

January 15, 2008

Dance/USA Receives \$500,000 Multi-Year Grant from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation

Dance/USA announced today that it has received a four-year grant in the amount of \$500,000 from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation (DDCF) as part of its Core Support Grants for National Organizations initiative. The grant will provide support for Dance/USA's general operations and for building its cash reserves.

This support from the DDCF Arts Program initiative will be used to strengthen Dance/USA's infrastructure and enhance its professional development and research activities to serve a broader and more diverse section of the professional dance field as outlined in its strategic plan. Dance/USA begins the process of a technology upgrade in the spring of 2008 with the installation of a new database that will dynamically interface with an interactive website.

The DDCF grant will support the creation of a comprehensive professional development curriculum which will be delivered through an on-line system to make programs broadly accessible to and affordable for the dance field at large. In addition, Dance/USA will strive to expand its capacity to collect research on professional dance institutions and organizations and to increase the efficiency of information distribution to members, the media, funders and the dance interested public.

"The Doris Duke Charitable Foundation has always been a champion of professional dance, and we are honored and excited to gain their support for Dance/USA's work with the field," said Andrea Snyder, executive director of Dance/USA. The Doris Duke Charitable Foundation provides core support to select national arts organizations whose work is critical for the health of the contemporary dance, jazz, presenting and/or theatre fields. Grants support up to 10% of an organization's annual operating budget, and can be used for general operating expenses and/or cash reserves. In 2007, the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation awarded core support grants totaling \$5 million to eight national organizations.

DDCF Arts Program Director Ben Cameron noted, "Support for contemporary dance is central to the Arts Program here at the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. After a decade of proudly supporting individual dance companies and artists through the initiatives of our grantees, we are expanding our support through this grant to support national activities, such as conferences, research, publications and technical assistance that can benefit the entire national dance field. We are honored to support Dance/USA and the wonderful work they do, and look forward to a fruitful partnership."

About the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation

The mission of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation (www.ddcf.org) is to improve the quality of people's lives through grants supporting the performing arts, environmental conservation, medical research and the prevention of child maltreatment, and through preservation of the cultural and environmental legacy of Doris Duke's properties.