-ever streaming of a one-night-only gala performance builds upon a cornucopia of [Ailey All Access](#) online programming that has inspired millions of people in over 121 countries since March 30, 2020.

The joyous celebration "honoring our audience, our inspiration," will feature star-studded red carpet highlights and performances from the New York City Center stage of Artistic Director [Robert Battle's](#) tour-de-force duet [Ella](#) with vocalist **Jazzmeia Horn**, the forward-looking [Love Stories](#) finale portraying a luminous future built on the lessons and legacy of the past, [Clifton Brown](#) and talented students from [The Ailey School](#) in *Bird Lives!*, Mr. Ailey's beloved [Revelations](#) and more.

**Benefit co-chairs were Emily & Len Blavatnik, Paulette Mullings Bradnock & Howard Bradnock, Daria L. & Eric J. Wallach, Joan & Sandy Weill and Pamela D. Zilly & John H. Schaefer; vice chairs were Jill & Gunther Bright and Anthony A. Lewis.** The annual benefit raised over \$1.7 million to support the creation of new works, scholarships to The Ailey School, and Ailey's educational programs for children.

Alvin Ailey's legacy continues to live on through the organization's performances and programs, as well as inspiring people through film. **Jamila Wignot's powerful [AILEY documentary](#)**, a resonant biography of trailblazing visionary Alvin Ailey, is **opening the 36th season of PBS *American Masters*** with a national television broadcast premiere on **Tuesday, January 11, 2022, at 9 p.m.** ([check local listings](#)), [pbs.org/ailey](#) and the [PBS Video app](#). Heralded as a must-see at the Sundance Film Festival, a critic's pick at Tribeca Film Festival, and now receiving Oscar buzz, the film is told through Ailey's own words, along with interviews with those close to him, and features evocative archival footage and rarely seen historic performances.

Each year, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater enlightens and unites with a universal celebration of the human spirit through the African-American heritage and the modern dance tradition in performances around the world, including an annual season launching in New York City and continuing on a [United States tour](#). For further information on Ailey's performances and programs, visit [www.alvinailey.org](#).



L to R: Ailey Executive Director Bennett Rink, Board Chairman and Gala co-chair Daria L. Wallach, and Artistic Director Robert Battle. Sunny Hostin. Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater in Alvin Ailey's *Revelations*. All photos at Ailey's 2021 Opening Night Gala, by Christopher Duggan.

**[CLICK ON ALL PHOTOS FOR HIGH-RES DOWNLOAD](#)**

**PRESS:** For photos, videos, materials, visit [pressroom.alvinailey.org](https://pressroom.alvinailey.org)

**[CLICK HERE FOR GALA SIZZLE REEL](#)**

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**Opening Night Gala Benefit Sponsor is BNY Mellon.**

**This season is supported, in part, by public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature, and the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council.**

**Bank of America is Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's National Tour Sponsor.**

**The 2022 National Tour is supported, in part, by the National Endowment for the Arts.**

#### **ABOUT ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER**

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, recognized by U.S. Congressional resolution as a vital American "Cultural Ambassador to the World," grew from a now-fabled March 1958 performance in New York that changed forever the perception of American dance. Founded by Alvin Ailey, recent posthumous recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom – the nation's highest civilian honor – and guided by Judith Jamison beginning in 1989, the Company is now led by Robert Battle, whom Judith Jamison chose to succeed her on July 1, 2011. Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater has performed for an estimated 25 million people in 71 countries on 6 continents – as well as millions more through television broadcasts, film screenings, and online platforms – promoting the uniqueness of the African-American cultural experience and the preservation and enrichment of the American modern dance tradition. In addition to being the Principal Dance Company of New York City Center, where its performances have become a year-end tradition, the Ailey company performs annually at Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC, the Auditorium Theatre in Chicago, the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County in Miami, The Fox Theatre in Atlanta, Zellerbach Hall in Berkeley, CA, and at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark where it is the Principal Resident Affiliate), and appears frequently in other major theaters throughout the United States and the world during extensive yearly tours. The Ailey organization also includes Ailey II (1974), a second performing company of emerging young dancers and innovative choreographers; The Ailey School (1969), one of the most extensive dance training programs in the world; Ailey Arts in Education & Community Programs, which brings dance into the classrooms, communities, and lives of people of all ages; and Ailey Extension (2005), a program offering dance and fitness classes to the general public, which began with the opening of Ailey's permanent home—the largest building dedicated to dance in New York City, the dance capital of the world —named The Joan Weill Center for Dance, at 55th Street at 9th Avenue in New York City. For more information, visit [www.alvinailey.org](https://www.alvinailey.org).

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