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FACT SHEET: ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER AND CAL PERFORMANCES CELEBRATE 50 YEARS OF PARTNERSHIP

OVERVIEW: Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater (AAADT) has been a hallmark of Cal Performances' dance programming since 1968. The company has performed at Cal Performances for 50 years, from 1968-2018. The two organizations have a unique relationship; outside of its home in New York City, AAADT performs in Berkeley more consistently than any other city.

FACTS AND FIGURES: During its 50 years of performing at Cal Performances (1968-2018):

- AAADT has performed more than 169 pieces of repertory as part of Cal Performances' dance programming.
- More than 72 choreographers' work has been presented by AAADT at Cal Performances.
 - Of those, at least 16 choreographers went on to have their work presented by Cal Performances under their own names and with their own companies.
Choreographers and companies include:
 - José Limón Dance Company (first presented at Cal Performances in Wheeler Hall in March 1957)
 - Lar Lubovitch Dance Company (first presented at Cal Performances in May 1973)
 - Louis Falco Dance Company (first presented at Cal Performances in April 1975)
 - Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company (most recently presented at Cal Performances in *Story/Time*, February 2012)
 - Alonzo King/LINES Ballet (most recently presented at Cal Performances in *AZIMUTH*, February 2013)
 - Twyla Tharp (most recently presented at Cal Performances with her company's 50th anniversary tour, October 2015)
 - Camille A. Brown (most recently presented at Cal Performances with her company, Camille A. Brown and Dancers, in *BLACK GIRL: Linguistic Play*, December 2017)
 - Donald Byrd (most recently presented at Cal Performances with his company, Spectrum Dance Theater, in *A Rap on Race*, February 2018)
 - And many others who contributed to the choreography performed by the Joffrey Ballet, Mark Morris Dance Group, American Ballet Theatre, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, and the Suzanne Farrell Ballet

- Over the decades AAADT has performed countless world and company premieres, and West Coast and Bay Area premieres at Cal Performances.
- Recently, Cal Performances for the first time was involved in commissioning a world premiere from AAADT:
 - *Awakening*, Robert Battle’s first piece choreographed for the company after becoming artistic director in 2011. *Awakening* received its world premiere in New York City in 2015 and was presented at Cal Performances in 2016.
- In 2001 Cal Performances launched Berkeley/Oakland AileyCamp—a nationally acclaimed summer program that uses dance as a vehicle for developing self-esteem, creative expression and critical thinking skills among sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-grade students, ages 11–14. Conceived by Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and run locally by Cal Performances, AileyCamp combines professional-level dance training with personal development activities.
 - Over the course of the past 17 years, AileyCamp has touched the lives of more than 1,000 Bay Area young people. There have been 2,463 applicants; 1,986 interviews; and camp has been served by 286 volunteers (about 30 are needed each year). Nearly 24,000 people have attended the final performances of the last 16 camps.
- Cal Performances’ SchoolTime program was launched in 1989 and AAADT was among the first dance companies to participate. SchoolTime performances are special presentations of Cal Performances’ regularly scheduled performances, which are reprised in one-hour versions during the school day with subsidized seating provided to local K–12 students.
- Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater is part of Cal Performances’ 2017–18 [Berkeley RADICAL *Joining Generations*](#) thematic strand, which explores the work of four generations of African-American choreographers who have expanded the boundaries of contemporary dance. Each speaks profoundly and deliberately to identity in different ways.

PHOTO: Archival photo assets are available for download [here](#).