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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

THE AILEY ORGANIZATION ANNOUNCES MARCH SCHEDULE CHANGES AND CANCELLATION OF MARCH 25 – APRIL 5 AILEY II SEASON

New York, NY – **March 13, 2020** – For over six decades, the Ailey organization has been serving an extended cultural family with performances and programs for people of all backgrounds. Since the health and safety of the entire Ailey community is of paramount importance to the organization, Ailey is announcing schedule changes to minimize health concerns during the current coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19).

<u>Ailey II's</u> New York season will no longer take place March 25-April 5, but performances may be rescheduled to later this spring. If you have purchased tickets, please see Ailey's <u>website</u> for several options to refund or rebook for an upcoming Ailey II performance or <u>Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's</u> Lincoln Center engagement June 10-14.

Performances during Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's current 21-city U.S. tour are suspended through March 30th. Updated scheduling and information about ticket arrangements for the tour will be posted on Ailey's <u>website</u>.

The classes of the <u>Ailey Extension</u> and <u>The Ailey School</u> are currently on hiatus until Monday, March 30th, other than the Professional Performing Arts School program which continues while New York City's public school system is open.

The Ailey organization regrets the need for these schedule changes and looks forward to uplifting people in New York and across the country with a full schedule of offerings as soon as possible. Please visit www.alvinailey.org regularly for updates.

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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 The 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.