

The MOST INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE IN DANCE TODAY

THE REJUVENATORS

ROBERT BATTLE

Judith Jamison was always going to be a tough act to follow. But in the six years since Robert Battle took the helm of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, he's launched a new era for the iconic troupe. Take last season: Battle revived Ailey's *Masekela Langage*, pushed the envelope with Kyle Abraham's new *Untitled America* and promoted one of the company's own voices with Hope Boykin's *r-Evolution Dream*—a combination of old, new and homegrown works tackling social issues with beauty and hope. Ailey hasn't lost sight of its storied past, and, under Battle's leadership, it's as relevant today as it ever has been. —Courtney Escoyne



Robert Battle

Pamela Tatge

PAMELA TATGE

New director Pamela Tatge is making the most of Jacob's Pillow's vast resources. She's reenvisioned the dance mecca as a year-round institution, not only expanding the Creative Development Residencies but giving those residents 24-hour access, a generous stipend and funds to bring in an outside eye. Residency showings are open



to students from nearby colleges, part of Tatge's ambitious new Jacob's Pillow Dance College Partnership Program, designed to bring more rigor into dance research, along with deeper artistic inquiry. —NW

LOURDES LOPEZ

At Miami City Ballet, Lourdes Lopez has shown how to turn around a financially struggling company without losing that for which it's beloved. While building upon founder Edward Villella's Balanchine legacy, she's also embraced



Lourdes Lopez