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#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### ANNE GREEN GILBERT TO RECEIVE THE AMERICAN DANCE FESTIVAL 2016 DISTINGUISHED TEACHING AWARD

**Durham, NC, December 9, 2015**—The American Dance Festival (ADF) will award the **2016 Balasaraswati/Joy Anne Dewey Beinecke Endowed Chair for Distinguished Teaching** to celebrated dance educator **Anne Green Gilbert**. A ceremony will take place on **Sunday, July 10, 2016** at 4:30pm in Page Auditorium on the campus of Duke University. Preceding the ceremony, ADF will pay tribute to the late Luise Elcaness Scripps, who, with the help of Walter Beinecke, established the teaching chair at ADF in 1991 to honor her master teacher Tanjore Balasaraswati. Scripps studied bharatanatyam with the famed South-Indian classical dancer and teacher from 1962 to 1984. To honor the visionary Ms. Scripps, Aniruddha Knight, the sole remaining heir to the legacy of the practice of bharatanatyam codified at the Court of Thanjavur, will perform a solo.

**Anne Green Gilbert** founded the Creative Dance Center and Kaleidoscope Dance Company in Seattle, WA, in 1981 and the Summer Dance Institute for Teachers in 1994. Anne has had a varied teaching career starting as an elementary school teacher, moving on to dance and pedagogy classes at University of Illinois Chicago and University of Washington, then teaching children's dance classes at Cornish College and Bill Evans/Dance Theatre Seattle before starting the Creative Dance Center. She has been an adjunct professor at Seattle Pacific University for many years and taught for Lesley University's Outreach Masters Program for ten years. For the past thirty-five years, Ms. Gilbert has taught toddlers through adults at Creative Dance Center, trained teachers through her Summer Dance Institute, and conducted hundreds of workshops and residencies across the US and abroad. She developed BrainDance, a focusing warm-up exercise, in 2000. BrainDance is used in many schools, studios, and homes around the world. Ms. Gilbert is internationally recognized for her work with young artists and the creative process. She has choreographed dances for university dance companies as well as local Northwest dance companies and Kaleidoscope.

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Ms. Gilbert is the author of *Teaching the Three Rs Through Movement* (1977), *Creative Dance for All Ages* (1st edition 1992, 2nd edition 2015), *Brain-Compatible Dance Education* (2006), *Teaching Creative Dance DVD* (2002) and *BrainDance DVD* (2003/2016), as well as numerous articles. She has also collaborated with composer Eric Chappelle on the CDs *BrainDance Music* and *Music for Creative Dance Volumes I-V*. Ms. Gilbert is an active member of the National Dance Education Organization and Dance and the Child International (daCi). She served on the daCi board for twelve years. Ms. Gilbert is founder and past president of the Dance Educators Association of Washington, an organization promoting quality dance education in all Washington state schools K-12. As a member of the Arts Education Standards project, she helped write the Washington State Dance Standards and Learning Goals. She is the recipient of several awards including the NDA Scholar/Artist award in 2005, the National Dance Education Organization Lifetime Achievement Award in 2011, and the Lawrence Tenney Stevens American Dance Award for her work with boys and men in dance in 2014.

ADF Dean Leah Cox stated, “Anne Green Gilbert is a seminal force in the field of dance education and is a remarkable teacher. Her pedagogical model is remarkably comprehensive and specific, yet structured in a way that can be applied to almost any context and population. Her Summer Dance Institute for Teachers, which I attended in 2009, formed the foundation of my current pedagogical approach and launched my own investigations into best education practices. I know many other educators who feel similarly. I’m thrilled to honor her and look forward to giving the ADF community a chance to learn from her.”

Ms. Gilbert is the mother of three amazing Kaleidoscope alums and grandmother of seven dancing grandchildren. She lives in Seattle with her talented husband, David.

Past recipients of the Chair include Pearl Primus, Daniel Nagrin, Betty Jones, Bella Lewitzky, Anna Halprin, Donald McKayle, Bessie Schönberg, Matt Mattox, Pauline Koner, 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, Donna Faye Burchfield, Ana Marie Forsythe, Phyllis Lamhut, Irene Dowd, Zvi Gotheiner, James Sutton, and Jaclynn Villamil.

**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](http://americandancefestival.org).*

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