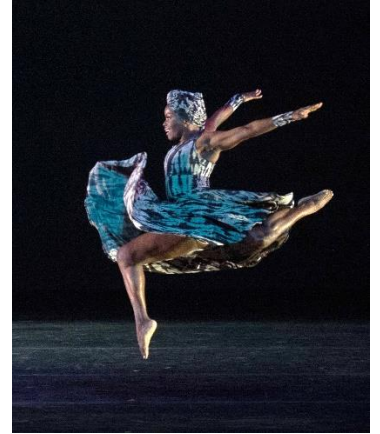
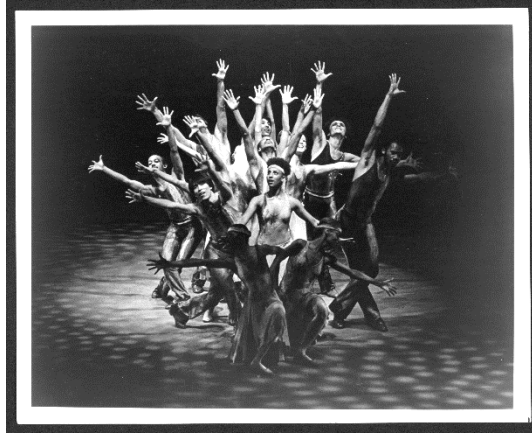


# AILEY EXTENSION

## PREMIER AILEY DANCERS TEACH THE COMPANY'S SIGNATURE STYLE DURING NEW YORK CITY CENTER SEASON

*Workshops with Sarita Allen, Hope Boykin, and Michael Jackson, Jr.  
on December 4, December 11, and December 18*



*L to R: AAADT's Michael Jackson, Jr. in Kyle Abraham's Untitled America. Photo by Paul Kolnik; Sarita Allen (center) and former AAADT company members in Alvin Ailey's Night Creature. Photo by Jack Mitchell. (©) Alvin Ailey Dance Foundation, Inc. and Smithsonian Institution; AAADT's Hope Boykin in Ronald K. Brown's Four Corners. Photo by Christopher Duggan.*

**(New York, NY) November 13, 2017** – Ailey Extension welcomes leading dancers from Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater to teach three special workshops during the company's New York City Center holiday season (November 29 – December 31). Former Ailey dancer and creator of Ailey Barre [Sarita Allen](#) teaches choreography from Alvin Ailey's popular work *Night Creature*, and company members [Hope Boykin](#) and [Michael Jackson, Jr.](#) lead workshops that will feature Alvin Ailey's signature style and expand the artistic range of students. All levels and backgrounds are welcome to participate in these unique workshops with celebrated performing artists.

Alvin Ailey's [Night Creature](#) is a bubbly champagne cocktail of a dance that remains one of Alvin Ailey's most popular works – a definitive homage to jazz legend Duke Ellington's sparkling music. Chosen by Alvin Ailey to perform the lead role, **Sarita Allen** will teach a [Night Creature Workshop on Monday, December 4 at 7pm](#), imparting Mr. Ailey's signature style and sharing personal stories behind the classically influenced choreography. This large ensemble work is full of stars that come on at night — strutting, leaping, and slinking through a variety of dance idioms as they flaunt and flirt with each other and the audience. The work first premiered on the 1974 television special "Ailey Celebrates Ellington," and two years later, Mr. Ailey presented a stage version during the Lincoln Center season, and this New York City Center holiday season it will be performed six times.

Choreographer and veteran company member **Hope Boykin** returns to Ailey Extension to lead a two-hour [Contemporary Workshop on Monday, December 11 at 7pm](#), giving dancers a change to experience the joy of dance. As a teacher, Ms. Boykin gives students a new way of gaining self-awareness through their bodies, and helps students discover the necessary tools to improve technique. Ms. Boykin often employs contemporary movements in her choreography, as seen in her 2016 world premiere [r-Evolution, Dream.](#), inspired by the sermons and speeches of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. A must-see this season at New York City Center, her work melds creative storytelling with music composed by Lincoln Center's Ali Jackson and historic writings narrated by *Hamilton*'s Leslie Odom, Jr.

Hailed by *The Wall Street Journal* as “charismatic and set apart... handsome and towering,” **Michael Jackson, Jr.** will also lead a two-hour [Contemporary Workshop on Monday, December 18 at 7pm](#). Mr. Jackson – who is the face of Ailey’s New York City Center 2017 season – will teach students how to improve performance skills and deepen artistic range, showing the essence of Ailey’s multi-dimensional style of movement. The class will emphasize contemporary movements, highlight ballet principles, and interweave Horton, Graham, and Taylor techniques.

Each workshop costs \$30 per student. To purchase, visit [www.aileyextension.com](http://www.aileyextension.com).

#### **NEW YORK CITY CENTER WORKSHOP HIGHLIGHTS**

##### **Night Creature Workshop with Sarita Allen**

Monday, December 4, 7-9pm / \$30

##### **Contemporary Workshop with Hope Boykin**

Monday, December 11, 7-9pm / \$30

##### **Contemporary Workshop with Michael Jackson, Jr.**

Monday, December 18, 7-9pm / \$30

#### **OTHER AILEY EXTENSION HIGHLIGHTS**

##### **Latin Night with Katherine Jimenez**

Saturday, November 18: Workshop, 6-8pm; Social Dance Party, 8-9:30pm  
Workshop / \$25, Workshop & Social / \$30, Social Only / \$10

##### **Move Your Curves with Pretty BIG Movement**

Saturday, November 18 & December 19, 7-9pm / \$20

##### **Sunday Ballet Intensive with Finis Jhung**

Sunday, November 19 & December 17, 4-6pm / \$30

##### **Afro Flow Yoga™ with Pilin Anice**

Sunday, November 19 & December 17, 2-3:30pm / \$20

##### **Zumba® Holiday Dance Party with Richard Martinez**

Monday, December 18, 6:30-8pm / \$25

Ailey Extension’s Ticket to Dance\* promotion returns this season giving first-time students a chance to **try a weekly dance or fitness class for free** with an Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater performance ticket (offer expires after 60 days). Return students receive a free class with the purchase of a 10-class card. Dance enthusiasts can build self-confidence in a non-competitive environment while learning techniques seen on stage at New York City Center, such as Horton, performed in Alvin Ailey’s must-see masterpiece [Revelations](#), and Afro-Cuban, seen in Jawole Willa Jo Zollar’s [Shelter](#), a gripping portrait of homelessness. Ailey’s five-week season will also feature a variety of world premieres, new productions, live music performances, and special programs. For more information, visit [www.alvinailey.org](http://www.alvinailey.org).

\*Ticket to Dance promotion is not valid on New York City Center workshops.

#### **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 100 classes a week in 25 different dance and fitness techniques such as [Horton](#), [Ballet](#), [Masala Bhangra](#), [West African](#), [Samba](#), [Jazz](#), [Zumba](#), [House](#) and [Hip-Hop](#). 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 [pressroom.alvinailey.org](http://pressroom.alvinailey.org).

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