

DANCE/USA

The National Service Organization for Professional Dance
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HOUSTON, TX, JUNE 3-6 ★ SUSTAINABLE FUTURE: REALITY CHECK!

Bold Steps Forward in a New Economy

Washington, DC – Dance/USA announces its national **ANNUAL CONFERENCE** taking place this year in **Houston, Texas**, from **Wednesday, June 3** through **Saturday, June 6, 2009**, at the Hyatt Regency Houston. With the dance field facing the same new economic challenges as the rest of the Nation, the Conference presents an invaluable opportunity for regional and national dance leaders to network and strategize to face our common new realities. Attendees include arts presenters, agents, service organizations, trustees, choreographers, dancers, company managers and administrative staff of companies of all budget sizes and dance genres. Dance/USA members and non-members are all invited and welcome to attend! The Conference is made possible by funding from the **National Endowment for the Arts**, **Andrew W. Mellon Foundation**, the Shubert Foundation, and the **Doris Duke Charitable Foundation**.

We draw the strength needed for the road ahead by taking time to recognize the work of two outstanding dance professionals on June 4th at the **Dance/USA Honors Celebration** reception at **The Museum of Fine Arts Houston**. Dancer, choreographer and Ballet Hispanico founder **TINA RAMIREZ** has been chosen to receive the **Dance/USA Honor** award, while preservationist, advocate, writer, presenter and executive **SALI ANN KRIEGSMAN** will receive the **“Ernie,”** named for the late Ian “Ernie” Horvath. Presented annually by the Dance/USA Board of Trustees, the **Dance/USA Honor** and the **“Ernie”** are awarded to *outstanding members of the national dance community*.

Founded in 1982, **Dance/USA** is *the sole national service organization for professional dance*, representing a membership of over 400 leading ballet, modern, ethnic, jazz and tap companies, dance service and presenting organizations, artist managers, educational institutions, business affiliates and individuals. Formerly held as a biennial conference “Roundtable” and in conjunction with the **National Performing Arts Convention**, 2009 marks the timely emergence of the **Dance/USA Conference** as an annual event focused on the specific needs of the dance field. A broad citywide coalition has been marshaled for **The Houston Host Committee**, including: the City of Houston, Dance Houston, Dance Source Houston, Discovery Green, Diverse Works, Greater Houston Convention and Visitors Bureau, Houston Arts Alliance, Houston Ballet, Houston Community College, Houston Metropolitan Dance Company, Jewish Community Center of Houston, Miller Outdoor Theater, Sandra Organ Dance Company, Society for the Performing Arts, and Suchu Dance.

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This year's Conference is already responding to the changing times. Our "Green Registration" process commits to publishing most pre-conference materials electronically, and facilitates paperless online registration. Further, the [Access Dance/USA](#) scholarship program will again provide financial assistance to artists and administrators to help defray the costs of conference registration, travel, and accommodations associated with attending the Dance/USA Annual Conference.

GENERAL SCHEDULE (Subject to change)

Wednesday, June 3

Noon – 5:30pm - Registration Opens
7:30pm - Opening Reception and Performance: Houston Dance Inside Out

Thursday, June 4

8:00 – 9:30am - Breakfast, registration and special interest meetings
9:30am – 5:30pm - Daytime Programs and Council Meetings
6:30 – 9:00pm - Evening Reception and Honors Celebration at The Museum of Fine Arts Houston

Friday, June 5

8:00 – 9:30am - Breakfast, registration and special interest meetings
9:30am – 5:30pm - Daytime Programs and Council Meetings
8:00pm - Evening Dance Showcase at the Cullen Theater, Wortham Theater Center.

Saturday, June 6

8:00 – 9:30am - Breakfast, registration and special interest meetings
9:30am – 4:45pm - Daytime Programs and Council Meetings
7:30pm - Evening Dance Performance by Houston Ballet

HOTEL AND TRAVEL INFORMATION

Hyatt Regency Houston, 1200 Louisiana St., Houston, TX 77002 (Downtown, near Theatre District)
\$123/night for single, double, triple, or quadruple occupancy, so share rooms and save money! This rate also includes complimentary in-room Internet access. Reservation deadline is May 12, 2009. For reservations, please call 1.800.633.7313 or reserve your room on-line at:
<http://houstonregency.hyatt.com/groupbooking/hourh2009dusa>

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION & FEES (Registration begins after March 12. 1-Day Rates also available)

MEMBERS	NON-MEMBERS
\$350 for individuals	\$425 for individuals
\$175 for dancers	\$210 for dancers
\$325 for team members (2 or more from same org.)	\$400 for team members (2 or more from same org.)

Register Online after 3/12/09 for the 2009 Dance/USA Conference (June 3 – 6, Houston, TX), at www.danceusa.org, or for information, call Dance/USA at **202.833.1717**.

Sponsorship Opportunities are available, contact Dance/USA's Director of Development Vicki Kimble at 202.833.1717 (x103).

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In support of its mission to advance the art form of dance, Dance/USA is grounded in the conviction that the concerns and aspirations of dance artists and institutions can be addressed effectively through active, cooperative endeavors with its membership, the broader dance field, and with other performing arts disciplines. Since its founding in 1982, Dance/USA has evolved to become the sole national service organization representing the great diversity of organizations and dance genres that exist in the field. Membership today includes almost 400 ballet, modern, ethnic, jazz and tap companies, dance service and presenting organizations, artist managers, educational institutions, business affiliates and individuals, both nationwide and international. Core programs and services consist of **Public Communications** in the form of publications, and web, email and media communications; **Advocacy** on Capitol Hill in support of federal policies designed to strengthen arts organizations and individual artists, in the media to represent a unified voice for the field, and in the philanthropic community to articulate the field's needs; **Research and Information Services** in the form of statistical information on professional dance through data research and needs assessments; **Professional Development** workshops, training seminars and annual meetings; and **Special Projects**.