

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater Returns to Virginia Arts Festival

March 2 – 4, 2018

All performances at Chrysler Hall; Tickets are on sale now

(Norfolk, VA) **Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater** will showcase their spectacular artistry, talent, diversity, and range for 3 performances **March 2 – 4** at Chrysler Hall in Norfolk, Virginia presented by the Virginia Arts Festival.

Tickets can be purchased online at www.vafest.org, by phone at 757-282-2822 or by visiting the Virginia Arts Festival box office located at 440 Bank Street in Norfolk between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday-Friday.

On March 30, 1958, Alvin Ailey led a group of young African-American modern dancers in a now-fabled performance at the 92nd Street Y in New York City that forever changed the perception of American dance. Mr. Ailey was a pioneer in establishing a multi-racial repertory company that presented important works by both dance masters and emerging choreographers. Regarded as one of the world's premiere dance companies, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater is a recipient of the National Medal of Arts and is recognized by a U.S. Congressional resolution as a vital American "Cultural Ambassador to the World."

Having performed in 48 states, 71 countries, on 6 continents for an estimated 23 million people worldwide—as well as millions more through television broadcasts—Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater continues to inspire and unite people of all backgrounds around the globe. The Ailey legacy flourishes, using the universal language of dance as a medium for honoring the past, celebrating the present and fearlessly reaching into the future.

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater

Friday, March 2 at 8 pm

Saturday, March 3 at 8 pm

Sunday, March 4 at 3 pm

"Movement that'll move you. Plenty of reasons to see Ailey: the slew of thought-provoking new work and perennial favorites [that] feel especially relevant right now."

—NEW YORK MAGAZINE

"If you haven't seen Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, you haven't seen dance...[they're] the most exciting dance company in the world. If you've never seen them perform, you have no idea what the human body can do, in terms of sheer grace, control, elegance, strength, and athleticism."

—THE HUFFINGTON POST

“The Ailey dancers set the stage on fire with contemporary repertory. Talk about electrifying. The dancers wrapped their bodies and souls around works created for them.”

-CHICAGO SUN TIMES

About the Virginia Arts Festival

Since 1997, the **Virginia Arts Festival** has transformed the cultural scene in southeastern Virginia, presenting great performers from around the world to local audiences and making this historic, recreation-rich region a cultural destination for visitors from across the United States and around the world. The Festival has presented numerous U.S. and regional premieres, and regularly commissions new works of music, dance, and theater from some of today’s most influential composers, choreographers and playwrights. The Festival’s arts education programs reach tens of thousands of area schoolchildren each year through student matinees, in-school performances, artists’ residencies, master classes and demonstrations. ###