

ADF season to include research

DURHAM— The American Dance Festival and Duke University have received a grant for research on “Audience Perception and Memory” from Engaging Dance Audiences. Administered by Dance/USA, the program is made possible with funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. Ruth Day, Director of the Memory for Movement Laboratory at Duke University, will lead the Audience Memory Program.

“How do dancers remember all those ‘steps’?” This is a question shared by many people who attend modern dance performances. Many also wonder why they cannot remember much about the performances they have seen. Day’s past research on how dancers learn and remember is

the basis for this summer’s project.

It consists of three parts. The “Dance Perception Quiz” will be posted on the ADF Web site soon (www.americandancefestival.org); anyone can view brief dance clips and answer questions about them. The “Audience Memory Workshop” is a one-hour interactive event that includes demonstrations, research, and memory tips; it will be offered at several dates and times this summer. The “Memory Enhancement Program” includes a memory lab visit, perception and memory tips, and post-performance memory check-ups.

All activities are free and open to the public, regardless of whether they are familiar with modern dance. For more information, visit the ADF website or email memoryformovement@duke.edu.

