



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACTS

Marcia Gomez
305-397-9207

marcia@blankcanvascomm.com

Gino R. Campodónico
786-468-2228

gcampodonico@arshtcenter.org

PHOTOS AND BROLL AVAILABLE [HERE](#)



**AILEY II: The Next Generation of Dance
ignites the Adrienne Arsht stage in the new year**

**One Night. 12 Dancers. Limitless Possibility.
World premieres, bold choreography and South Florida native, Jordyn White
take center stage**

**January 9, 2026 at 8 p.m.
Knight Concert Hall**

MIAMI – Nov. 12, 2025 – The Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County ([@arshtcenter](#)) is proud to welcome back AILEY II ([@aileyii](#)), the celebrated second company of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, for a powerful one-night-only performance on January 9, 2026 at 8 p.m. in the Knight Concert Hall. The performance features repertory that spans emotional storytelling and thrilling athleticism and a spotlight on South Florida native Jordyn White, who joined the company in 2024.

PHOTOS AND BROLL AVAILABLE [HERE](#)

Tickets are \$40.95 - \$93.60 and available now at [arshtcenter.org](https://www.arshtcenter.org) or at the Arsht Center box office by calling (305) 949-6722.

For more than five decades, Ailey II has merged the spirit and energy of the country's best early-career dance talent with the passion and artistry of today's most outstanding and emerging choreographers. Founded in 1974 as a bridge between The Ailey School and the professional dance world, the company embodies Alvin Ailey's pioneering mission to nurture the next generation of talented artists and reach audiences around the world by making dance accessible



to all. Under Artistic Director [Francesca Harper](#)'s direction, Ailey II is forging a new path for modern dance—one that's inclusive, experimental, and transformative.

"This season is a celebration of artistic voices that push boundaries and inspire transformation while honoring Alvin Ailey's timeless vision," said Francesca Harper. "The four works I've commissioned speak to identity, connection, and the bold possibilities of movement today. I am excited for audiences to witness these 12 exceptional dancers bring their creative passion and virtuosity to the stage."

As part of the Adrienne Arsht Center's 2025-2026 Dance at Arsht Series, the Ailey II program will include a curated selection of new and repertory works. The works listed below reflect Ailey II's national touring repertory. The Miami program at the Arsht will feature a select portion of these pieces, with final programming to be announced soon.

[In Session](#) by choreographer Rena Butler is a collective portrait of coming of age, where the tension between conformity and rebellion shapes the action of maturation. The work explores how individuals navigate the process of finding themselves while moving within—and against—the collective, challenging the notion that growth requires uniformity and asserting instead that no student needs to be the same. Through layered physicality and communal rhythm, In Session reveals the nuanced journey of self-discovery within a community.

Social media can contribute to anxiety, depression, comparison, pressure to be perfect, external validation, loneliness, bullying, and finding joy in the downfall of others. In Renée I. McDonald's work [Likes vs Life](#), three dancers wrestle with these powerful forces, the need to connect, and the desire to escape.

In the world premiere work [Berry Dreamin'](#), former Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and Ailey II member Chalvar Monteiro centers the music, personality, and soul-stirring lyricism of Chuck Berry, the father of rock 'n' roll. This piece aims to reimagine the rich origin story for a star on the rise—the journey to adulthood and the moving target that is human connection against a day-dreamy, subconscious landscape that gives birth to our wildest dreams. The creation of Berry Dreamin' is commissioned by Dance St. Louis in celebration of Chuck Berry's centennial.

Choreographer My'Kal Stromile's [Third Person Point of View](#) begins in medias res—Latin for "in the midst of things." We enter a non-traditional, three-person relationship in its fully functioning form: fluid, intricate, and quietly intimate. We then rewind to the beginning of the relationship, and what the audience sees is two people deeply attuned, and a third seeking entry, admiration, and a place to belong. As the title suggests, the piece invites the audience to witness from the outside, observing a relationship as it unfolds without ever being directly addressed.

In addition to these four world premieres, Ailey II's touring repertory also includes Baye & Asa's [John 4:20](#), an expanded duet the choreographers originally created in 2018; Francesca Harper's [Luminous](#), paying homage to five decades of Ailey II; a solo excerpted from Judith Jamison's



[Divining](#), her first choreographic work for Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater in 1984; Houston Thomas' [Down the Rabbit Hole](#), a work inspired by The Matrix film series exploring how technology weaves into the fabric of daily life; and enduring classics by Alvin Ailey, such as his signature must-see American masterpiece, [Revelations](#).

Ailey II welcomes four new dancers— [Kamani Abu](#), [Jada Ammons](#), [Christian Butts](#), and [Adanna Smalls](#)— who join the eight returning members: [Carley Cruzat Brooks](#), [Meredith Brown](#), [Jennifer M. Gerken](#), [Xavier Logan](#), [Xhosa Scott](#), [Darion Tuner](#), [Eric J. Vidaña](#), and [Jordyn White](#).

Please visit pressroom.alvinailey.org/ailey-ii for bios, hi-res downloadable photos, and b-roll.

*All programs, artists, ticket prices, availability, dates and times are subject to change without notice. Ticket prices include fees. Visit ArshtCenter.org for up-to-date information.

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, and the state of Florida through the Division of Arts and Culture and the National Endowment for the Arts. The Adrienne Arsht Center also receives generous support from individuals, corporations and local, state and national foundations.

###

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

The Arsht proudly serves as the cultural pulse of Miami – the heart of magical live arts experiences that spark the imagination and connect people to one another. Whether on our stages or in your neighborhood, the Arsht is alive year-round with international artists, innovative programming from [resident companies](#) and local arts partners, free community events that reflect Miami's unique identity and more than 100 culturally diverse and impactful learning experiences for 80,000 children every year.

Since opening in 2006 in the heart of downtown, the Arsht, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, has been recognized as a leader in the city's cultural transformation, a catalyst for billions of dollars in new development and a host venue for historic events. The 300+ annual Arsht events include a robust series of touring Broadway musicals direct from New York, star-studded jazz and classical music concerts curated for South Florida, a major annual Flamenco Festival and an award-winning Miami-based theater program. In addition, Gospel Fest Miami, Art + Mind Day, Heritage Fest and our LGBTQ+ Pride celebration are among dozens of free events that bring people from all corners of our community together. For more information, visit ArshtCenter.org.

About Ailey II

Ailey II—the second company of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater—is universally renowned for merging the spirit and energy of the country's best early-career dance talent with the passion and creative vision of today's most outstanding and emerging choreographers. Founded in 1974 as a bridge between The Ailey School and the professional dance world, Ailey II embodies Alvin Ailey's pioneering mission to establish an extended cultural community that provides dance performances, training, and community programs for all people. Ailey II flourished into one of the most popular dance companies in the country under the



Adrienne Arsht Center

for the Performing Arts
of Miami-Dade County

leadership of Sylvia Waters from 1974–2012, combining a rigorous touring schedule with extensive community outreach programs. With Artistic Director Francesca Harper at the helm, Ailey II is forging a new path for modern dance—one that’s inclusive, experimental, and transformative. For more information, visit ailey.org/aileyii.