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CALL FOR APPLICANTS:

**JACOB'S PILLOW HOSTS 2019 NATIONAL DANCE PRESENTERS FORUM
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE NEW ENGLAND FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS (NEFA) &
THE ASSOCIATION OF PERFORMING ARTS PROFESSIONALS (APAP)**

February 19, 2019—(Becket, MA) Jacob's Pillow, in partnership with The New England Foundation for the Arts (NEFA) and the Association of Performing Arts Professionals (APAP), invites early career dance presenters to apply for an immersive professional development experience at Jacob's Pillow, July 10-14, 2019. The National Dance Presenters Forum was reinstated in 2018 in response to field-wide interest and in support of the Pillow's renewed commitment to facilitate and host discourses in dance development through its five-year strategic plan, Vision' 22.

"After the success of reinstating the National Dance Presenters Forum last year, and seeing how the participants in our first cohort have created a rich network and are moving their work forward, we're excited to welcome a new group to the Pillow this July," says Jacob's Pillow Director Pamela Tatge.

The Forum experience will take the shape of a learning cohort, wherein participants, facilitators, and presenters will interrogate and contribute perspectives on the evolving state of 21st-century dance presenting. Immersed within Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, participants have access to all Festival programming, unparalleled Archives that chronicle over 87 years of dance history, and an international community of students, dancers, choreographers, scholars, arts professionals, and audience members. Home to America's longest-running dance festival, Jacob's Pillow has been a leader in presenting dance across genres for decades and is widely considered one of the most active sites for dance research, development, and performance in the United States.

Jacob's Pillow has worked closely with national and regional partners to develop the curriculum for the program that provides a platform to discuss critical issues facing the dance field; strengthen curatorial practice in dance; explore collaborative strategies to support choreographic development; learn about and share audience engagement strategies; strengthen professional networks; and bolster support for dance across the United States.

Additional curricular insight comes from initiatives including NEFA's National Dance Project Regional Dance Development Initiatives and [Moving Dance Forward: NEFA's National Dance Project at 20 & Critical Field Trends](#) report; *The Black Report* by the International Association of Blacks in Dance; [The Future of Physically Integrated Dance in the U.S.](#) by Axis Dance; South Arts' [Dance Touring Initiative](#); and Dance/USA's [Engaging Dance Audiences](#).

Programming highlights include the trailblazing ballet company Dance Theatre of Harlem in celebration of their 50th anniversary, and the world premiere of *POWER*, a new work that imagines what Black Shaker worship may have looked like from Brooklyn-based Reggie Wilson/Fist and Heel Performance Group, among others.

The selection committee, comprised of representatives from Jacob’s Pillow, NEFA, APAP, Dance/USA, Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation, South Arts, and Project Consultant Jennifer Calienes, strives to seek varied geographic representation and be inclusive of historically underrepresented and marginalized communities.

In its inaugural year, [the 2018 Forum planning committee selected 17 emerging dance presenters](#) with diverse backgrounds as curators, cultural organizers, and service providers to artists and audiences, from a pool of over 71 applicants from 25 states and the District of Columbia. In addition to participating staff from partner organizations, 2018 facilitators included Bessie Award-winning writer and Curatorial Director of Gibney, Eva Yaa Asantewaa; esteemed critic and researcher Deborah Jowitz; founder of Urban Bush Women and the Bessie’s Lifetime Achievement Award-winner, Jawole Willa Jo Zollar; advocate for Native American contemporary performing arts and founder of Walrus Arts Management & Consulting LLC, Andre Bouchard; and MacArthur “Genius” Fellow and Artistic Director of A.I.M, Kyle Abraham.

PARTNERS & FUNDING SUPPORT

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APPLICATION INFORMATION

This five-day leadership development conference for 15 presenters from across the U.S. will be held July 10–14, 2019. Individuals who have been presenting dance for less than five years or are based at an organization that has been presenting dance for less than five years are encouraged to apply. *Room, board, and tickets to Festival performances for those invited to attend will be fully subsidized. Selected participants will be required to cover a participation cost of \$175 as well as their travel. Limited scholarships and travel subsidy are available.*

To apply: visit jacobspillowdance.formstack.com/forms/ndpf2019

ABOUT JACOB’S PILLOW:

Jacob’s Pillow is a National Historic Landmark, recipient of the National Medal of Arts, and home to America’s longest-running international dance festival, currently in the midst of its transition to becoming a year-round center for dance through a five-year strategic plan titled Vision ‘22. Each Festival includes more than 50 national and international dance companies and over 500 free and ticketed performances, talks, tours, classes, exhibits, events, and community programs. The School at Jacob’s Pillow, one of the most prestigious professional dance training centers in the U.S., encompasses the diverse disciplines of Contemporary Ballet, Contemporary, Tap, Photography, Choreography, and an annual rotating program (Flamenco and Spanish Dance in 2019). The Pillow also provides professional advancement opportunities across disciplines of arts administration, design, video, and production through seasonal internships and a year-round Administrative Fellows program. With growing community engagement programs, the Pillow serves as a partner and active citizen in its local community. The Pillow’s extensive Archives, open year-round to the public and online at danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org, chronicle more than a century of dance in photographs, programs, books, costumes, audiotapes, and videos. Notable artists who have created or premiered dances at the Pillow include choreographers Antony Tudor, Agnes de Mille, Alvin Ailey, Donald McKayle, Kevin McKenzie, Twyla Tharp, Ralph Lemon, Susan Marshall, Trisha Brown, Ronald K. Brown, Wally Cardona, Andrea Miller, and Trey McIntyre; performed by artists such as Mikhail Baryshnikov, Carmen de Lavallade, Mark Morris, Dame Margot Fonteyn, Edward Villella, Rasta Thomas, and hundreds of others. On March 2, 2011, President Barack Obama honored Jacob’s Pillow with a National Medal of Arts, the highest arts award given by the United States Government, making the Pillow the first dance presenting organization to receive this prestigious award. The Pillow’s Director is Pamela Tatge. For more information, visit www.jacobspillow.org.

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