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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE AMERICAN DANCE FESTIVAL NAMES DR. JAMES FRAZIER TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Durham, NC, February 26, 2015—The American Dance Festival (ADF) announced that **Dr. James Frazier** has joined the ADF Board of Directors, effective immediately.

“We are honored to welcome Dr. Frazier to our board,” stated Jodee Nimerichter, ADF Director. “He is a dynamic leader with a distinguished record in the field of modern dance. We were fortunate to have him serve as Co-Dean of the ADF School for three years and now look forward to his return to ADF in this new role. I know his service will provide tremendous benefits to the board and the organization as a whole.”

Dr. James Frazier is the Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Faculty Affairs for the Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) School of the Arts, where he is a tenured Professor and a former Chair of the Department of Dance and Choreography.

Frazier serves as a Visiting Evaluator for the dance accrediting body, the National Association of Schools of Dance, and he held the elected offices of President and Secretary of the Council of Dance Administrators. He also serves as Co-chair of the Diversity Task Force of the International Council of Fine Arts Deans, sits on the board of the American College Dance Association (ACDA), and maintains an ongoing relationship with the New York based performance ensemble Urban Bush Women, assisting on special projects.

Dr. Frazier’s past appointments include Visiting Assistant Professor of Dance History at Florida State University, Associate Artistic Director at Dance Institute of Washington (DC), and Publicity Coordinator for the Urban Bush Women Summer Dance Institute (1998 and 1999), as well as adjunct appointments as a dance instructor at Florida A&M University, Florida State University, Temple University, and Montgomery College (MD).

As a professional dance artist, Frazier performed and toured with Kokuma Dance Theatre Company (England), Dallas Black Dance Theatre (Texas), and was a founding member of Edgeworks Dance Theater (Washington, DC). He has performed nationally as a guest or creative collaborator with many others including engagements at Jacob’s Pillow, the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Dance Place, the Publick Playhouse, Philadelphia’s Prince Music Theater, the Joyce SoHo, and more.

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His own choreography has been presented at numerous universities and also at Washington, DC's Kennedy Center (Concert Hall and Millennium Stage), The National Museum, and the Carter Barron Amphitheatre. He is a past recipient of the Virginia Commission for the Arts Choreographic Fellowship, and in 2009 he was commissioned to create a new ballet on the Richmond Ballet Company.

Frazier earned an EdD in Dance from Temple University and both a MFA in Dance and a BS in Marketing from Florida State University.

"I am honored to be joining the board of the American Dance Festival," said Dr. Frazier. "I look forward to playing a role in stewarding this resoundingly vital, iconic, and historic organization into a future of dance that ADF itself will be instrumental in helping to create."

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 82 years. americandancefestival.org

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