



american dance festival

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, PLEASE
March 11, 2009

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**CAROLYN ADAMS, RUTH ANDRIEN, AND SHARON KINNEY
TO RECEIVE THE AMERICAN DANCE FESTIVAL
2009 DISTINGUISHED TEACHING HONOR**

Durham, N.C. – The American Dance Festival (ADF) will award the 2009 Balarasawati/Joy Ann Dewey Beinecke Endowed Chair for Distinguished Teaching jointly to Carolyn Adams, Ruth Andrien, and Sharon Kinney. A ceremony will occur on Friday, June 26th at 8:00pm in Griffith Theater at Duke University.

Established at the ADF in 1991, the Balarasawati/Joy Ann Dewey Beinecke Endowed Chair for Distinguished Teaching honors teachers who have made extraordinary contributions to the field of modern 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 the traditions of modern dance while continuing to expand and broaden its definition. “Carolyn Adams, Ruth Andrien, and Sharon Kinney’s collective contributions and shared dedications have shaped and formed a generation of modern dancers. Within the shared language of Paul Taylor’s early choreography, these three remarkable women set their careers in motion. They continue to find new and important ways to leave their own impressions on our dancing landscape,” states ADF Dean Donna Faye Burchfield.

A dancer, author, and educator, **Carolyn Adams** has been on the faculty at The Juilliard School since 1983 and is the Co-Founder of the American Dance Legacy Institute. Ms. Adams has taught dance and composition internationally and studied at the Martha Graham School before joining the Paul Taylor Dance Company in 1965. A principal dancer with the company until 1982, Ms. Adams created roles in such Taylor masterpieces as *Esplanade*, *Big Bertha*, and *Airs*. Carolyn Adams is the Founding Artistic Director of the New York State Summer School of the Arts School of Dance and co-founded the Harlem Dance Foundation, an arts facility for people of all ages which began in her family’s historic brownstone residence. In her work as an arts education consultant, Ms. Adams has served on numerous panels for the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York State Council on the Arts, and the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts. She was a member of the planning committee for the 1996 NAEP Arts Education Consensus Project and chaired Dance/USA’s National Task Force on Dance Education. Ms. Adams is a graduate of the Ethical Culture School, Sarah Lawrence College, and holds a Masters degree in Social Work from Fordham University.

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Ruth Andrien danced with the Paul Taylor Dance Company from 1974-1983 and has distinguished herself as one of the premiere re-stagers of Mr. Taylor's work for universities and dance companies around the world. These companies include the Paris Opera Ballet, Maggio Danza, Bordeaux Ballet, Pennsylvania Ballet, Aspen-Santa Fe Ballet, and for the U.S. State Department as part of their international exchange program in Tunisia. Ms. Andrien has served on the faculties of Southern Methodist University, Harvard University, MIT, University of the Arts, and Ursinus College. She has also taught in the summer programs at the ADF, Jacob's Pillow, and New York Summer School of the Arts. Ms. Andrien has worked closely with The American Dance Legacy Institute, the National Task Force on Dance Education, the Dance Notation Bureau Professional Advisory Committee, the Pennsylvania Council of the Arts, and for the past five years has served as Master Teacher for The National Foundation for Advancement of the Arts. A recipient of Towson University's Distinguished Teaching Artist Award, Ms. Andrien currently directs The Paul Taylor Project at the ADF. She received her MFA in Dance from Hollins University/American Dance Festival in 2007.

A dancer, choreographer, teacher, and filmmaker, **Sharon Kinney** began her dance training in Dayton, Ohio and attributes her love of dance and teaching to her early teachers, Josephine and Hermene Schwarz, and Helen P. Alkire, Professor Emeritus at The Ohio State University. After graduating from The Ohio State University, Ms. Kinney began her professional dance career with the Paul Taylor Dance Company. She has also danced in the companies of Dan Wagoner, Yuriko, and Twyla Tharp, among others. Ms. Kinney was an Associate Professor at Virginia Commonwealth University for fifteen years and has served on the faculties of California State University – Long Beach, UCLA, Ohio State University, New York University, Juilliard, Pratt Institute, and Adelphi University, in addition to holding various teaching residencies throughout the United States, Europe, South America, Asia, and at the Paul Taylor Studio in New York City. Ms. Kinney has choreographed over thirty dances for the stage and three motion pictures. On faculty at the ADF for eleven summers, Ms. Kinney also directed the International Choreographers Workshop from 1985-1987. A graduate of UCLA with an MFA in Dance and Video, Ms. Kinney includes dance documentation as one of her key interests.

Additional 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, and Dianne McIntyre.

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. ADF's wide range of programs includes performances, artist services, humanities projects, publications, community outreach, educational programs and classes, archives, media projects, and national and international projects. ADF has been presenting the best in modern dance for over 75 years.
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