



For Immediate Release
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THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACKS IN DANCE ANNOUNCES NEW LOCATION AT THE DANCE INSTITUTE OF WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The International Association of Blacks in Dance (IABD) President and CEO, Denise Saunders Thompson, today announced the new home of the organization in the state-of-the-art facility, Dance Institute of Washington (DIW) beginning March 1, 2017. Founded in 1987 by Fabian Barnes, DIW operates a studio school, education outreach program, youth ensemble, and professional dance company granting youth from diverse backgrounds the opportunity to develop artistically, socially, emotionally and intellectually through dance. The organization builds self-esteem, discipline and a drive for excellence among at-risk children and youth through dance training and arts education; provides professional performance opportunities for dance students, and enhances Washington, D.C.'s rich cultural diversity.

Kahina Haynes, Executive Director, expressed enthusiasm about IABD's new home stating, *"Owning an arts building in such a cultural destination like Columbia Heights, DIW is honored to play a role as a central incubator of cultural and artistic creativity. We are incredibly excited to support IABD's move and the many opportunities that their groundbreaking work will provide for the Black dance community. It is a privilege to contribute to such advancing efforts."*

"Though there were many options for us to consider, selecting DIW as IABD's home was the most optimal decision. A critical component for our new location was an African American owned business with enhanced operational efficiencies. We are excited to affiliate with DIW. I can't think of a better place to begin the process of building capacity and infrastructure for the Black dance community, than right here with an organization that is rooted in its community. This move places IABD in a fantastic building immediately improving internal and external operations as we begin to develop local, national, and international programming opportunities. We are extremely fortunate to find such beautiful space," states Saunders Thompson.

IABD will occupy office space on the second floor of DIW's building located right in the heart of the Columbia Heights community, and Metro accessible. The new address will be 3400 14th Street, NW, Washington, DC, 20010. For more information about the new office, contact info@iabdassociation.org.

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ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACKS IN DANCE



The International Association of Blacks in Dance (IABD) preserves and promotes dance by people of African ancestry or origin, and assists and increases opportunities for artists in advocacy, audience development, education, funding, networking, performance, philosophical dialogue, and touring. IABD has become the Mecca for Blacks in Dance such as administrators, artists, choreographers, dance companies, directors, educators, scholars, and those interested in artistry, black dance issues, and performance presentations. The Association, founded in 1991, provides a network, formal newsletters, choreographer's directory, published papers, and is the raison d'être for the annual conference and festival. The Association also responds to and initiates dialogue around issues that impact the Black Dance Community as well as the Dance community at large. IABD has developed national prominence and allowed the Black Dance Community to come together on important issues. For more information on IABD visit iabdassociation.org.

ABOUT THE DANCE INSTITUTE OF WASHINGTON



Founded in 1987, by Fabian Barnes the Dance Institute of Washington (DIW) is committed to providing youth the opportunity to develop artistically, socially, emotionally and intellectually through dance. DIW operates a studio school, outreach program, youth ensemble and professional company, granting youth from diverse backgrounds the chance to experience the performing arts and develop important skills. Additional information on DIW is available at danceinstituteofwashington.org.