

Adrienne Arsht Center

FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BACK FOR THE SECOND CONSECUTIVE YEAR!

**THE ADRIENNE ARSHT CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS
OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY AND THE ALVIN AILEY DANCE FOUNDATION
ANNOUNCE THE RETURN OF
AILEYCAMP® MIAMI**

**A free, six-week, full scholarship camp experience, including classes in
dance and personal development, for 100 at-risk middle schoolers from
Miami-Dade County**

**Miami native and former member of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater,
Yusha-Marie Sorzano, joins the faculty as a special guest instructor**

June 28-August 6, 2010

**Open House: Tuesday, July 13 from 1-3 p.m.
Final Performance: Saturday, August 7 at 7 p.m.**

MIAMI, FL June 21, 2010 – The Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County and the Alvin Ailey Dance Foundation proudly announce the return of **AileyCamp Miami** June 28-August 6, 2010! Following the success of last year's inaugural Miami camp program at the Adrienne Arsht Center, this summer features an expanded six-week session with 100 campers, 20 of whom are returning Ailey campers from last year. Middle schoolers (grades 6-8) from throughout Miami-Dade County public schools have the opportunity to be part of a full scholarship camp where they develop important life skills through classes in a variety of dance techniques, as well as personal development and creative communication.

Yusha-Marie Sorzano, former member of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, and a Miami native who graduated from New World School of the Arts, joins the **AileyCamp Miami** faculty as a special guest instructor for the Miami program.

AileyCamp Miami runs from June 28 through August 6. Camp tuition, uniforms, dance attire, three exciting field trips, breakfast, lunch, and transportation are all provided at no cost to participating campers.

OPEN HOUSE

On **Tuesday, July 13**, from 1p.m. to 3 p.m., the Adrienne Arsht Center will open its doors to **AileyCamp Miami** families for an Open House. Families will have the opportunity to observe an exciting array of diverse activities at **AileyCamp**, including dynamic dance classes, creative communication courses, and the end-of-day camp meeting that includes the recitation of **AileyCamp's** daily affirmations. **(The Open House is not open to the general public.)**

FINAL PERFORMANCE

AileyCamp Miami culminates with a grand finale performance on **Saturday, August 7 at 7 p.m.**, where students will showcase the unique dance skills they have learned during the six-week program. Ailey campers will fill the stage of the John S. and James L. Knight Concert Hall with dances and skits reflecting their personal and artistic growth during **AileyCamp Miami**. **THE FINAL PERFORMANCE IS FREE, AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.**

“Through the transformative power of the performing arts, the discipline of dance will translate into a sense of self worth, self esteem, and positive empowerment for 100 young people from South Florida this summer,” said M. John Richard, president and CEO of the Adrienne Arsht Center. “AileyCamp Miami represents the crossroads of the Adrienne Arsht Center and Alvin Ailey Foundation missions – where world class arts and community-based programs meet and change lives.”

AileyCamp Miami is specifically designed for youth who have no formal dance training, come from underserved communities, and may be experiencing personal challenges. The goal of the program is to provide these students with a performing arts experience they might otherwise not have, and to foster personal development using dance as a vehicle for self-esteem and empowerment.

Founded by Alvin Ailey in 1989, **AileyCamp** is an innovative summer program that uses dance as a vehicle for developing self-esteem, self-discipline, creative expression, and critical thinking skills. The Adrienne Arsht Center’s Miami program is part of an elite group of only 9 cities around the country chosen to host the **AileyCamp** experience.

AileyCamp's six-week curriculum includes daily technique classes in ballet, Horton-based modern dance, jazz, and West African dance. Campers also

participate in personal development and creative communication classes, developing confidence and skills in the areas of goal-setting, self-government, nutrition, conflict resolution, career development, and self-image. The program cultivates daily affirmations to boost self-esteem and strengthen **AileyCamp's** supportive community of peers and teachers, such as: "I will pay attention with my mind, body, and spirit. I will listen to learn. I am in control. I am a winner." Classes in performance technique sharpen students' self-awareness and presence, while creative communication courses strengthen their potential for self-expression.

AileyCamp targets students with academic, social, and domestic challenges -- criteria that often determine a child's risk of dropping out of school -- but also welcomes students who have little opportunity to develop their artistic interests. An important aspect of the program's success is in providing positive adult and peer role models, and giving campers an invaluable opportunity to explore their creativity, learn to master their bodies, and strengthen their respect for themselves and others within a supportive framework that gives them an important foundation for the future.

AileyCamp Miami is a program of the Adrienne Arsht Center supported by the Miami-Dade County Mayor, the Board of County Commissioners, and the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs. Additional support for **AileyCamp Miami** is generously provided by J.P. Morgan Chase Foundation and the Israel, Rose, Henry, and Robert Weiner Foundation.

Chase is the Alvin Ailey Organization **National Art of Learning Sponsor**. **AileyCamp** is also supported by The Lehman Brothers AileyCamp Endowment Fund with leadership support for Ailey's Arts In Education and Community Programs provided through the Simin & Herb Allison Arts In Education Endowment Fund.

Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County is made possible by the public support of the Miami-Dade County Mayor and the Board of County Commissioners, the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Tourist Development Council and the City of Miami Omni Community Redevelopment Agency. The Adrienne Arsht Center also receives generous support from private contributions to the Adrienne Arsht Center Foundation through its Visionary Society membership program and Encore Circle major gifts program; American Express Company; Andrew W. Mellon Foundation; Arison Arts Foundation; Association of Performing Arts Presenters; Bank of America Charitable Foundation; Dade Community Foundation; Doris Duke Charitable Foundation; Ford Foundation; Funding Arts Network; John S. and James L. Knight Foundation; Community Connections Fund of MetLife Foundation; New England Foundation for the Arts; Southern Arts Federation; The Cowles Charitable Trust; The Wachovia Wells Fargo Foundation; the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts.

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About the Adrienne Arsht Center for Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County:

The Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County is one of the world's leading performing arts organizations and venues. Made possible by Miami-Dade County's largest ever public/private-sector partnership, the Center plays host to three resident companies (Florida Grand Opera, Miami City Ballet and New World Symphony, America's Orchestral Academy) in addition to numerous South Florida arts organizations that perform in its theaters regularly. Since opening in 2006, the Center has emerged as a leader in offering and presenting world-class programming that mirrors South Florida's diversity, as a catalyst for development in Miami, and as a host of impactful community and educational programs.

Designed by world-renowned architect Cesar Pelli of Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects, the venue is comprised of the 2,400-seat Sanford and Dolores Ziff Ballet Opera House, the 2,200-seat John S. and James L. Knight Concert Hall, the black box Carnival Studio Theater, a restored Carnival Art Deco Tower, the Peacock Foundation, Inc. Studio, the Peacock Foundation, Inc. Education Center, and the outdoor Parker and Vann Thomson Plaza for the Arts. Events impresario and restaurateur Barton G. Weiss brought his signature style to the Center in 2009 with PRELUDE BY BARTON G, a full-service upscale restaurant open five days a week.

Visit www.arshtcenter.org for more information.

About Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater (AAADT), 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 changed forever the perception of American dance. Today, led by Judith Jamison, AAADT has performed for an estimated 23 million people in 48 states and in 71 countries on 6 continents, including two historic residencies in South Africa, promoting the uniqueness of the African-American cultural experience and the preservation and enrichment of the American modern dance tradition. Alvin Ailey Dance Foundation, Inc. is the umbrella organization that includes Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater; Ailey II (1974), a second performing company of emerging young dancers and innovative choreographers; The Ailey School (1969), one of the most extensive dance training programs in the world; Ailey Arts in Education & Community Programs, which brings dance into the classrooms, communities and lives of people of all ages; and The Ailey Extension, a program offering dance and fitness classes to the general public, which began with the opening of Ailey's permanent home—the nation's largest building dedicated to dance—named The Joan Weill Center for Dance, at 55th Street at 9th Avenue in New York City. Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater is currently celebrating Judith Jamison's 20th Anniversary as Artistic Director with a 20-city U.S. Tour, culminating at BAM from June 10-20. For more information, visit www.alvinailey.org.