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Media Contact:

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Editors: Images are available upon request.

**NextMove Dance announces a Co-Presenting Partnership with Annenberg Center Live
For the 2018-19 Season featuring 11 dance companies
September 28, 2018-May 11, 2019**

(Philadelphia, PA) "NextMove Dance is thrilled to return to the Annenberg Center where new leadership has made a major commitment to support and sustain a full season of dance next year and for years to come," states Randy Swartz, Artistic Director NextMove Dance. This new co-presenting partnership will consolidate contemporary dance presentations under one roof at the Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts at the University of Pennsylvania. Beginning next season, Annenberg Center Live and NextMove Dance will present 11 dance companies in multiple performances, a Student Discovery Series and a number of outreach activities.

Christopher Gruits, the new executive and artistic director of the Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts, is "...thrilled to welcome NextMove Dance back home to the Annenberg Center. Our new partnership, based on 30 years of successful co-presentations, will once again bring a full season of the finest dance ensembles to our Philadelphia audiences."

The 2018-2019 Season features new companies, Philadelphia debuts, U.S. debuts, world premieres, and returning companies with new works.

The Season opens with **Circa, September 28-29**, Australia's bold contemporary circus troupe with the U.S. premiere of *Humans*, a tour-de-force about power in physical and emotional strength. Circa is co-presented by Fringe Arts.

Spectrum Dance Theater, October 12-13, brings *A Rap on Race*, a re-imagining of a conversation between African-American Author James Baldwin and white anthropologist Margaret Mead by choreographer Donald Byrd and playwright Anna Deavere Smith.

Jessica Lang Dance, November 30-December 1 returns with a stunning ballet based but contemporary driven new program. Lang's works are acclaimed for bringing new energy to classicism along with its sophisticated visionary, compelling musicality and visually rich productions.

Caleb Teicher & Company, December 14-15, makes its Philadelphia debut with a new spin on tap and social dance performing to Bach's "Goldberg Variation" and the scatting of Ella Fitzgerald. A founding member of Dorrance Dance, Caleb Teicher is tap's rising star exploding onto the stage with his expressiveness, eccentricities, and impeccable timing. He was named one of Dance Magazine's 2012 "25 to Watch."

Martha Graham Dance Company, January 25-26, this iconic troupe stays true to Graham's vision of social activism in the *EVE Project*, with a program by all female choreographers commemorating the centennial of the 19th Amendment.

Dance Theatre of Harlem, March 1-2, explodes onto the stage with its exceptionally-trained dancers who breathe new life into classical ballet with a masterful repertoire of world and Philadelphia premieres.

Dance Heginbotham, March 15-16, a New-York based Company makes its Philadelphia debut. This troupe founded by former Mark Morris Dance Group dancer John Heginbotham quickly established itself with works of vibrant athleticism, humor and adventuresome theatricality.

Union Tanguera + Kate Weare Company, April 5-6, Contemporary dance meets Argentine Tango! The passionate and riveting, *Sin Salida*, is a new full-length collaborative work by contemporary choreographer Kate Weare with artistic directors Claudia Codega and Esteban Moreno of Union Tanguera, a French/Argentinean contemporary tango company based in Lyon and Buenos Aires, making its Philadelphia debut.

Kun-Yang Lin /Dancers, April 12-13, This Philadelphia-based troupe brings its unique mix of artistry infused by Asian philosophies and Western culture that resonates with the soul.

BODYTRAFFIC, April 26-27 burst onto the Los Angeles dance scene with its versatile repertoire blending contemporary, hip hop, jazz and ballet. This troupe returns with an all-new program featuring the Philadelphia premiere of *A Million Voices* by Matthew Neenan, Pennsylvania Ballet's resident choreographer and co-founder of BalletX, set to Peggy Lee's classics

Parsons Dance Company, May 10-11, returns with new repertoire performed by a stellar ensemble of dancers known for exuberance, passion and sheer joy. With its extraordinary athleticism, Parsons Dance mesmerizes audiences worldwide with its fusion of gesture, inventive approaches, and precision.

Subscriptions to the 2018-2019 Season Dance Series are on sale now at AnnenbergCenter.org or 215-898-3900.

NextMove Dance

Artistic Director Randy Swartz created the first annual dance series in Philadelphia at the Walnut Street Theatre in 1970. In 1983, he launched the Dance Celebration series at the Annenberg Center for a 32-year run and initiated a new annual series at the Prince Theater in October 2015. Dance Affiliates, renamed NextMove Dance, is recognized as one of the nation's finest dance presenters. Known internationally for award-winning presentations for almost four decades, NextMove Dance provides a wealth of opportunities for the Delaware Valley community to interact with the artists through talk-backs, master classes, artistic collaborations, workshops, children's programs and much more. Visit www.nextmovedance.org

Major funding for the 2018/19 season of NextMove Dance is provided by William Penn Foundation. NextMove Dance receives state arts funding support through a grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency and from the Philadelphia Cultural Fund.

ABOUT ANNEBERG CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

The Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts serves as a major cultural destination and crossroads connecting Penn and the greater Philadelphia region through innovative human expression in theatre, music, dance, and film, serving an annual audience of 50,000. The Annenberg Center also serves as a key resource for the arts at Penn, connecting master artists with Penn students in support of and as an enhancement to the arts curriculum. Student performing arts groups are also key users of the Annenberg Center's multiple performance and rehearsal spaces, while also staffing operational roles throughout the academic year. In reflection of Penn's core values as a world-respected academic institution, the Annenberg Center emphasizes artistic and intellectual excellence, diversity, rigor in its presentations; prioritizes inclusiveness in the artists, audiences and groups it serves; manages outstanding performance, conference and meeting facilities; stresses comprehensive event planning, production support, and customer service. The Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts is a major provider of performing arts access for school children and actively engages a broad spectrum of primary, secondary, and post-secondary student audiences.

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Annenberg Center Live

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