PRESS RELEASE

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PROFESSIONALS, AMATEURS AND ‘DANCE LOVERS’ FROM AROUND THE WORLD CONVERGE ON WASHINGTON, D.C. JANUARY 24-27

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, FESTIVAL SHOWCASE PERFORMANCES

Washington, DC (January 10, 2013) – Professional and amateur dancers from every corner of globe will converge on Washington, D.C. for the 25th Anniversary of the largest and oldest dance organization of its type in the world.

“From ballet to modern contemporary, from hip hop to tap dancing, dancers representing Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean, Asia, the Middle East and Europe will gather in D.C. immediately following the Presidential Inauguration,” Denise Saunders Thompson, chair of the International Associated of Blacks in Dance (IABD), said “The IABD Conference and Festival will bring together ‘the global dance ecology’ to the nation’s capital like never before.”

At the heart of the conference and festival are dance showcases taking place throughout the Washington, D.C area: The Kennedy Center, The Howard Theatre, Duke Ellington School of the Arts, Howard University, Dance Place, and the Grand Hyatt Washington Hotel are some of the key venues.

Thompson said more than 30 guest (and surprise) speakers will host professional development sessions and in-depth discussions facing the art of dance around the world.

“Dance is an ancient art that has led the way in bringing people together, and just like a good general going into battle, black dance has bravely led the way around the world,” Thompson said. “Now, humanity is on the verge of awakening to an unprecedented diverse and inclusive state of being and dance is leading the way.”

The International Showcase Performance features some of the best in Black Dance on one stage: performances by Alvin Ailey (New York City), Camille A. Brown & Dancers (New York City), Cleo Parker Robinson Dance Ensemble (Denver, Colorado), Dallas Black Dance Theatre (Dallas, TX), Dance Theatre of Harlem (New York City), Forces of Nature (New York City), Lula Washington Dance Theatre (Los Angeles, CA), Philadanco!, The Philadelphia Dance Company (Pennsylvania), Ronald K. Brown/Evidence, A Dance Company (New York City).
To register for the conference, visit www.iabdassociation.org/conference. In the coming weeks, refer back the IABD website for finalized performance programs, master classes, and workshop schedules.

**About IABD**

Celebrating 25 years of dance – THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACKS IN DANCE preserves and promotes dance by people of African ancestry or origin, and assists and increases opportunities for artists in networking, funding, performance, education, audience development, philosophical dialogue, touring and advocacy.

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News media:

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