

News Release



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AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN DANCE INTO THE SPOTLIGHT AS THE AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER PRESENTS “PHILADANCO” IN SEPTEMBER

PITTSBURGH, PA – The African American Cultural Center of Greater Pittsburgh proudly presents celebrated dance ensemble **Philadanco**, in one performance only, **September 18 at 8:00pm at the Byham Theatre.**

This performance is marked with a celebration of the power and grace of the African American male, with two works from “We Too Dance: African American Men in Dance.” In Elmo Pomare’s *Back to Bach*, and Christopher Huggins’ *Blue*, the men of Philadanco are featured as a part of the company’s diverse repertoire.

The program also includes Jawole Willa Jo Zollar’s *The Walkin’, Talkin’ Signifying Blues Hips, Lowdown Showdown*, a company favorite that lets the women of Philadanco shine, and Ronald K. Brown’s *Gatekeepers*, a story of homage, celebration, tradition and perseverance.

Founded in 1970 by Executive Artistic Director Joan Myers Brown, **Philadanco** has grown into one of the most esteemed professional dance companies, recognized nationally and internationally for its artistic integrity, cutting-edge choreography and superbly trained dancers.

As a part of their Pittsburgh engagement, **Philadanco will participate in a number of educational programs organized by the African American Cultural Center.** A free matinee performance for students will be held at 10:00am on September 17. Philadanco will also lead two Master Classes September 17th at the Pittsburgh High School for the Creative and Performing Arts and September 18th at the Byham Theater. Interested participants can call the African American Cultural Center at 412.258.2700 for more information.

Tickets for PHILADANCO are on sale now, and can be purchased by calling 412.456.6666, by visiting www.pgharts.org or The Box Office at Theater Square.

Ticket prices are: \$18, \$25, \$32, and \$40. Students with valid I.D. can purchase tickets for \$15 the week of the performance. A pre-performance chat, led by Dr. Veronica Morgan-Lee will be held at 7:30pm.

More information will be available at the African American Cultural Center’s website, www.africanaculture.org, which launches September 1.

The African American Cultural Center of Greater Pittsburgh is a not-for-profit organization that presents exhibitions, performances, education and public programs that deepen understanding and appreciation of the African American artistic, cultural and social contributions to Pittsburgh, the nation and the world.

This presentation of Philadanco is made possible with the support of: Pennsylvania Performing Arts on Tour, Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts Regional Touring Program, Pennsylvania Council on the Arts and the National Dance Project of the New England Foundation for the Arts.

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To arrange for interviews, and to obtain photos and bios of the artists, please contact:

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