



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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DanceAfrica, DC is back for its 34th festival, with 5 days of virtual events and an outdoor gathering

WHAT: DanceAfrica DC 2021

WHEN: June 1 - 6th, 2021

WHERE: FREE virtual festival found at danceplace.org/dadc2021 and a physically distant outdoor gathering* location TBD

**In-person events are pending based on local and federal health regulations*

June, 2021 (Washington, D.C.) -- Dance Place hosts the 34th annual DanceAfrica, DC festival; Together Again: Celebrating Life, Love, Unity, and Hope! Festival goers will celebrate the spirit of the African Diaspora with master classes, oral histories, and performances from beloved West African dance companies from the DC Metro community. The festival will begin with virtual master classes alongside three final days of candle bearing, elder acknowledgements, performances, and an outdoor physically distant gathering.

As part of this year's festival, Dance Place is re-launching the DanceAfrica DC Oral History Project, a recent oral history project that features interviews with DADC elders and Dance Place leadership to highlight the impact of DanceAfrica on the DC arts community and beyond. Interviews can be listened to at danceplace.org/dadc-oral-history.

Hosted by Griot Mama Sylvia Soumah, DanceAfrica, DC 2021 is guaranteed to inspire, invigorate, educate, and entertain. Participants will enjoy a week of dance, music, and tradition. Learn more and stay updated on this year's festival at danceplace.org/dadc2021.

Performing artists include (full performance schedule coming soon):

Candlebearing Ceremony led by Donna Kearney

African Heritage Dancers & Drummers, in collaboration with The International Association of Blacks in Dance
Ni Diembaya

Tam Tam Mandingue

Farafina Kan

KanKouran West African Dance Company

Ezibu Muntu

Akoma De Gado Dance & Drum Performance Ensemble

Coyaba Dance Theater

Coyaba Academy Youth

Soul in Motion

Davis-Deal and The International Association of Blacks in Dance Co-commissioned artist Samantha Salters

Master Class Schedule

Tuesday, June 1

6:30pm

Virtual Master Class with KanKouran, Taught by Baba Assane Konte

Wednesday, June 2

6:30pm

Virtual Master Class with Farafina Kan, Taught by Mama Nkenge Cunningham

Thursday, June 3

6:30pm

Virtual Master Class with Akoma De Gado, Taught by Babadunjo

Sunday, June 6

12:00pm

Virtual Master Class with Farafina Kan, Taught by Mama Lesina Martin

About Dance Place

Founded in 1980, Dance Place builds a community of artists, audiences and students through high quality performances, commissions, training and educational programs. We are committed to enriching the field of dance locally, nationally and internationally. Led by Executive Artistic Director Christopher K. Morgan, our thriving arts campus serves as an anchor in our Brookland / Edgewood neighborhood in Washington, DC.

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