

ballet tech
cincinnati

arts innovation movement
cincinnati
...to educate, entertain, & inspire

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Please visit our Press Room for photos <http://www.balletechcincinnati.org/PressPhotos.htm>

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ballet tech cincinnati announces Gala Line Up, New Name

Cincinnati, OH— **ballet tech cincinnati** Season Finale August 14, 2010, creates a powerful dance explosion in its Ninth Annual *Gala of International Dance Stars* at Cincinnati's premier venue, the Aronoff Center. Featuring the *best dancers* from the *best companies* and the *best choreography* in the world, the *Gala of International Dance Stars* is a dazzling display of international talent. The only International Dance Gala in Central US attracts audience from the region, the nation and the world. Ancillary events include Gala Global Fare Pre Show Reception with International Cuisine Buffet "Dinner by the Bite" and live Jazz, Skyboxx to the Stars Invitation Only VIP reception with exclusive access to the dancers in rehearsal and an opportunity to mingle afterwards, and Master Classes presented by Gala Stars. The *Gala of International Dance Stars* inspires and amazes with gravity defying athleticism, dancers' artistry, traditional and new, cutting edge choreography, remarkable diversity of cast, music and dance styles; and creates new Dance audience, global awareness, worldwide partnerships, shining an international spotlight on Cincinnati USA. We are proud to have the opportunity to promote cross-cultural understanding and international goodwill through dance.

This year, the Ninth annual *Gala of International Dance Stars* features a brand new cast of 16 International Stars from 9 World Renowned Dance Companies who debut to create a once in a lifetime experience offering beloved classical works and "on the edge" new choreography, including 5 World Premieres by:

- Hot choreographers
 - Darrell Grand Moultrie, from Broadway's Billy Elliot and recently commissioned by Cincinnati Ballet and Ballet Met for the world premiere of The Sammy Project
 - Abdur-Rahim Jackson of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater
 - Jamel Gaines, Artistic Director of Creative Outlet Dance Theater and guest choreographer for So You Think You Can Dance
 - Corey Baker, Co-Artistic Director of Ballet Noir
- Performers include
 - Olivia Bowman Jackson and Akua Parker from Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater
 - Hee Seo and Cory Stearns from American Ballet Theater
 - Principal couple from Ballet Noir
 - Broadway star Bahiyah Sayeed Gaines and Quartet from Creative Outlet Dance Theater

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- Ashley Boudier from New York City Ballet and partner Matthew Dibble, Broadway Star in Twyla Tharp's "Come Fly Away" and formerly of Royal Ballet
- Brooklyn Mack from Washington Ballet and Diana Catalina Gomez from Tulsa Ballet
- Tapper Marshall Davis, Jr.
- Darius Crenshaw, Broadway star formerly of New York City Ballet

The *Gala of International Dance Stars* will once again astonish, astound and amaze the audience with the gravity defying athleticism, artistry and strength of the dancers, the traditional and new, on-the-edge choreography, remarkable diversity of cast, music and dance styles and the sheer joy of the experience, producing headlines such as "Sizzling performers wow Aronoff crowd," *Cincinnati Enquirer*. This year's cast of 16 fabulous dancers are from 9 world renowned companies appears at the only International Dance Gala in the Midwest and one of only a few in the entire nation.

New This Year! Gala and "So You Think You Can Dance?" Choreographer Jamel Gaines will teach a Contemporary Modern Master Class on Saturday, August 14th and Gala Star Marshall Davis, Jr. will teach a Tap Class on Sunday, August 15th. Learn more on Facebook: [Gala of International Dance Stars](#)

ballet tech cincinnati will become **arts innovation movement: aim cincinnati**

ballet tech cincinnati, the not-for-profit dance company founded in 1997 with a mission *to educate, entertain and inspire by providing diverse and innovative programming that has a phenomenal community impact* will soon change its name to **arts innovation movement: aim cincinnati**. In 2007, the company moved from the far north suburbs where it was collocated with a small ballet school, to its own venue in Kennedy Heights and began to transform the community. The building had been a blight on the community and vacant for fourteen years. **ballet tech cincinnati** continued its wonderful Aronoff Center Season Series featuring community, pre-professional and professional dancers (currently in its Ninth Season), offered excellent dance education, performance and family-friendly community oriented programming, Jazz Jam sessions, Comedy Improv, community theater space for other arts organizations, and became a leader in the new District A Arts Corridor to engage business, residents and the arts to revitalize the community.

Soon, it became clear that "ballet tech" does not nearly describe the breadth of what the organization does, how it impacts the community, and the future direction of the organization. Producing Artistic Director and President, Board of Directors Marvel Gentry Davis explains, "Clearly, we are a great dance company and school. But we have never been focused solely on ballet. Now that we are leading arts innovators in dance, a part of the regional arts center movement and District A revitalization of the community, we really want our name to reflect who we are as leaders in arts innovation, community impact, and movement, encompassing all the genres of dance that we teach and perform, and the fact that we are leaders in the regional arts movement and international dance with our *Gala of International Dance Stars*."

ballet tech cincinnati won the Scripps-Corbett award for Arts Innovation in 2008 because it is a leader in arts innovation with its excellent programming and community impact. It is a leader in its own community through its work in District A, and a leader in the movement towards regionalism of the arts in Community Arts Centers - bringing great art forms into the various communities in Arts Centers throughout the region. Is also a recognized leader in building new dance audience, diversity in programming and diversity in audiences, as the company with the most diverse audience of any presenter in the region and co-collaborator with Cincinnati Ballet in *Cultures of Dance*, a landmark collaboration to create more interest, develop new dance audience, expand community outreach and promote diversity.

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ballet tech cincinnati is on an aggressive timeline to make the name change and brand transformation in time for its new fiscal year starting September 1, 2010 and to start its 10th Anniversary Season at the Aronoff Center. The 2010-2011 Season Series marks **ballet tech cincinnati's** tenth year serving the communities of Greater Cincinnati with excellent, innovative and diverse dance programming. Award winning Producing Artistic Director Marvel Gentry Davis and her highly talented Artistic Team focus on excellence, diversity and innovation in each production and audiences get it. "It was wonderful!", "I really appreciated the diversity of the choreography...and the diversity of the dancers", "It was awesome!"

TICKETS

Tickets are on sale now. \$26-\$62; to purchase, call 513.621.ARTS (2787) or go to www.balletechcincinnati.org, www.aimcincinnati.org or www.cincinnatiarts.org. Enjoy the Arts, Senior, and Group Discounts available. For more information call 513.841.2822 or email info@balletechcincinnati.org

SPONSORS

Season sponsors include Multicultural Arts Initiatives from the Fine Arts Fund, Links/CES Fund of the Greater Cincinnati Foundation, Carol Ann and Ralph V. Haile US Bank Foundation, Greater Cincinnati Foundation and Macy's. The Ohio Arts Council helped fund this program with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, educational excellence and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans. WGUC 90.9 FM and The Cincinnati Herald are Media Sponsors. The *Leaping for Literacy* project is sponsored by John A Schroth Family Charitable Trust, PNC Bank, Trustee. Raising the Barre Capital Campaign Sponsors include Carl Lindner, the State of Ohio, The City of Cincinnati, The Fine Arts Fund and private donors.

ballet tech cincinnati/arts innovation movement: aim cincinnati

The mission of Scripps-Corbett Award winner and ONE Award Finalist, **ballet tech cincinnati** which will soon become **arts innovation movement: aim cincinnati** is *to educate, entertain and inspire by providing diverse and innovative programming that has a phenomenal community impact*. Founded in 1997, **ballet tech cincinnati/arts innovation movement: aim cincinnati** is a non-profit 501 (C) (3) organization offering community dance classes and performances in its Kennedy Heights World Headquarters and numerous other venues including the Aronoff Center as a resident company. **ballet tech cincinnati/arts innovation movement: aim cincinnati** presents many community performances each year featuring a wide variety of pre-professional and professional dancers, dance styles and music. Last season, we served over 15,000 audience members. We have the most diverse audience of any Cincinnati area presenter, and we are the only company that presents guest companies, an international Gala, and preprofessional dancers as part of our season series. Dance 2 Community Kids community outreach program introduces youth from underserved communities to dance and the Aronoff Center expanding the audience for the arts and downtown Cincinnati venues. Over 1500 children have attended ballets in this outreach. The *Leaping for Literacy* Project presents an annual spring production based on beloved children's stories, Touring Company performances in area schools, free outreach performances in area libraries and bookstores, a poster and poetry contest, and a book giveaway to promote family literacy. **ballet tech cincinnati/arts innovation movement: aim cincinnati** also collaborates with Cincinnati Ballet Company, Closing the Health Gap and The West End Arts Access Initiative to extend our reach and make dance more accessible for everyone. For more information about **ballet tech cincinnati/arts innovation movement: aim cincinnati**, visit www.balletechcincinnati.org
