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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ADF RECEIVES GRANT FROM THE DUKE ENERGY FOUNDATION TO SUPPORT TICKET SUBSIDIES FOR DURHAM PUBLIC SCHOOL CHILDREN

Durham, NC, May 30, 2019—The American Dance Festival (ADF) received a grant from the Duke Energy Foundation in the amount of \$1,500 to subsidize tickets to enable Durham Public School students to attend a Rennie Harris Puremovement performance at The Carolina Theatre on Wednesday, July 10 at 2:00pm. ADF will provide cost free admission for 150 Durham students from Durham Public Schools, Durham Parks & Recreation programs, East Durham Children's Initiative, and other schools and organizations that work with low-income youth.

"By offering a truly unique opportunity for Durham youth, ADF and Rennie Harris Puremovement will provide participants an inspiring performance by a world renowned dance company. We are so grateful to the Duke Energy Foundation for its generous support," said ADF Executive Director Jodee Nimerichter.

On July 10th and 11th Rennie Harris Puremovement will take The Carolina Theater stage with their performance of *Rennie Harris Funkedified*, a multi-media work celebrating 1970s funk and street dance, featuring films of African American communities of the era. Inspired by the political turmoil and atmosphere of Rennie Harris' childhood, *Rennie Harris Funkedified* will also feature a live funk band who will highlight a unique sound as well as pay homage to the music of funk legends.

About ADF:

Throughout its 86-year history, ADF has been a nationally recognized leader in our indigenous art form of modern dance. Generations of dancers and choreographers have come to ADF as students, taught as faculty, and created and performed work as professional artists. Each summer, ADF has been the beating heart of the dance world. The best companies in the world premiere work on ADF's stage, much of it commissioned by the festival. Other festivals and season programs are measured against ADF. Over 25,000 people see performances by more than 30 companies each season. The festival has commissioned 427 works and premiered 689 pieces including dances by Martha Graham, Merce Cunningham, and Paul Taylor. Each summer at ADF, more than 300 students from some 25 countries and 42 states study with ADF's 50 faculty members.

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- Jodee Nimerichter, *Executive Director*
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- Ruth S. Day, *Cognitive Scientist in Residence*

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american dance festival.org

They come as kids in leotards with as many doubts as dreams. They leave as dancers and artists—and sometimes even new members of companies. Lives change in those 5½ sweaty weeks. Beyond the summer, ADF maintains year-round dance studios offering movement classes to over 650 participants, provides over 180 free classes to almost 4,000 local dancers, and offers choreographic residencies providing artists with the necessary space and time to create. americandancefestival.org.

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