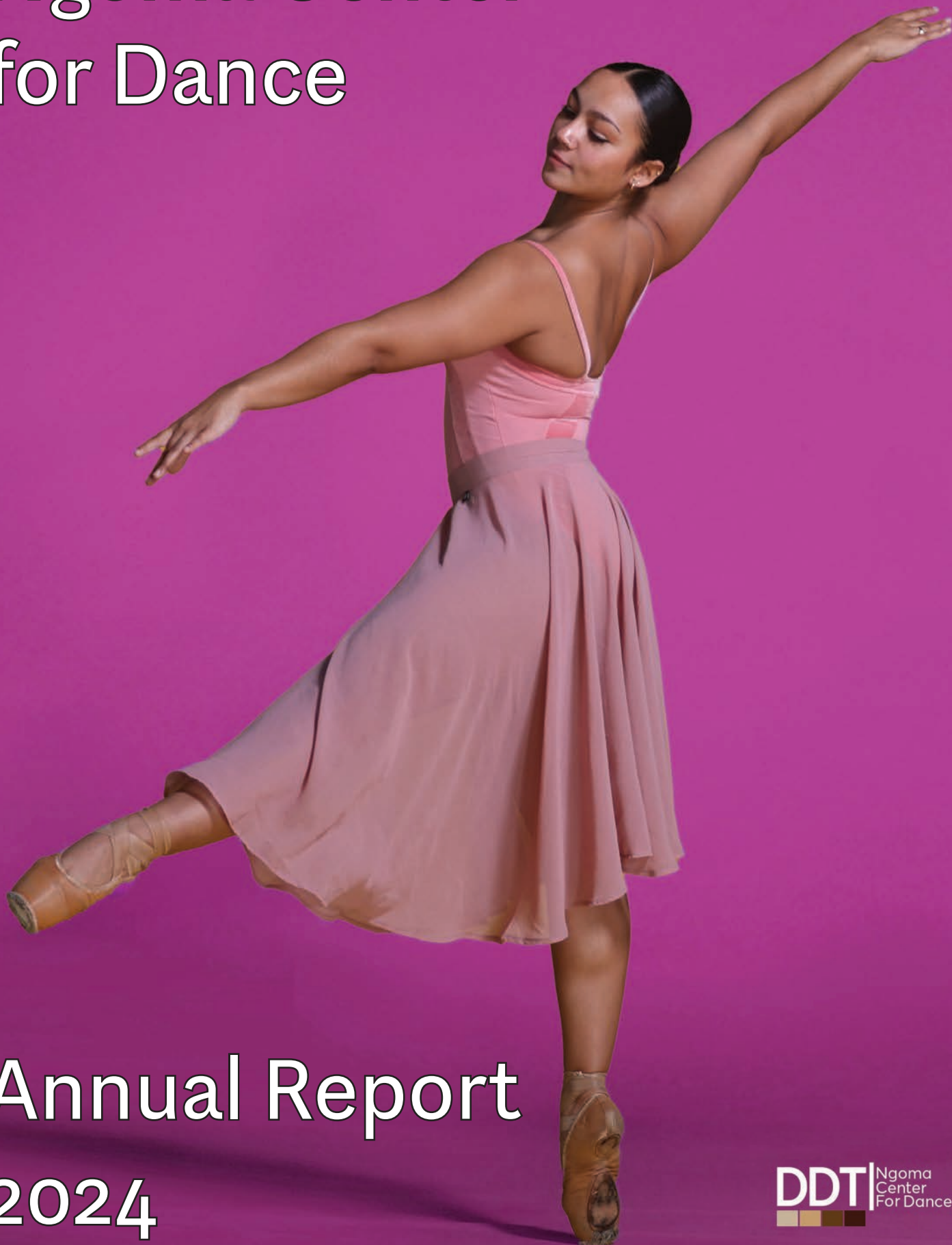


Ngoma Center for Dance



Annual Report 2024



Image: Maurissa Powell (c) Short



Dear Friends of Ngoma,

As Chairman of the Board of Directors, I am honored to join our Founding Director in celebrating another extraordinary year of achievement at Ngoma Center for Dance.

Since 2012, we have witnessed Ngoma transform from an ambitious dream into a vital cultural institution serving over 600 residents annually. Our growth speaks to both careful stewardship and expanding impact. As we manage DC's only Black-led, nationally recognized contemporary ballet company, we remain committed to creating equitable opportunities in dance while maintaining the highest standards of artistic excellence.

As we look toward 2025, we face both exciting opportunities and significant challenges. Our search for a permanent home in DC represents a crucial next step in our organization's evolution. With real estate costs rising and affordable arts spaces becoming increasingly scarce, your continued support is more important than ever.

I invite you to join us in building on this momentum. Whether through attending performances, sponsoring a student's dance education, or making a tax-deductible contribution, your support helps ensure that Ngoma can continue breaking barriers and creating opportunities through dance for generations to come.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you for being part of the Ngoma family. Together, we are creating positive change through the power of creativity and community.

Sincerely,
Dave Domzalski Chairman,
Board of Directors Ngoma Center for Dance





Dear Friends and Supporters,

As I reflect on 2024, I am filled with gratitude for another remarkable year of growth and impact at Ngoma Center for Dance. Our journey continues to be one of breaking barriers and creating opportunities through dance and creative innovation in the Greater Washington, DC area.

This year marked several significant milestones. As a Resident Arts Partner at Atlas Performing Arts Center, our professional company Dissonance Dance Theatre continued to push artistic boundaries while providing a platform for dancers of color. We were particularly proud to welcome international talent like Joel Kioko, extending our reach from Africa to DC, while maintaining our position as the only nationally-recognized Black-managed contemporary ballet company between New York City and Atlanta.

Our commitment to arts education deepened through new arts engagement with Gottesman Jewish Day School and Eaton DC, while The Ngoma School continued to provide world-class dance training to over 200 students annually. We were especially proud to see alumni like Moses Kenniston, Skyy Twyman, and others flourish in their professional careers.

Ngoma FilmWorks expanded our storytelling capacity with a remastered version of documentary - "Company D - bringing important narratives to the screen. Our pro bono arts consulting work, including support for Textures Dance Theatre, continued our tradition of lifting up fellow arts organizations.

We welcome support from the National Endowment for the Arts, The Executive Leadership Council, and other partners strengthening our foundation for future growth.

As we search for our permanent home in DC, we remain steadfast in our mission to cultivate equitable opportunities and creative career pathways through professional training, essential performance, and entrepreneurship development. As a vital bridge between multicultural dance artists and their communities – fostering artistic excellence across generations and socioeconomic backgrounds– Ngoma empowers through community engagement, education, and innovative programming.

Thank you for being part of our journey. Your support enables us to continue breaking barriers and creating opportunities through the transformative power of dance.

With gratitude,
Shawn Short, MFA, PGC in Business
Founding Director Ngoma Center for Dance

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DC Engagement



Image: Atlas PAC's Former Executive Director Doug Yeuell speaking to Shawn Short at Intersections Q&A. (c) David Dowling
Ngoma Center for Dance Annual Report 2024



After 16 seasons at the Atlas Performing Arts Center, Ngoma's award-winning Black-led contemporary ballet company - Dissonance Dance Theatre - is now a Resident Arts Partner. This progress allows for production resources and a larger impact with DC residents.

Off To London

Dissonance Dance Theatre



Above Image:
L-R Anthony Wade, Ngoma/DDT Founder Shawn Short, MFA
Wade was a mentee of Short since 16 years old. Wade came
through to take DDT class before heading back to London to finish
his MA in choreography from University Of Roehampton, London.



Image: DDT in Rehearsing Short's *Gospel Suite*

Together We Can

Since 2023, Joy of Motion Dance Center - on DC's northeastern H St corridor - is home to Dissonance Dance Theatre's DC community and rehearsal programming. JOMDC has provided DDT subsidized rental space, and helpful staff during events. Special thanks to JOMDC Board Chairman Carol Foster for her support of DC artists for 40+ years.



Image: DDT Dancers



Images: (L to R) DDT Dancers



Impacting DC Audiences



Dance Work: *Heart Beats*



Dance Work: *Twitch*



Dance Work: *The Happy Hour*



Image: Founder Shawn Short

Dissonance Dance Theatre

Hailed by Dance Spirit Magazine as "One of the 11 small-but-mighty dance companies outside of LA and NYC," Dissonance Dance Theatre (DDT) is the only nationally-recognized, Black-managed contemporary ballet company between New York City and Atlanta. Founded in 2007 and operating as a program of Ngoma Center for Dance since 2012, DDT serves as a racially diverse platform providing emerging and minority dance talent the opportunity to launch professional careers. **In 2024, DDT provided a diverse ensemble, consciously addressing equity within the dance community, producing 8 new works, 2 productions, and serving approximately 600 patrons and 15 artists.** DDT alumni have transitioned to national and international theatrical tours, TV and film work, UniverSoul Circus, Netflix productions, and acclaimed companies including Garth Fagan Dance, Dorfman Dance, Phoenix Dance Theatre, Philadanco, and Virginia Ballet Theater. Under the artistic direction of Shawn Short, DDT performs a four-show season at DC's Atlas Performing Arts Center, where it is a resident arts partner.



Image: TD Chris Holland & Shawn Short

Image: Joel Kioko

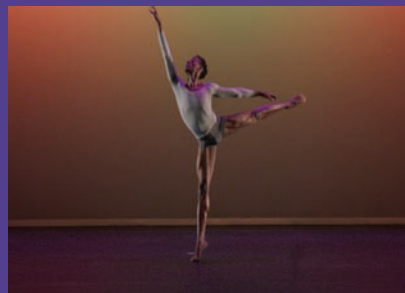


Image: Joel Kioko in Short's *Life is Two Fold*



Image: Joel Kioko



Image: Joel Kioko arriving to DC



Image: Maurissa Powell & Joel Kioko W/ S. Short

From Africa To Ngoma

International Talent Acquisition Milestone

In 2024, Ngoma Center for Dance achieved a significant milestone in its mission to foster global artistic excellence by welcoming its first dancer from the African continent. Under the leadership of Founding Producing Director Shawn Short, the organization completed a comprehensive international recruitment initiative, reviewing over 300 audition videos and navigating complex visa requirements to identify exceptional talent.

The extensive search culminated in the recruitment of Joel Kioko, an accomplished dancer from Nairobi, Kenya. A scholarship recipient and graduate of the prestigious English National Ballet School, Kioko brings world-class training and artistic expression to Ngoma's professional company, Dissonance Dance Theatre (DDT). This recruitment represents a \$22,000 investment in visa processing and legal documentation, demonstrating Ngoma's commitment to creating opportunities for international artists while enriching its artistic programming. Ngoma thanks International Arts & Artists (DC) for assistance.

This strategic expansion of DDT's company roster not only advances Ngoma's artistic excellence but also strengthens its position as the only nationally-recognized Black-managed contemporary ballet company between New York City and Atlanta. The addition of international talent like Kioko further establishes Ngoma's role in fostering cross-cultural artistic exchange and professional development in the DC dance community.



Image: Mikayla Teacher Training Interview



Image: DDT's DC Company Auditionees



Image: Summer DanceLab Staff

Providing Entry-Level Creative Economic Prosperity

Ngoma Center for Dance is a cornerstone of DC's creative economy, driving arts innovation and workforce development since 2012. As the parent organization of DC's only nationally-recognized Black-managed contemporary ballet company between NYC and Atlanta, Ngoma provides vital economic opportunities through its professional company Dissonance Dance Theatre, The Ngoma School, and creative entrepreneurship projects. The organization impacts through professional training, performance opportunities, and arts education, with a focus on developing equitable outcomes for Black and Brown communities.

Alumni have transitioned to careers with major dance companies, theatrical productions, and entertainment organizations including Netflix, Broadway shows, and national tours. Through partnerships with leading institutions and a commitment to creative excellence, Ngoma has established itself as a key driver in DC's cultural workforce development landscape.

In 2024, Ngoma Center for Dance provided entry-level jobs in production, arts education, and marketing with entry level training for DC area artists to grow in the field.

Jobs include:

- Production Assistants
- Junior Teaching Arts
- Social Media Associate
- Company Teaching Associates
- Summer Program Managers
- Rehearsal Associates

AFA's MFP Gala Performance

Oct 10th, 2024 -An evening of dance, mental health, and awarding accomplishments Dissonance Dance Theatre lent its voice at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of the American Indian at the American Psychological Association's Minority Fellowship Program Gala.



Image: Projector image of event



Image: Ngoma/DDT Founder S. Short

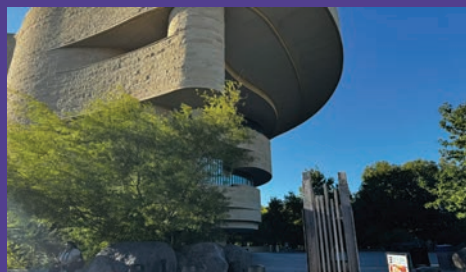


Image: Smithsonian Indian Museum



Image: DDT Dancers M. Powell, J. Kioko

Meet and Greet with Atlas' New Executive Director, Jarrod Bennett

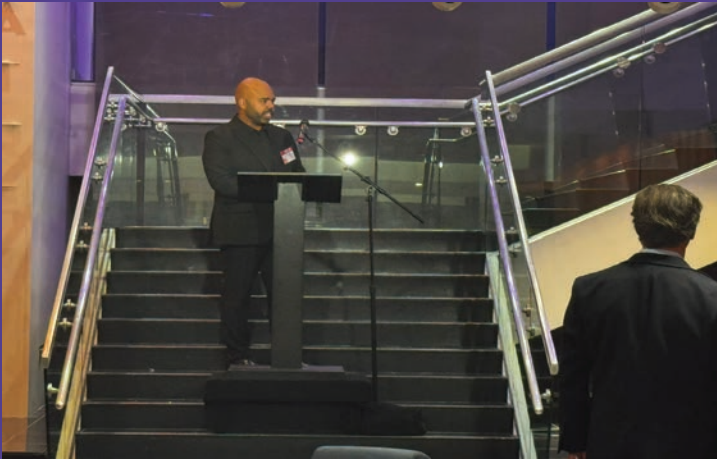


Image: Jarrod speaking to attendees



Image: Attendees listening to Jarrod



Image: DDT dancers in attendance

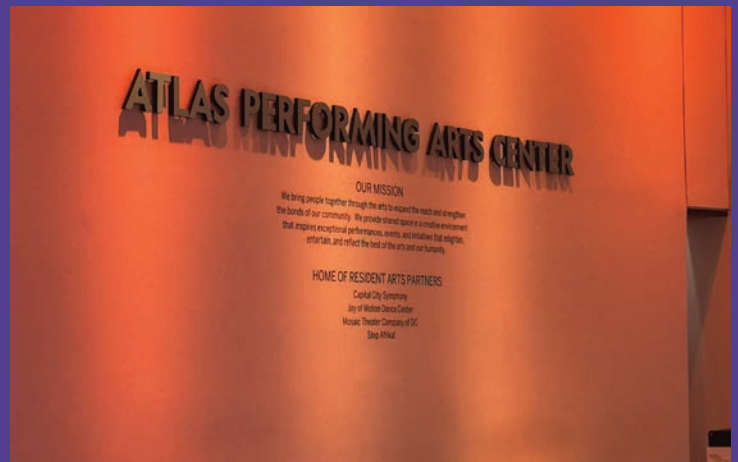


Image: Atlas PAC



Image: S. Short with Maryhall Surface

Oct 8th, 2024 - Atlas PAC hosted an event to meet with the newly appointed Executive Director of the Atlas Performing Arts Center, Jarrod Bennett. Fellow arts leaders, supporters of the Atlas, and community members gathered to celebrate Jarrod and Atlas's new journey. **DDT show support as a Resident Arts Partner.**





Image: Kareem B. Goodwin



Image: Goodwin observing rehearsal

DDT's Resident Choreographer Kareem B. Goodwin: Heart Beats

Dissonance Dance Theatre's Resident Choreographer Kareem B. Goodwin present his latest work in DDT's *X Marks The Spot* production (March 2nd, 2024). The full company work, *Heart Beats*, encompassed a contemporary musical score - layering younger musical voices with contemporary modern/jazz dance styles. The commissioned work was created in three months.

"Set in current times, "Heartbeats" allows viewers to immerse themselves in the depths of their own hearts, exploring both platonic and romantic connections."

- Kareem B Goodwin



Image: DDT in *Heart Beats*

11 Years of DDT Artistry: Daniel Artis

After 11 years of service as a dancer at Dissonance Dance Theatre, DC area local Daniel Artis takes his final bow. A DC outreach student at Ngoma's former Chinatown studio location - who later studied within the Ngoma School - Daniel became an apprentice shortly after high school. Artis became an ensemble and soloist with the company. He is now a married man enjoy his new journey as a guest artist.



Image: Daniel in *Heart Beats*



Image: Engagement



Image: Daniel with Lines Ballet Founding Director Alonzo King (SF)

Community Arts Engagement

"This is not just a school. It is **family**, friendship, and **Judaism**. Above all, it is a **community**, it is a **home**.

- Sam, Class of 2015



MILTON
GOTTESMAN
JEWISH DAY SCHOOL
OF THE NATION'S CAPITAL

with soul in mind



Giving To The Next Generation

After the COVID-19 pandemic, many dance organizations did not return to service. This left an arts void within the Washington, DC education and community spaces. Teaching artists, a position that was prevalent prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, are reduced in numbers due to the deaths and/or exodus of dance teachers seeking work stability. **The Ngoma School was contacted by the Milton Gottesman Jewish School (NW) and Eaton DC (NE) to provide arts education engagement and talk back sessions to young aspiring and creative young people.**

Above Image: Ngoma's Shawn Short with Gottesman Students

Finding Space In DC

Washington, DC faces a critical shortage of accessible, affordable dance spaces, particularly for organizations serving Black and Brown communities. Since the 1980s, over 60% of Black-operated dance institutions have closed, leaving limited options for training, rehearsal, and performance. For aspiring dancers and emerging companies, this space crisis creates significant barriers to artistic development and career advancement.

Ngoma Center for Dance has been working diligently to address this need through a strategic facility acquisition plan. In 2023, the organization invested \$60,000 in a comprehensive space planning study with Quinn Evans Architects and Theater Projects NYC. Working with Lincoln Property Company for brokerage services, Ngoma is actively pursuing opportunities to establish the first Black-managed dance facility acquired in DC in over 30 years. **In 2024, Ngoma continued to work with LPC and TP to research, and bid on spaces throughout the city - spaces included sites in SW and NE DC. Due to inefficient funding, Ngoma is still without a permanent home for all assets. We thank Atlas PAC for programming space.**

This permanent home would provide vital rehearsal space, performance venues, and educational facilities while generating sustainable revenue through rentals and events. Through careful planning and partnership development, Ngoma continues its mission to create equitable access to dance spaces in the District.



Image: S St NE Potential Site

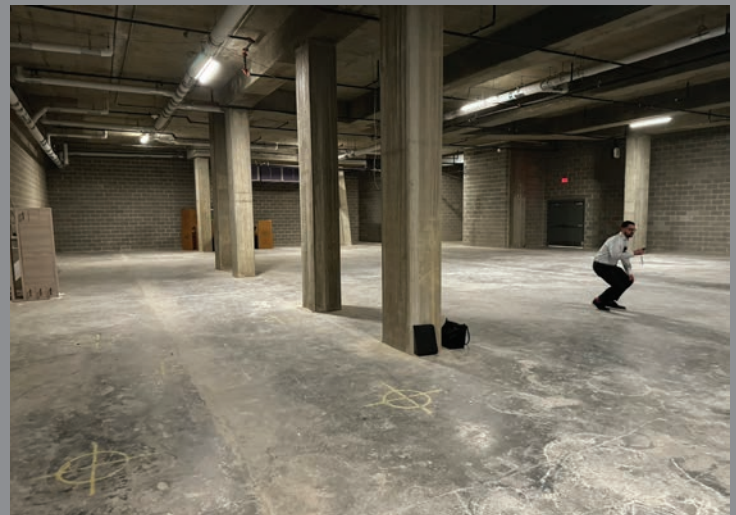
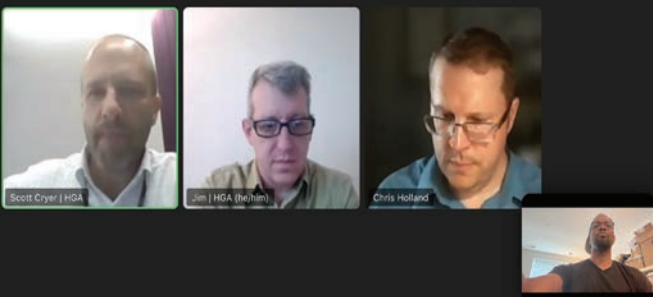


Image: L'Enfant Plaza SW Site

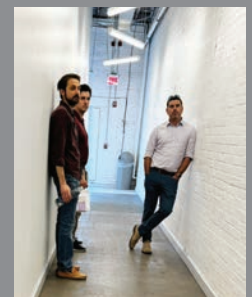


Image: L'Enfant Plaza SW Site

Image: HGA Architects, Theater Projects Consultant with Shawn Short in Zoom call



Images: HGA Staff With Brokers





A Washington, DC Dance Company

Grants Career Dreams To The Hopeful

A DOG BARK MEDIA FILM

Company D

DIRECTED BY
DONOVAN JOHNSON

STORY BY
SHAWN SHORT

DOG BARK MEDIA PRESENTS A NGOMA FILM WORKS PRODUCTION IN ASSOCIATION WITH DISSONANCE DANCE THEATRE

CASTING BY NGOMA/DDT MUSIC BY VARIOUS EDITED BY DAVID MAY PRODUCTION DESIGNER TIM JORDAN PRODUCED BY SHAWN SHORT

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY JAMES LEE EXECUTIVE PRODUCER JACKSON HAMILTON, BRENDA VACON, RICHARD BELL

WWW.COMPANY-D-THE-MOVIE.COM

Ngoma Film Works

Launched in 2020 in partnership with Dog Bark Media, Ngoma Film Works (NFW) creates documentaries and narrative films highlighting urban culture, human relationships, and visual choreography. The program has achieved recognition at national and international film festivals including Cannes World and British Urban film festivals. NFW expands Ngoma’s mission of community integration and artistic development by reaching new audiences through digital storytelling.



Image: Ngoma Film Work Cameraman Jeremiah in action

Film: Company D



“Company D,” NFW’s feature documentary, provides an intimate look at Dissonance Dance Theatre’s journey as DC’s only nationally-recognized Black-operated contemporary ballet company between NYC and Atlanta. The film explores the cultural adversity, racial challenges, and COVID-19 realities the company has faced while creating a home for Black classical and contemporary dancers in Washington, DC. The documentary won Best Documentary at the 2023 DC International Cinema Festival, highlighting both the struggles and triumphs of building equity in the dance world. Through “Company D,” NFW continues its mission of preserving and sharing important cultural narratives.

In 2024, Ngoma worked with LA-based SMV - a post-production house in Burbank - to remastered the \$156K film to improve sound quality and subtle imperfections. After several months of meetings, and diligent video editing work, SMV provided a remastered film ready for digital streaming. “Company D” is now available for pay-preview on Ngoma’s website.

REMASTERED

Above Images: Company D screenshots



Image: The announcement of Textures Dance Theater

Mentoring New DC Dance Voices Textures Dance Theater

Since 2012, Ngoma Center for Dance has provided vital pro bono arts consulting services to support the growth and sustainability of Black-led arts organizations in the DC area. In 2024 alone, Ngoma delivered over 600 hours of pro bono support to emerging and established arts groups, with a particular focus on nonprofit development and organizational capacity building.



Image: Dance Place



Image: Dance Place

Pro Bono Consultation for Artists



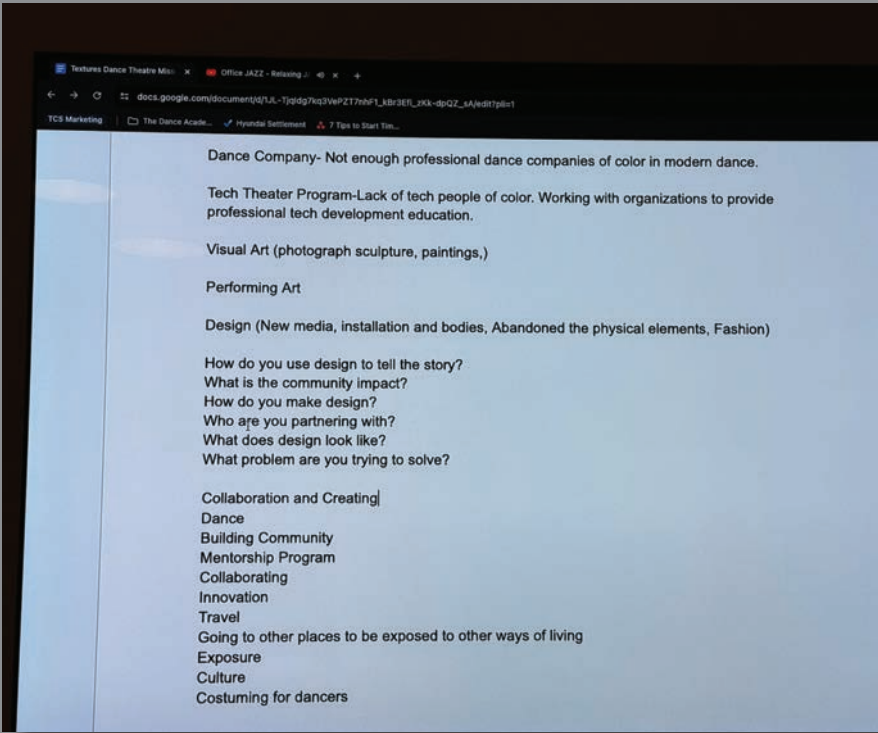


Image: Ideation Session Notes

We believe in the power of creativity to harness job creation and education. We are changemakers who work with communities, customers, and anyone who wiggles their toes. The change of tomorrow begins today. We are Ngoma Center for Dance.

Arts Reimagined.

A recent success story emerged through Ngoma's work with Creative Marcus Isaiah, providing over 60 hours of intensive consulting to help launch DC's newest Black dance company. Using Ngoma's Ward 4 facility, Founder Shawn Short facilitated strategic planning sessions and document development workshops, ultimately producing the necessary materials for federal nonprofit registration. This collaborative effort culminated in the December 7th announcement of Textures Dance Theater at Dance Place, expanding opportunities for Black modern dance in the nation's capital.

Through its pro bono consulting program, Ngoma continues its mission of fostering equity and sustainability in DC's arts ecosystem while supporting the next generation of Black arts leadership.



Image: TDT Staff in session at Ngoma/DDT Ward 4 Mixed Used Space

National Impact

Kareem B. Goodwin
Ngoma/DDT Representative

I A B D A U D I T I O N S

JANUARY 26-28, 2024





Image: IABD Dance Audition Dancers



Image: IABD Host Site



Image: Memphis Art



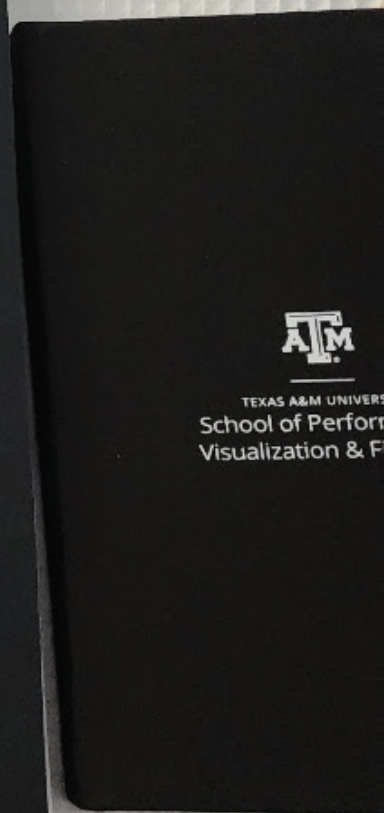
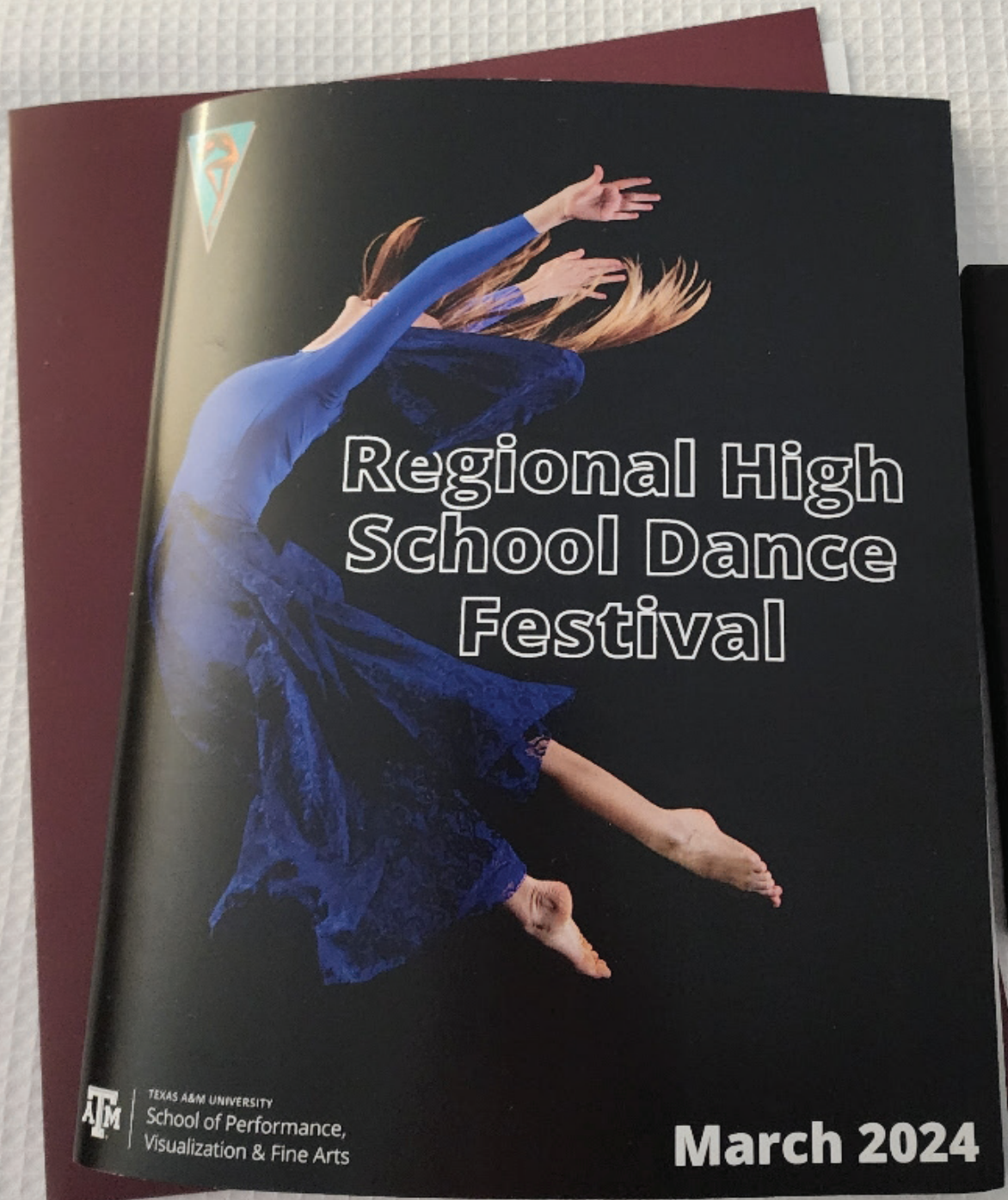
Image: Houston Ballet's 1st Black Ballerina Lauren Anderson with Ngoma/DDT's Kareem B. Goodwin

DC'S Only Representative

In 2024, The Ngoma School, Ngoma Center for Dance's professional training program, serves as the only DC area representative at the International Association of Blacks in Dance's annual conference. At this important gathering of Black dance professionals, the organization adjudicates and provides scholarships to talented young dancers of color. Students selected through this process receive scholarships to attend Ngoma's summer programs, with early-career dancers having opportunities for apprenticeships and company contracts with DC's Dissonance Dance Theatre.

The IABD conference represents the broadest international gathering of Black Dance professionals, bringing together agents, artistic directors, artists, choreographers, company managers, executive directors, historians, presenters, scholars, teachers and many others. As an active member organization, Ngoma Center for Dance participates in this vital convening that allows for sharing of ideas, cultures and experiences within the Black dance community.

Through its annual presence at the conference, Ngoma furthers its mission of providing a conduit between multicultural dance artists and their enthusiasts while creating professional development opportunities for emerging dancers of color. The organization's involvement demonstrates its commitment to advancing equity and excellence in dance education and performance on both a local and national scale.

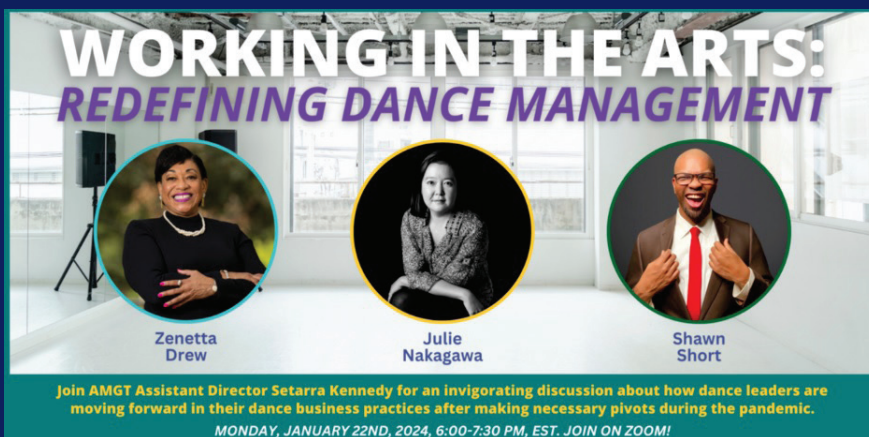


Making A Path For Dance Youth



The Regional High School Dance Festival (RHSDF) provides transformative dance education and performance opportunities to over 600 high school students annually across the United States. This prestigious program serves students in grades 9-12, with successful participants advancing to the National High School Dance Festival (NHSDF), which takes place at a separate location following the regional event.

In 2024, Ngoma Center for Dance launched a strategic outreach initiative to expand access to high-quality dance training in the Washington DC area. Through a combination of merit-based and need-based scholarships, Ngoma is working to make professional dance education accessible to talented students from across the country. As part of this effort, Ngoma actively participated in NHSDF's summer program fair and scholarship auditions, connecting directly with promising young dancers and helping to create pathways for their continued artistic development.



Connecting Dance in the Virtual Space

A panel discussion titled “Working in the Arts: Redefining Dance Management” was hosted virtually by George Mason University’s Arts Management Program on January 22nd. The event featured three distinguished dance industry leaders: Zenetta Drew, Executive Director of Dallas Black Dance Theatre; Julie Nakagawa, Co-founder and Artistic Director of Dance Works Chicago; and **DC’s Shawn Short, Founding Director of both Ngoma Center for Dance and Dissonance Dance Theatre**. Arts Management’s Assistant Director, Setarra Kennedy, moderated the discussion, which drew an audience of 100 students and arts professionals seeking industry insights.

Guest Artist: Syracuse Ballet



Image: Joel performing in the Nutcracker party scene



Image: Joel posing with Syracuse Ballet

Syracuse City Ballet, Inc., established in 1996 by Kathleen Rathbun and Harriet Casey, stands as Central New York's sole professional ballet company.

In 2024, they collaborated with Dissonance Dance Theatre (DDT) through an artistic cultural exchange program, facilitated by International Arts & Artists. As part of this exchange, DDT Company Artist Joel Kioko, a native of Kenya, performed in SCB's production of *The Nutcracker* with DDT's endorsement.

The performances, held at Syracuse's Oncenter Crouse Hinds Theatre, drew an audience of 600 patrons.

Images by: LaTrenda Carswell



Image: Joel performing with Syracuse Ballet

DDT Touring in Maryland

Publick Playhouse:Cheverly, MD



Image: Publick Playhouse in Cheverly, MD



Image: DDT performing Goodwin's *Shade*



Image: DDT performing Short's *For You*

The Publick Playhouse, an Art Deco gem established in 1947, stands as one of only two surviving theaters of its style in Prince George's County, MD. Distinguished by its ornate sky scene, superior acoustics, and intimate 494-seat capacity, this historic venue has hosted an impressive array of performers for over three decades, including renowned companies like Dallas Black Dance Theatre, PHILADANCO!, and Ballet Theater of Maryland.

In 2023, the Playhouse began a new chapter by welcoming Ngoma Center for Dance's Dissonance Dance Theatre (DDT) to its annual performance season. Building on this successful partnership, DDT returned in 2024 as the opening act for the Playhouse's Uplift Festival, which drew an audience of 400 patrons.



Image: DDT on stage with Founding Director Shawn Short



Image: DDT backstage in Dressing Room



Resident Choreographer

Kareem B. Goodwin

Image: K Goodwin in rehearsal

Memphis, TN
Philadelphia, PA
Baltimore, MD
Las Vegas, NV
Owings Mills, MD
Richmond, VA
Camden, NJ
Washington, DC

Awards & Honorable Mention

- Princess Grace Award in Choreography Nominee
- Ellen Forman Memorial Award Recipient

In 2024, Dissonance Dance Theater's Resident Choreographer Kareem Goodwin expanded his creative reach, choreographing new works across eight cities in seven states. His latest piece, "Heartbeat," made its world premiere with DDT in Spring 2024. Adding to these accomplishments, Goodwin received prestigious recognition as a Princess Grace Award nominee in Choreography (New York City) and won the Ellen Forman Memorial Award (Philadelphia).



Images: (L to R) Goodwin with Dancers (1-2), Contemporary West Dance Theatre Founder Bernard Gaddis with Goodwin in studio

Dissonance Dance Theatre's Resident Choreographer Program provides emerging and established choreographers the opportunity to create new works with DC's only nationally-recognized Black-managed contemporary ballet company between New York City and Atlanta. This program advances DDT's commitment to providing a racially diverse platform that consciously confronts the equitable complexities of working with, within, and for the African-American dance community.

Resident choreographers work annually and directly with DDT's professional company members to develop innovative contemporary ballet works that push artistic boundaries while engaging with themes relevant to today's audiences. Former guest choreographers have included artists from Pennsylvania Academy of Ballet, Nashville Ballet, Abraham.In.Motion, and Dance Theatre of Harlem, bringing fresh perspectives and choreographic approaches to DDT's repertoire.

The program provides:

- Studio space at the Atlas Performing Arts Center
- Access to DDT's professional company dancers
- Technical and production support
- Performance opportunities as part of DDT's main stage season
- Marketing and documentation of the created works
- Mentorship from DDT's Founding Director Shawn Short

Through this program, DDT continues its mission of developing new voices in contemporary ballet while creating meaningful performance opportunities for dancers of color. Past resident works have been featured in DDT's performances at prestigious venues including Jazz at Lincoln Center, the Atlas Performing Arts Center, and the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Education: The Ngoma School



Image: Ngoma Director Shawn Short assisting male dance student

The Ngoma School provides comprehensive dance education that goes far beyond traditional training. Since 2014, the school has “met youth where they are” by providing a hybrid educational approach that combines physical training, written coursework, and community engagement to inform and encourage the pursuit of post-secondary education, healthy living, mentorship, self-care, and life skill mastery.

In 2024, the Ngoma School served a diverse student population from across Washington DC, Montgomery County MD, and Prince George’s County MD. Making dance education accessible to all remains central to the school’s mission, with 75% of students receiving financial assistance through various scholarship programs and tuition reduction initiatives.

The school’s rigorous training program has opened doors for numerous students to perform at prestigious venues across the DC region. Through partnerships with leading arts organizations, Ngoma students have showcased their talents at the Atlas Performing Arts Center, Lincoln Theater, and other prominent venues. Many students have also received coveted scholarships to prestigious dance institutions, reflecting the high caliber of training provided.

The school’s commitment to professional development is evidenced by its successful alumni. Many graduates have launched their professional careers through Dissonance Dance Theatre’s trainee program, gaining invaluable performance experience and industry exposure.

Additionally, 2024 Ngoma School alumni have been accepted to and begun their higher education journeys at distinguished institutions including Howard University and Virginia State University, demonstrating the program’s success in preparing students for both professional and academic advancement.

Through its comprehensive approach combining technical excellence, academic preparation, and professional development, the Ngoma School continues to serve approximately 200 students annually, creating pathways for the next generation of dancers and arts leaders. The school’s focus on accessibility, excellence, and holistic development has established it as a vital institution for dance education in the Greater Washington DC region.

Below Images: (Top to Bottom) Students performing at public studio performance at Clarice PAC, Audiences enjoying public performance, Young male student from outreach class





Image: Kenni conducting a Q & A with students about professional dancing



Image: Kenni Jumping (c) Short



Image: S. Short and Kenni

Kenni Returns

This past July, Ngoma School alumnus Moses “Kenni” Brown made a surprise visit to Summer DanceLab. The students were thrilled to learn about his journey as a performer with Norwegian Cruise Lines. We were grateful that Kenni took time to return home, share his experiences, and give back to the Ngoma community.



Omokorede Goes To HU

We are delighted to announce that Ngoma School alumna Omokorede “Korede” Jemmott has accepted enrollment at Howard University, affectionately known as “The Mecca.” While developing into an accomplished dancer during her time at the Ngoma School, Korede has chosen to pursue her academic journey with a major in marketing.

Image: Omokorede in pose (c) Short



Image: Skyy in pose



Image: Skyy jumping (c) Short

From School To DDT

The Ngoma School celebrates the achievements of alumna Skyy Twyman, who completed her studies with us at age 18. Seeking to advance her professional career, Skyy successfully earned a position in Dissonance Dance Theatre’s prestigious Trainee program. She now maintains a rigorous schedule, training 40 hours across five days each week. Her hard work and dedication were showcased in DDT’s Fall Forward performance at Atlas Performing Arts Center’s Lang Theater.



Financial Data

Image: DDT Apprentice Sarah Phillips (c) Short

Finances

2024

Expenses

Artistic Staffing	\$113,228.00
Facilities	\$19,647.00
Production	\$45,815.00
General Operations	\$454,233.00
Total Expenses	\$632,923.00

Income

Individual Contributions	\$366,950.00
Earned Revenue	\$63,960.00
Funding - DC Gov	\$121,643.00
Ticket Sales	\$7,398.00
Tuition	\$76,011.00
Board Contributions	\$10,800.00
Total Income	\$646,761.00

Ngoma Center for Dance wants to thank the DC Commission on the Arts & Humanities, Publick Playhouse, Atlas Performing Arts Center, Joy of Motion Dance Center, students, parents, patrons, individual donors, and our Board of Directors.

Thank You

Board of Directors

Dave Domzalski – Chairman
President/Owner, Barmetrix Miami

Tyler Lewis – Vice Chairman
Director, The Leadership Conference
on Civil and Human Rights

Anthony Spivey, MBA – Treasurer
DC Prep, Community Assistant
Principal

Shawn Short, MFA, PGC in Business –
Founder/President

Jessica Potts, MA – Secretary
PGCPS School Teacher/ Former DDT
Dancer/ Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority
Member

Dr. Benjamin A. Dukes, Ph.D, LICSW,
RDT, RYT – Member
School Therapist

Anthony Hyman, M.ed – Member
VA School Teacher/ Alpha Phi Alpha
Fraternity Member

Tony Thomas – Member
Tony Thomas Designs

Quoc Tran, MBA – Member
Theatre/Business Professional

Partnerships & Relations

Atlas Performing Arts Center
University of Maryland College Park
Joy of Motion Dance Center
Metro Weekly Magazine
Netflix

Government

DC Commission on Arts & Humanities
PG County Arts & Cultural Heritage
Maryland State Arts Council
DC Mayor's Office
US Air Force

Foundation

New York Foundation for the Arts
Eugene M. Lang Foundation
Carmax Foundation
Brite Funds Foundation
Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation

Corporate

Actionsprout
Pearl Diver (New Zealand)
Facebook
Gilead
The Executive Leadership Council
American Psychological Association
AIDS Healthcare Foundation

Service Organizations

United Way of the National Capital
Intl Association of Blacks in Dance
DC Black Fund

Individual Donors

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