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By Michael Cooper
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Arts, Briefly



Alvin Ailey to Expand

The Alvin Ailey Dance Foundation is raising the roof: It held a ceremonial “roof-breaking” performance on Tuesday to celebrate the beginning of a \$25 million construction project that will add three more stories of studios, classrooms and offices to its Manhattan home.

The expansion of Ailey’s building, the Joan Weill Center for Dance, which opened in 2005, is being designed by Iu & Bibliowicz Architects. One of the firm’s partners, Natan Bibliowicz, is the son-in-law of Mrs. Weill, a major Ailey supporter who stepped down as chairwoman of its board in 2014.

The extension (above, a rendering) will add to the shorter, midblock portion of the building, at 55th Street and Ninth Avenue, so that it matches the six-story corner in height. It will add 10,000 square feet of space to the bustling center, and a new glass facade with an undulating pattern inspired by “Revelations,” Alvin Ailey’s signature dance. The project, to open next fall, will be called the Elaine P. Wynn & Family Foundation Education Wing.

The undertaking will be paid for partly with a capital appropriation of \$4 million from the city, Ailey officials said. The rest is coming from private donors.

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