

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Black Dancers and Choreographers Gain Visibility In New DC Festival

"One of the 11 small-but-mighty dance companies outside of LA and NYC" -
Dance Spirit Magazine

Black Dance Festival DMV

Oct 26th – Nov 10th

\$10-30 General Admission

\$20 Special – Check Website for More!

Website: www.blackdancedmv.com

Video Links

Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/337177661>

A mixed-bill evening of dance ranging from classical to contemporary dance, Fall Forward features world-premiere of Short's *Paparazzi*, *SJ Suite*, and DDT favorites *Silo*, *Twitch*, *Gospel Suite*; performances by The Ngoma School students.

The program is funded in part by the DC Commission on Arts and Humanities, PG County Arts and Heritage Division and The Ngoma Circle.

About

Founded in 2019 as a new programming initiative of Ngoma Center for Dance, *Black Dance Festival: DMV* brings a platform for African-American directors, choreographers, and dancers to perform, share, and celebrate their work and add to Washington, DC's creative economy.

In 2017, there were conversations amongst the dance community in regards to the lack of Black dancer opportunities. This was a reason that prompted diversity training sessions during DC Dance Summit 2017, to begin addressing race within the community.

“ Dance represents the smallest sector receiving public funding in Washington, DC. Additionally, professional DC Black dance companies (and activity) has greatly declined since their founding in 1932. Traditionally, D.C. is a city that eagerly awaits touring shows and concerts.

With Mayor Bowser, erecting D.C. as a cultural city, we need to do our part to preserve and celebrate the voices of Black directors, choreographers, and dance artists.”

Shawn Short, MFA
Founder/Director

To learn more, visit our brochure:

https://issuu.com/sshort49/docs/black_dance_festival_dmv_brochure_2019

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Our mission is to provide annual dance programming, focused on developing and presenting Black-Managed and Black dance companies. We envision a Washington, DC filled with professional Black dance artists visibly working (collaboratively or individually) to produce annual programming that contributes to D.C.’s creative economy; celebrating, presenting, and developing Black-Managed and Black dance companies (locally and beyond) for increased touring, co-producing, and educational business possibilities. For more information visit, www.blackdancedmv.com