



Press Contact: Amanda Householder  
(212) 405-9032  
[ahouseholder@alvinailey.org](mailto:ahouseholder@alvinailey.org)

## **The Ailey Organization and the New Settlement Community Center Celebrate New Program Partnership with a Community Dance Performance on Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>**

### **Inauguration of Year-Round Program that Provides Bronx Residents with Multi-Generational Dance Classes that Inspire, Enrich, and Bring Together the Local Community**

(New York, NY) April 18, 2013 – The Ailey Organization is proud to extend its mission of using dance to inspire, enrich and unite people through a new partnership with the New Settlement Community Center located in the Mt. Eden section of the Bronx. Ailey is contributing to New Settlement’s mission to enhance the local community with an array of cultural programs that enrich the lives of those in the neighborhood.

Weekly classes in ballet, modern dance, jazz/hip-hop, West African, Afro-Caribbean and Zumba are offered in the Center’s state-of-the-art dance studio, conducted by Ailey’s professional dance instructors with live percussion accompaniment. The New Settlement participants in Ailey’s dance program will perform their first ever community presentation: *An Evening of Talent at the New Settlement Community Campus Auditorium on Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm* located at 1501 Jerome Avenue, Bronx. In this showcase of their accomplishments, over 75 community members, from 4 years old to adults, will perform in dances choreographed by the Ailey dance instructors to an audience of family and friends.

Area residents of all ages are invited to join the next series of Ailey classes running April 22 through June 29, 2013 and be inspired – body, mind and spirit! The program will feature 11 exciting classes per week in 5 different dance and fitness techniques. In addition to the dance studio, the groundbreaking New Settlement Community Campus combines an indoor competition-size swimming pool, two new public schools, a comprehensive school-based health clinic, outdoor play areas and multipurpose spaces for the entire community. For a complete schedule of classes and registration information please call (718) 758-5901 and for additional details on the New Settlement Community Center visit [www.settlementhousingfund.org](http://www.settlementhousingfund.org).

Ailey Arts in Education & Community Programs are committed to expanding on the legacy of Alvin Ailey who believed that “dance came from the people and should always be delivered back to the people.” Ailey continues to bring dance into classrooms and communities through special student performances; lecture-demonstrations; technique classes; AileyCamp, a full scholarship summer camp for underserved inner-city youth; and innovative curriculum based residencies in public schools inspired by Alvin Ailey’s *Revelations*.

**Leadership support for Ailey’s Arts In Education and Community Programs is provided through the Simin & Herb Allison Arts In Education Endowment Fund**

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**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 1958 New York performance that changed American dance. Now led by Artistic Director Robert Battle, the Company has performed for an estimated 23 million people in 71 countries on 6

continents, promoting the uniqueness of the African-American cultural experience and the preservation and enrichment of the American modern dance tradition. The Ailey organization also includes; Ailey II (1974), a second company of young dancers and choreographers; The Ailey School (1969), extensive dance training programs; Ailey Arts in Education & Community Programs, bringing dance into classrooms and communities; and The Ailey Extension (2005), dance and fitness classes for the general public at Ailey's home – The Joan Weill Center for Dance in New York City—the largest building for dance in New York City – the dance capital of the world. For more information, visit [www.alvinailey.org](http://www.alvinailey.org).

For additional Ailey Arts In Education press materials and photos visit [pressroom.alvinailey.org](http://pressroom.alvinailey.org).