AILEY OPENS TWO-WEEK SPRING SEASON AT LINCOLN CENTER ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11th WITH FREE REVELATIONS CELEBRATION WORKSHOP ON THE PLAZA AND ONE-NIGHT-ONLY AILEY SPIRIT GALA

For First Time Ever Rising Stars of Ailey II, The Ailey School and AileyCamp Join Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater on David H. Koch Theater Stage Followed by Dance Party with Musical Stylings of Special Guest DJ M.O.S.

Vanessa Williams as Honorary Chair of Gala Benefit for Scholarships and Arts In Education Programs Serving Area Students

(NEW YORK, NY) May 15, 2014 — Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater’s two-week spring engagement at Lincoln Center’s David H. Koch Theater kicks off in an exceptional way on Wednesday, June 11th with a free workshop - Revelations Celebration on the Plaza - followed by The Ailey Spirit Gala, a one-night-only benefit performance and party.

Beginning at 5:30pm, Revelations Celebration on the Plaza will give participants of all ages a rare opportunity to experience a grand dance workshop celebrating Alvin Ailey’s signature American masterpiece, and marking the 25th season since the legendary founder’s passing. The special activity will be led by Ailey master teacher and former Company member Nasha Thomas-Schmitt, who will teach movements from three distinctive sections of Revelations: “I’ve Been Buked,” “Wade in the Water,” and “Rocka My Soul.” Live music with drummer and singers will be featured at the event.

The inaugural Ailey Spirit Gala benefit performance at 7pm includes the world-renowned Ailey dancers in excerpts of Wayne McGregor’s Chroma, Aszure Barton’s LIFT, and a new production of David Parsons’ signature solo, Caught. The rising stars of Ailey II will perform an excerpt of Jennifer Archibald’s Wings, gifted young dancers from The Ailey School (ages 6 to 23) will showcase their talents and the breadth of the program’s training in Synthesis II, and talented students from AileyCamp will perform a work inspired by Ronald K. Brown’s Grace. An expanded cast of 50 of the present and future stars of Ailey will come together for a memorable finale of Alvin Ailey’s timeless, Revelations. Following the performance, a dance party on the promenade will feature the musical stylings of deejay to the stars, DJ M.O.S.


Attendees will have the opportunity to witness the impact of their charitable giving firsthand, as gala proceeds will support scholarships for talented young students to attend The Ailey School and Ailey’s Arts In Education & Community Programs. These programs serve more than 100,000 young people annually, including AileyCamp - an innovative, full-scholarship summer program that uses the art of dance as a means to help young people stretch their minds, bodies and spirits. For more information on benefit tickets starting at $500 call 212-405-9031.

Led by Artistic Director Robert Battle, Ailey’s 15-performance engagement featuring four programs continues through June 22nd and includes a world premiere by Robert Moses, new productions of Hans van Manen’s Polish Pieces and David Parsons’ Caught, and the Company premiere of Asadata Dafora’s groundbreaking 1932 solo, Awassa Astrige/Ostrich. Other highlights are encores of this season’s premieres and repertory favorites, such as the “Ailey/Ellington” program and Ohad Naharin’s Minus 16. For further information, and to purchase tickets starting at $25, please visit www.alvinailey.org.
The Ailey Spirit Gala is sponsored by FedEx Corporation.

Wine and spirits for The Ailey Spirit Gala generously provided by Diageo.

The 2013-2014 season is supported, in part, by public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, and the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council.

CALENDAR LISTING INFORMATION
On June 11th, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater launches a two-week, 15-performance engagement at Lincoln Center’s David H. Koch Theater with a free workshop - Revelations Celebration on the Plaza - and the inaugural Ailey Spirit Gala featuring the present and future stars of Ailey with Honorary Chair Vanessa Williams. From 5:30-6:30pm, Revelations Celebration on the Plaza will give participants of all ages a rare opportunity to experience a grand dance workshop celebrating Alvin Ailey’s signature American masterpiece. The Ailey Spirit Gala benefit starts at 7pm with performances by Washington Heights and Newark Allecamps, talented students from The Aliley School, rising stars of Ailey II, and Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater performing excerpts from Wayne McGregor’s Chroma, Azure Barton’s Lift, and the premiere of a new production of David Parsons’ signature work Caught, in addition to Revelations with an expanded cast of 50. A soiree follows on the promenade featuring the musical stylings of deejay to the stars, DJ M.O.S. For benefit tickets starting at $500 call 212-405-9031. Tickets for performances through June 22nd start at $25 and are available at www.alvinailey.org.

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater
June 11 – 22, 2014 at Lincoln Center’s David H. Koch Theater
20 Lincoln Center Plaza, New York, NY (Columbus Avenue at 63rd Street)
(212) 496-0600 / www.alvinailey.org / www.lincolncenter.org

Programming – Subject to Change

Wednesday, June 11, 7:00pm – The Ailey Spirit Gala - including Caught and Revelations
Thursday, June 12, 7:30pm - Chroma / Robert Moses Premiere / Revelations
Friday, June 13, 8:00pm - Grace / Awassa Aastrige/Ostrich, D-Man in the Waters (Part I) / Minus 16
*Saturday, June 14, 2:00pm – “Ailey/Ellington” - Night Creature, Pas de Duke / The River / Revelations
*Family Matinee – followed by a Post-Performance Q&A session with the dancers
Saturday, June 14, 8:00pm - Chroma / Robert Moses Premiere / Revelations
Sunday, June 15, 3:00pm - “Ailey/Ellington” - Night Creature, Pas de Duke / The River / Revelations
Sunday, June 15, 7:30pm - Grace / Awassa Aastrige/Ostrich, D-Man in the Waters (Part I) / Minus 16
Tuesday, June 17, 7:30pm - Lift / Polish Pieces, Caught / Revelations
Wednesday, June 18, 7:30pm - Chroma / Robert Moses Premiere / Revelations
Thursday, June 19, 7:30pm - Lift / Polish Pieces, Caught / Revelations
Friday, June 20, 8:00pm - “Ailey/Ellington” - Night Creature, Pas de Duke / The River / Revelations
*Saturday, June 21, 2:00pm – Lift / Polish Pieces, Caught / Revelations
*Family Matinee – followed by a Post-Performance Q&A session with the dancers
Saturday, June 21, 8:00pm - Grace / Awassa Aastrige/Ostrich, D-Man in the Waters (Part I) / Minus 16
Sunday, June 22, 3:00pm - Chroma / Robert Moses Premiere / Revelations
Sunday, June 22, 7:30pm - Lift / Polish Pieces, Caught / Revelations
PRESS:
For additional press materials please visit the links below or pressroom.alvinaliley.org

Season Images
Sizzle Reel
Broadcast
Electronic Press Kit

ABOUT ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER
Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, recognized by U.S. Congressional resolution as a vital American “Cultural Ambassador to the World,” grew from a now-fabled March 1958 performance in New York that forever changed the perception of American dance. Founded by Alvin Ailey, and guided by Judith Jamison beginning in 1989, the Company is now led by Robert Battle, whom Judith Jamison chose to succeed her on July 1, 2011. Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater has performed for an estimated 23 million people in 71 countries on 6 continents, promoting the uniqueness of the African-American cultural experience and the preservation and enrichment of the American modern dance tradition. In addition to being the Principal Dance Company of New York City Center, where its performances have become a year-end tradition, the Aliley company performs annually at Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC, the Auditorium Theatre in Chicago, the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County in Miami, The Fox Theatre in Atlanta, Zellerbach Hall in Berkeley, CA and the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark where it is the Principal Resident Affiliate), and appears frequently in other major theaters throughout the United States and the world during extensive yearly tours. The Aliley organization also includes Aliley II (1974), a second performing company of emerging young dancers and innovative choreographers; The Aliley School (1969), one of the most extensive dance training programs in the world; Aliley Arts in Education & Community Programs, which brings dance into the classrooms, communities and lives of people of all ages; and The Aliley Extension (2005), a program offering dance and fitness classes to the general public, which coincided with the opening of Aliley’s permanent home—the largest building dedicated to dance in New York City, the dance capital of the world—named The Joan Weill Center for Dance, at 55th Street at 9th Avenue in New York City. For more information, visit www.alvinaliley.org.

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