FOR RELEASE:
June 28, 2018
2018 National Dance Day Routine [Here]
Images located [Here]

The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts
and
The Dizzy Feet Foundation
in conjunction with
Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton
present

National Dance Day

Saturday, July 28, 2018, 2:00–10:30 p.m.

Additional FREE Participatory Classes
from 10:15 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

Free, Day-Long Celebration features Interactive Dance, Lessons, Indoor & Outdoor Performances, and More, Including the Return of Dancing Under the Stars

Emceed by New York City Ballet’s Ashley Bouder
So You Think You Can Dance’s Comfort Fedoke to Lead Patrons in Dance Routines and Demonstrations

(WASHINGTON)—The Kennedy Center, in partnership with the Dizzy Feet Foundation and Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC), invites everyone to celebrate the art of dance and joy of movement as the Center hosts the East Coast’s chapter of the annual National Dance Day on Saturday, July 28, 2018, from 2:00 to 10:30 p.m.

This free, day-long celebration encouraging Americans to embrace dance as a fun and positive way to maintain good health takes place outside on the Kennedy Center’s North Plaza and includes a 6:00 p.m. Millennium Stage performance in the Grand Foyer, which will be streamed live on the Kennedy Center website. Two additional free participatory classes are scheduled in the morning at 10:15 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

The day also features interactive dance lessons, indoor and outdoor performances, and more, culminating with the summer night social Dancing Under the Stars with Afro-Colombian beats and beginner-level Soukous and Champeta dance lessons, followed by two hours of dancing with the Soukous & Bazarro All Stars on tour from the Democratic Republic of Congo and Columbia, respectively. So You Think You Can Dance (SYTYCD) Season 4 contestant and All-Star Comfort Fedoke will lead patrons in the National Dance Day routine. Food and drinks will be available for purchase on site.

2018 National Dance Day Routine
Choreographed by Emmy Award-winning choreographer Mandy Moore, the 2018 National Dance Day routine is available now on Dizzy Feet Foundation’s YouTube channel and is set to Kylie Minogue’s newest single “Dancing.” The public is also encouraged to submit videos of themselves performing this year’s routine and participate in the dance challenge, #DanceMadeMeDoIt. Encouraging all to celebrate dance in one’s own way, this year’s challenge is to create your own version of the National Dance Day Routine.
**Featured Artists**

Emceed at the Kennedy Center by New York City Ballet Principal Dancer Ashley Bouder, National Dance Day features performances and instruction in a wide variety of dance styles by artists including:

- **Michael Mindlin**, Dance Supervisor from the national tour of *Hamilton*
- Dance fitness warm-up with **Kazaxe**
- Traditional Chinese dancers from **Xuejuan Dance Ensemble**
- Choreographer and Hip Hop dancer **Teren Dickson**
- A fusion of Middle Eastern, modern, and traditional folkloric dance styles from **Sultanas Troupe**
- Hip Hop from **Velocity Dance**
- Tap dancer and choreographer **Cartier Williams**
- Modern dance in the style and tradition of Isadora Duncan from **Word Dance Theater**
- Contemporary and Hip Hop with students from **CityDance DREAM & CityDance Conservatory**
- Salsa with Instructor **Gina Safadi** from Salsa with Silvia Dance Studio
- Beginner-level Soukous and Champeta dance lessons with the **Soukous All Stars** and the **Bazurto All Stars**
- D.C.-area studio **Dance Institute of Washington**, part of the Dizzy Feet Community Partner Program
- Local students of the **DEA Youth Dance Program**, part of the Dizzy Feet Community Partner Program of the DEA Educational Foundation
- **A free master class tailored for person’s with Parkinson’s Disease and their care-partners** led by Lucy Bowen McCauley
- Instructor Monica Stephenson from **The Washington Ballet**
- **Free Yoga class** in the Grand Foyer, as part of the Kennedy Center’s Sound Health program, led by Lakshmi Kanter

**National Dance Day at the Kennedy Center Schedule**

10:15–11:15 a.m.: FREE Yoga class in the Grand Foyer as part of Sound Health
12:30–1:30 p.m.: Dance for Parkinson’s Disease FREE masterclass led by Lucy Bowen McCauley (meet in the Hall of States)
Comfort Fedoke is a multi-talented, Emmy-Award Winning dancer, choreographer, director, actress, and singer. Known for competing on *So You Think You Can Dance* Season 4, Fedoke was invited back as an All-Star and continues mentoring new competitors each season. Her dance roots stem from the street and has competed in freestyle dance battles all over the world. Recently, her success in battle has taken her from the dance floor to the commentator’s booth, working alongside Sway Calloway for Red Bull TV. She was also featured in Nike’s 30-year celebration of Air commercial promoting the new VaporMax shoe. On stage, Fedoke has performed live with talented artists such as LL Cool J, Rihanna, and Missy Elliott at the Super Bowl 49 Half-Time Show. Comfort currently serves as Assistant Choreographer for Hip Hop legend Missy Elliot and has appeared in a number of her music videos.

New York City Ballet Principal Dancer Ashley Bouder began her ballet training at the age of six. After attending the 1999 Summer Program at the School of American Ballet, she was first named apprentice of the New York City Ballet (NYCB) and later rose to the rank of soloist and then Principal dancer. Bouder has danced in ballet galas around the world and guest starred in companies including the Paris Opera Ballet and Rome Opera Ballet, among others. Her awards include the Janice Levin Honoree from the New York City Ballet, and a 2014 Benois de la Danse nomination, among others. Bouder has taught at summer programs around the country and continues to be a frequent guest teacher at Ballet Academy East, MYB, and SAB, and has also guest taught at Princeton University. Using the arts collaborative she founded, The Ashley Bouder Project, as an outlet for her work, Bouder hopes to promote other female choreographers while setting an example for women to be more forward and prominent in the creation and directorial sides of the arts world. Her previous work has been presented at the SAB Choreographic...
Workshop, the NYCB in the Dancer’s Choice Program, the Ashley Bouser Project at New York’s Peter Norton Symphony Space, and at Bryant Park Presents.

**About The Dizzy Feet Foundation**
The Dizzy Feet Foundation was founded in 2009 by producer Nigel Lythgoe and director Adam Shankman, among others, to support, improve, and increase access to dance education in the United States. Guided by a board representing all aspects of the American dance community, the foundation provides scholarships to talented students to support the next generation of professional dancers. The Dizzy Feet Foundation also strives to support, improve, and increase access to dance education through the community dance programs they fund that expose children in low-income areas to the life-long benefits of dance. The Dizzy Feet Foundation is a nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)3 charitable organization. For more information, go to dizzyfeettfoundation.org.

**About the Kennedy Center**
The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts is America’s living memorial to President Kennedy. Under the guidance of Chairman David M. Rubenstein, and President Deborah F. Rutter, the nine theaters and stages of the nation’s busiest performing arts facility attract more than three million visitors to more than 2,000 performances each year, while center-related touring productions, television, and radio broadcasts reach 40 million more around the world. With its artistic affiliates, the National Symphony Orchestra and Washington National Opera, the Center has produced more than 300 theatrical productions, and dozens of new ballets, operas, and musical works, in addition to hosting numerous international cultural festivals. The education programs of the Kennedy Center, including those of its affiliate VSA, the international organization on arts and disability, have become models for communities across the country and have unlocked the door to learning for millions of young people. The Center and its affiliates stage more than 400 free performances by artists from throughout the world each year on the Center’s main stages, and every day of the year at 6 p.m. on its Millennium Stages, which are also streamed live, online. To learn more about the Kennedy Center, please visit www.kennedy-center.org.

The 18-19 Kennedy Center Ballet & Dance season includes Lucky Plush, Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company, Companhia de Dança Deborah Colker, Mariinsky Ballet, National Ballet of China, and more. For further information, please visit www.kennedy-center.org.

**Funding Credits**
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*The Millennium Stage was created and underwritten by James A. Johnson and Maxine Isaacs to make the performing arts accessible to everyone in fulfillment of the Kennedy Center's mission to its community and the nation.*

*Additional funding for the Millennium Stage is provided by Kim Engel and Family, The Isadore and Bertha Gudelsky Family Foundation, Inc., The Meredith Foundation, The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, Dr. Deborah Rose and Dr. Jan A.J. Stolwijk, the U.S. Department of Education, and the Millennium Stage Endowment Fund.*

*The Millennium Stage Endowment Fund was made possible by James A. Johnson and Maxine Isaacs, Fannie Mae Foundation, the Kimsey Endowment, Gilbert† and Jaylee† Mead, Mortgage Bankers Association of America and other anonymous gifts to secure the future of the Millennium Stage.*
Kennedy Center education and related artistic programming is made possible through the generosity of the National Committee for the Performing Arts.

For more information about the Kennedy Center visit www.kennedy-center.org.

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PRESS CONTACT:
Brittany Laeger
(202) 416-8445
balaeger@kennedy-center.org

GENERAL INFORMATION:
(202) 467-4600; (800) 444-1324
www.kennedy-center.org