



american dance festival

PRESS CONTACT

National Press Representative: Lisa Labrado
lisa@labradopr.com
Direct: 646.214.5812/ Mobile: 917-399-5120

North Carolina Press Representative: Corin Kane
ckane@americandancefestival.org
Office: 919-684-6402/ Mobile: 919-724-2269

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANA MARIE FORSYTHE TO RECEIVE 2012 ADF DISTINGUISHED TEACHING AWARD

Durham, NC, February 22, 2012 – The American Dance Festival (ADF) is pleased to award the **2012 Balasaraswati/Joy Ann Dewey Beinecke Endowed Chair for Distinguished Teaching** to **Ana Marie Forsythe**, internationally-recognized master teacher and documenter of the Lester Horton Technique. A special ceremony will be held on **Saturday, June 16, 2012 at 5:00pm** in **White Lecture Hall** on Duke University’s West Campus.

Established by the ADF in 1991, the Balasaraswati/Joy Ann Dewey Beinecke Endowed Chair for Distinguished Teaching honors educators who have made extraordinary contributions to the field of dance. This award, endowed through a generous contribution from Luise Elcaness Scripps and with additional support by Walter Beinecke, the daughters of Joy Ann Dewey Beinecke, and the ADF, signifies the importance of honoring those who act to preserve dance history and tradition as well as cultivating the future of the art form.

With an incredible career spanning more than five decades in over a dozen countries including Japan, Israel, Argentina, Switzerland, Sweden, Holland, and Germany, Ana Marie Forsythe is celebrated for her passion and dedication to preserving the modern dance heritage while forging new paths. Ms. Forsythe has made invaluable contributions to the Ailey School, as well as her preservation and documentation of the Lester Horton Technique. She began teaching the Horton technique in the 1960s and has devoted more than twenty years to documenting this increasingly popular modern dance form. Her preservation of the Horton technique through the co-authoring of the book *The Dance Technique of Lester Horton*, as well as her work as Artistic Director of three Horton videos documenting this important dance practice, has made her an internationally recognized leading authority in the dance form.

Ms. Forsythe has taught at The Ailey School since 1973 and has served as the chair of the Horton department since 1979. Beginning in 1988, she worked closely and tirelessly with the late Denise Jefferson to initiate the Ailey/Fordham Bachelor of Fine Arts Program, now one of the countries leading dance education programs. Additionally, each summer she

HONORARY CHAIRPERSONS

Mrs. Laura Bush
Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton
Mrs. George Bush
Mrs. Nancy Reagan
Mrs. Rosalynn Carter
Mrs. Betty Ford (1918–2011)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Allen D. Roses, MD, *Chairman*
Charles L. Reinhart, *President, Director Emeritus*
Curt C. Myers, *Secretary/Treasurer*
F.V. Allison, Jr.
Mimi Bull
Richard E. Feldman, Esq.
Pamela M. Green
Roger W. Hooker, Jr.
Martha Myers, *Dean Emeritus*
Jodee Nimerichter
Ted Rotante
Barbra B. Rothschild
Judith Sagan
Sebastian Scripps
Charles J. Weinraub

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Robby Barnett
Brenda Brodie
Trisha Brown
Martha Clarke
Chuck Davis
Laura Dean
Garth Fagan
Eiko and Koma
Anna Halprin
Stuart Hodes
Betty Jones
Bill T. Jones
Alex Katz
Donald McKayle
Meredith Monk
Carman Moore
Mark Morris
Ohad Naharin
Jeannette Schlottmann Roosevelt
Nancy Sokal
Paul Taylor
Twyla Tharp
Michael Tracy
Doug Varone

Jodee Nimerichter, *Director*
Gerri Houlihan, *Co-Dean*
Dr. James Frazier, *Co-Dean*
Ruth S. Day, *Cognitive Scientist in Residence*

Box 90772 | Durham, NC 27708
919.684.6402 | fax 919.684.5459
adf@americandancefestival.org

americanDanceFestival.org

conducts a Pedagogy Workshop at The Ailey School to an incredible number of trained professionals teaching the Horton technique. In addition to The Ailey School, she has been on the faculty of Vassar College, The Boston Conservatory, The New School and the State University of New York at Albany.

Past recipients of the Chair include Pearl Primus, Daniel Nagrin, Betty Jones, Bella Lewitzky, Anna Halprin, Donald McKayle, Bessie Schönberg, Matt Mattox, Pauline Kroner, Viola Farber, Mary Anthony, Walter Nicks, Jane Dudley, Sophie Maslow, Pearl Lang, Martha Myers, Carmen de Lavallade, Gus Solomons, Jr., Gerri Houlihan, Dr. Charles "Chuck" Davis, Linda Tarnay, Douglas Nielsen, Dianne McIntyre, Carolyn Adams, Sharon Kinney, Ruth Andrien, Yang Meiqi, and Donna Faye Burchfield.

Performances during the ADF's 79th season will be presented at the Durham Performing Arts Center and Duke University's Reynolds Industries Theater from June 14 - July 28, 2012. For detailed information about the ADF's programs, please visit www.americandancefestival.org.

About ADF:

Founded in 1934 in Bennington, Vermont, the ADF remains an international magnet for choreographers, dancers, teachers, students, critics, musicians, and scholars to learn and create in a supportive environment. The ADF's wide range of programs includes performances, artist services, educational programs and classes, community outreach, national and international projects, archives, humanities projects, publications, and media projects. The ADF has been presenting the best in modern dance for over 78 years. www.americandancefestival.org.