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Bates Dance Festival receives NEA grant to support 30th anniversary season

LEWISTON, Maine -- The Bates Dance Festival is one of 106 dance organizations to receive an Art Works I grant from the National Endowment for the Arts for fiscal year 2012.

Celebrating its 30th anniversary in 2012, the festival will receive \$30,000 to support its program of creative residencies and mainstage performances.

In November, the NEA awarded 863 Art Works grants to organizations and individual writers across the country. The 863 awards total \$22,543,000, encompass 15 artistic disciplines and fields, and support projects in 47 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

Titled "Cultivating a Vibrant Dance Community," the Bates Dance Festival proposal builds on 29 years of innovation, cooperation and community at the internationally acclaimed festival.

In 2012, the BDF will bring together a community of more than 60 leading and emerging dance figures and companies including Marc Bamuthi Joseph, Rennie Harris PureMovement, Kate Weare Company, Keigwin + Company, Abraham.In.Motion, dance scholar Debra Cash and dance consultant Kim Konikow. In one- to four-week residencies, they will create, collaborate, perform and recharge in a collaborative, supportive environment aimed at fostering exchange and encouraging appreciation of contemporary dance.

"Art Works is the guiding principle at the NEA," said agency Chairman Rocco Landesman. "And I'm pleased to see that principle represented through the 823 Art Works-funded projects included in this announcement. These projects demonstrate the imaginative and innovative capacities of artists and arts organizations to enhance the quality of life in their communities."

In March 2011, the NEA received 1,686 eligible applications for Art Works requesting more than \$84 million in funding. The resulting funding rate of 49 percent of eligible applications reflects

both the significant demand for support and the ongoing vitality of the nonprofit arts community despite current financial challenges.

Learn more: www.nea.gov/news/news11/ArtworksI-GrantAnnounce.html

About the Bates Dance Festival

Founded in 1982 at Bates College, the Bates Dance Festival brings together an international community of contemporary dance choreographers, performers, educators and students in a cooperative community to study, perform and create new work.

The festival serves as an annual destination for artists, students and audiences to engage in a full range of dance activities and performances that foster a creative exchange of ideas, encourage exploration of new ground and provide the opportunity to experience a wide spectrum of dance/movement disciplines.

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