



american dance festival

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE AMERICAN DANCE FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES
DEAN OF SCHOOL

Durham, NC — The American Dance Festival (ADF) is pleased to announce the appointment of Gerri Houlihan to the position of Dean for the ADF School, effective immediately.

“Gerri brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to this role. I value her 30 years of extraordinary teaching at ADF and her commitment to providing quality dance education, which is forward thinking yet rooted in history. I am thrilled that Gerri has accepted this position and is enthusiastic to work with me to ensure a bright future for ADF,” said Jodee Nimerichter, ADF Director.

Gerri Houlihan began her professional training at the Juilliard School, studying with Antony Tudor, Alfredo Corvino, and members of the Martha Graham and José Limón dance companies. She performed with the Metropolitan Opera Ballet and the Paul Sanasardo Dance Company and spent five years as a soloist with the Lar Lubovitch Dance Company touring extensively throughout the United States and Europe. Ms. Houlihan has taught or choreographed for such institutions as NY’s High School of the Performing Arts, the University of Wisconsin- Milwaukee, the Bates Dance Festival, the Boston Ballet, the Harvard Summer Dance Center, Meredith College, the University of South Florida, North Carolina School of the Arts, the University of Richmond, the University of North Carolina-Greensboro, and Virginia Commonwealth University. From 1984 to 1987 she directed her own school and company, the Boston Dance Project. From 1988 to 1999, Ms. Houlihan was on the faculty of New World School of the Arts in Miami, Florida. During that time, she was also the artistic director of Houlihan and Dancers. She is a member of the board of directors for the Florida Dance Association and also for the American College Dance Association. Ms. Houlihan has been on the faculty of ADF from 1981 to 1983 and from 1987 to the present. As an international representative for ADF she has participated in eighteen international linkages, teaching in Korea, China, Brazil, Paraguay, Chile, Estonia, Poland,

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the Philippines, Moscow, and Mongolia. She is the 2005 recipient of the Balasaraswati Joy Ann Dewey Beinecke Endowed Chair for Distinguished Teaching and a 2012 recipient of the Pearl S. Tyner Distinguished Professor in Teaching Award from Florida State University. She received her MFA degree in 2007 from the Hollins University/American Dance Festival MFA program. She is currently a professor at Florida State University.

### PHOTOGRAPHS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

**About ADF:**

*Founded in 1934 in Bennington, Vermont, 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, educational programs and classes, community outreach, national and international projects, archives, humanities projects, publications, and media projects. ADF has been presenting the best in modern dance for 80 years. [www.americandancefestival.org](http://www.americandancefestival.org).*

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