

The background is a deep blue gradient with golden stars of various sizes and constellations. A stylized golden figure of a dancer is positioned behind the word "national" in the main title. The overall theme is celestial and elegant.

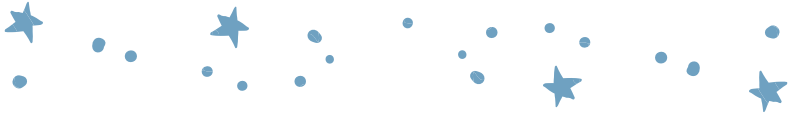
WELCOME TO NDI'S

Star Party

A STELLAR AUTUMN EVENING
TO BENEFIT THE CHILDREN OF

national dance  institute

10.19.20



TONIGHT'S STAR PARTY IS DEDICATED TO
ONE OF NATIONAL DANCE INSTITUTE'S
BRIGHTEST STARS



Judy Weston
1933-2020

SHE WAS OUR DREAM-MAKER, OUR CHAMPION, AND OUR DEAR FRIEND.
SHE WILL BE MISSED BEYOND MEASURE.

THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO HAVE DONATED TO NDI
SO GENEROUSLY IN HER NAME, AND ESPECIALLY ADP.



Jacques d'Amboise
Founder & President

Ellen Weinstein
Artistic Director

Traci Lester
Executive Director

WELCOME YOU TO NDI'S

Star Party

HOSTED BY

JOHN LITHGOW

FEATURING

THE CHILDREN OF NDI

WITH GUEST STARS FROM

BROADWAY & FILM

CHARLOTTE D'AMBOISE & TERRENCE MANN

ARIANA DEBOSE • TONY YAZBECK

DANCE

DANIEL ULBRICHT • LÉONARDO SANDOVAL

DENYS DROZDYUK & ANTONINA SKOBINA

LORENZO PAGANO & BLAKELEY WHITE-MCGUIRE

WITH REMARKS BY

JACQUES D'AMBOISE • CHITA RIVERA

BILLY PORTER • MANDY PATINKIN & KATHRYN GRODY

LLOYD KNIGHT • DHARON E. JONES

*Proceeds from this evening will support
National Dance Institute's arts education programs
for New York City school children.*

PROGRAM

RUNS & LEAPS

Featuring the **NDI CELEBRATION TEAM**

Music "Why Dance...Because!"

Music by Martin Charnin

Lyrics by Barbara Goldsmith

Arranged by Jerome Korman

Performed by the NDI Orchestra & Chorus

Edited by Diego Rotmistrovsky

WELCOME BY **JOHN LITHGOW**

ANOTHER STAR

Featuring the **NDI CELEBRATION TEAM**

Choreography by Duffin Garcia

Music & Lyrics by Stevie Wonder

Arranged by Yakir Ben-Hur

Performed by the NDI Orchestra & Chorus

Edited by Diego Rotmistrovsky

JACQUES D'AMBOISE

AN INTERVIEW WITH **DANIEL ULBRICHT**

STARS AND STRIPES MALE VARIATION

Featuring **DANIEL ULBRICHT**

Choreography by George Balanchine

© The George Balanchine Trust

Music by John Phillip Sousa

Arranged by Hershey Kay

Filmed & Edited by Nic Petry/Dancing Camera

BILLY PORTER

DREAMING OF YOU

Featuring **ANTONINA SKOBINA & DENYS DROZDYUK**

Choreography by Denys Drozdyuk & Antonina Skobina

Music "Mi Manchi" by Gianfranco Fasano

Lyrics by Fabrizio Berlincioni, as recorded by Andrea Bocelli

Filmed & Edited by Nic Petry/Dancing Camera

CHITA RIVERA

PROGRAM

CLIMB EV'RY MOUNTAIN

From the musical *The Sound of Music*

Featuring **ARIANA DEBOSE**

Music by Richard Rodgers

Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II

Audio Mixing by Yakir Ben-Hur

MANDY PATINKIN & KATHRYN GRODY

REGULUS

Featuring **LÉONARDO SANDOVAL**, NDI 2019-20 Artist-In-Residence

Choreography by Leonardo Sandoval

Filmed by Daniel Ulbricht at Manhattan Movement and Arts Center

Edited by Diego Rotmistrovsky

LLOYD KNIGHT

MOON

Excerpt from *Canticle for Innocent Comedians*

Featuring **BLAKELEY WHITE-MCGUIRE & LORENZO PAGANO**

Choreography by Martha Graham

Original music by Cameron McCosh

Music recreation by Pat Daugherty

Filmed and Edited by Nic Petry/Dancing Camera

COLORS OF MY LIFE

From the musical *Barnum*

Featuring **CHARLOTTE D'AMBOISE & TERRENCE MANN**

Music by Cy Coleman

Lyrics by Michael Stewart

Video Editing & Audio Mixing by Yakir Ben-Hur

FLY ME TO THE MOON

Featuring **TONY YAZBECK**

Music & Lyrics by Bart Howard

Arranged by Jerome Korman

Audio Mixing by Yakir Ben-Hur

ELLEN WEINSTEIN

PROGRAM

TRIBUTE TO JUDY WESTON

Produced by Adam Joel and Corinne Chapman

DHARON E. JONES

FOR ONCE IN MY LIFE

Featuring the **NDI CELEBRATION TEAM**

Choreography by Bianca Johnson with Anthony "AntBoogie" Rue II

Music by Ron Miller and Orlando Murden

Arranged by Mathew Fetbrandt

Performed by the NDI Orchestra & Chorus



NDI ORCHESTRA & CHORUS

Grisha Alexiev	Roderick Jackson
Gary Bartholomaus	Toni Jordan
Jack Bashkow	Todd Keller
Yakir Ben-Hur	Jerome Korman
Robert Benezra	Dorothy Krauss-Eisenpress
Kaitlin Cullen-Verhauz	John Krinsky
Ocoela Davis	Betsy Lawrence
Robert Fassberg	Debbie Lesser
Jonathan Fassberg	Tony Lewis
Matthew Fetbrandt	David Marck
Billy Grant	Brian Marsella
William Gallison	Gizelxanath Rodriguez
Kay Gayner	Chanda Rule
Lisa Harte	Gregory Stamper
Tom Hubbard	Luis Villa-Lobos
Regina Lulo	Kate Weil

STAR PARTY VIDEO PRODUCTION

Benjamin Ryan Nathan, All of Us Films

Diego Rotmistrovsky, All of Us Films



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

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Alicia Glen and Daniel Rayner
Eileen and Carlos Rodriguez
Chris Schlank and Amy Zhen
Helen Stambler Neuberger and Jim Neuberger
Barbara and Donald Tober

...and all those who so generously supported tonight's event.



SPECIAL THANKS

John Lithgow, Host

Charlotte d'Amboise
Jacques d'Amboise
Ariana DeBose
Denys Drozdyuk
Kathryn Grody
Dharon E. Jones
Lloyd Knight
Terrence Mann
Lorenzo Pagano
Mandy Patinkin
Billy Porter
Chita Rivera
Léonardo Sandoval
Antonina Skobina
Daniel Ulbricht
Blakeley White-McGuire
Tony Yazbeck

...and the Children and Families of National Dance Institute

WHO'S WHO



JACQUES D'AMBOISE

(Founder, NDI) is a director, teacher, and world-renowned ballet dancer and choreographer. He became a member of New York

City Ballet at age 15 and was promoted to principal dancer at 17. At the age of 50, he retired from the stage. During his 33-year career, Mr. d'Amboise originated numerous roles in ballets by George Balanchine. Mr. d'Amboise is known for his definitive performance in Balanchine's ballet "Apollo." Mr. d'Amboise founded National Dance Institute in 1976. Its purpose is to inspire children to excellence using the arts, with dance as the catalyst. NDI and its associate programs have reached over 2 million children... and counting! A documentary film about his work, "He Makes Me Feel Like Dancin'," won the Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature in 1984, and he has received many honors, including the Kennedy Center Honors, the National Medal of the Arts, and the MacArthur Genius Award.



JOHN LITHGOW

(Actor) John Lithgow's roots are in the theater. In 1973, he won a Tony Award three weeks after his Broadway debut, in David Storey's "The Changing Room."

Since then he has appeared on Broadway twenty more times, earning five more Tony nominations, another Tony, four Drama Desk Awards, and induction into the Theatre Hall of Fame. Lithgow has acted in England with both the Royal Shakespeare Company and the National Theatre. Lithgow recently returned to Broadway in "Hillary and Clinton" in April 2019. In the early 1980's, Lithgow began to make a major mark in film. He was nominated for Oscars for "The World According to Garp" and "Terms of Endearment." He has appeared in over forty-five films. Lithgow has been nominated

for twelve Emmy Awards for his work on television. He has won six, including three for his work on the hit NBC comedy series "3rd Rock from the Sun." Lithgow won his latest Emmy for his role as Winston Churchill in "The Crown." Since 1998 he has written nine New York Times best-selling children's picture books. In 2011, HarperCollins published Lithgow's memoir, "Drama: An Actor's Education," presenting his life and career up to the age of 35. Last year, Lithgow released the New York Times Bestseller, "Dumpty: The Age of Trump in Verse." John Lithgow was born in Rochester, New York, but grew up in Ohio. He graduated from high school in Princeton, New Jersey, attended Harvard College, and studied at the London Academy of Music & Dramatic Art on a Fulbright Grant.



DANIEL ULBRICHT

(Dancer) is a Principal Dancer with New York City Ballet and the founder and director of Stars of the American Ballet, a company that tours nationally and

internationally and is devoted to presenting high caliber dance performances and offering educational and outreach programs. Ulbricht is the Artistic Advisor to Manhattan Youth Ballet and the Associate Artistic Director of the New York State Summer School for the Arts in Saratoga Springs, NY. A guest teacher at the School of American Ballet and Ballet Academy East, he also teaches at many well-known dance schools, private schools and universities throughout the United States. He is also the founder and director of Dance Against Cancer.



BILLY PORTER

(Actor and Singer) attended the Musical Theater program at Pittsburgh Creative and Performing Arts School's School of Drama, graduated from

WHO'S WHO

Carnegie Mellon University School of Drama, and achieved fame performing on Broadway before starting a solo career as a singer and actor. Porter won the 2013 Best Actor in a Musical for his role as Lola in "Kinky Boots" at the 67th Tony Awards. For the role, Porter also won the Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Actor in a Musical and Outer Critics Circle Award for Outstanding Actor in a Musical. In 2014 Porter won the Grammy Award for Best Musical Theater Album for "Kinky Boots." He currently stars in the television series "Pose," for which he was nominated for a Golden Globe Award and won the 2019 Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Lead Actor in a Drama Series, becoming the first openly gay Black man to be nominated and win in any lead acting category at the Primetime Emmys. Porter is included in *Time* magazine's 100 Most Influential People of 2020.



ANTONINA SKOBINA

(Dancer) was born in Ukraine. Since the age of seven, she has been receiving the best ballroom dance training in Ukraine, Germany,

England, and the United States. She is a two-time US National Ballroom Dance Champion and a World Championship Bronze Medalist. She is also a Blackpool Rising Stars Latin Winner, which is the most prestigious Ballroom dance competition in the world. Together with Denys Drozdyuk, Antonina co-founded a collaborative ballroom dance duet called "DNA," a name under which both participated on NBC's Hit Television Show "World of Dance" for two seasons, where they represented Ballroom Dance. Antonina performs frequently as a Guest Artist with the Stars of American Ballet and in various International Ballet Galas, Festivals, and Productions worldwide. Apart from dancing, Antonina has a great passion for acting and she is a graduate of the New York Film Academy. Antonina is also a gifted Ballroom Dance teacher and evidence of her

work is training US National Ballroom Dance Champions including children and youth.



DENYS DROZDYUK

(Dancer) Denys Drozdyuk started dancing at the age of four in Ukraine. From then on he has been continuously trained in ballroom dance.

He holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Dance from the Juilliard School and a Master of Arts Degree in Dance Education from New York University. Together with Antonina Skobina, Denys co-founded a collaborative ballroom dance duet called "DNA," a name under which both participated on NBC's Hit Television show "World of Dance" for two seasons, where they represented Ballroom Dance. Being a versatile dancer, Denys is also a winner of "So You Think You Can Dance" Canada Television Show. Some of his ballroom dance achievements include: three time World Ballroom 10-Dance Champion, two-time USA National Ballroom Dance Champion, seven-time German National Ballroom Dance Champion, three-time Canadian National Ballroom Dance Champion and a Blackpool Dance Festival Winner. Denys performs frequently as a Guest Artist with the "Stars of American Ballet" and in various International Ballet Galas, Festivals, and Productions worldwide. He also teaches workshops and master classes throughout the world.



CHITA RIVERA

(Actress, Singer, and Dancer) is a theatrical icon and one of Broadway's greatest triple-threat talents, Chita Rivera is one of the most nominated

performers in Tony Award history having earned ten nominations, won twice and received the 2018 Special Tony Award for Lifetime Achievement in the Theatre. A versatile actress/singer/dancer, her most recent starring roles include "The Visit," the final

WHO'S WHO

John Kander/Fred Ebb/Terrence McNally musical directed by John Doyle and choreographed by Graciela Daniele on Broadway; the Broadway revival of "The Mystery of Edwin Drood"; the Broadway and touring productions of "The Dancer's Life," a dazzling musical celebrating her spectacular career, written by Terrence McNally and directed by Graciela Daniele and the revival of the Broadway musical "Nine" with Antonio Banderas. She trained as a ballerina (from age nine) before receiving a scholarship to the School of American Ballet from the legendary choreographer George Balanchine.

Chita's first appearance (age 17) was as a principal dancer in "Call Me Madam." Her electric performance as Anita in the original Broadway premiere of "West Side Story" brought her stardom, which she repeated in London. Chita was awarded The Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Barack Obama in 2009 and received the coveted Kennedy Center Honors in 2002. In 2019, Chita performed her solo concert at London's Cadogan Hall; in 2018 she was honored as a Living Landmark by the New York Landmarks Conservancy; in 2016 she headlined at Carnegie Hall; and in 2015, Great Performances aired their special "Chita Rivera: A Lot of Livin' To Do," a retrospective of her extraordinary life and career nationally on PBS. Her current solo CD is entitled "And Now I Swing." Her most treasured production is her daughter, singer/dancer/choreographer Lisa Mordente.



ARIANA DEBOSE

(Actress, Singer, and Dancer) is a Tony-nominated actress known for her varying roles on stage as well as on screen. DeBose is perhaps best known for her role as Disco Donna

in "Summer: The Donna Summer Musical," which earned her a 2018 Tony Award nomination for Best Featured Actress in a Musical. For the same role, she was

nominated for a Drama League Award for Distinguished Performance and won a Chita Rivera Award for Outstanding Female Dancer in a Broadway Show. DeBose recently wrapped production on Ryan Murphy's Netflix adaptation of the hit Broadway musical "The Prom," where she stars as Alyssa alongside Meryl Streep, Nicole Kidman, and James Corden. In December, DeBose will be seen in Steven Spielberg's highly anticipated reimagining of the Academy Award-winning musical "West Side Story." DeBose was chosen from thousands of actresses to portray the iconic role of "Anita," which earned Rita Moreno an Oscar in 1962. In 2015, DeBose appeared alongside Lin-Manuel Miranda in the groundbreaking, Tony-winning musical "Hamilton" as a member of the original cast in both the Broadway and Off-Broadway productions. After her departure from "Hamilton" in 2016, DeBose completed a run as Jane in the original Broadway cast of "A Bronx Tale." Her additional theater credits include: Leading Player in the Tony Award-winning revival of "Pippin," Mary Wilson of the Supremes in "Motown The Musical," Nautica in Andy Blankenbuehler's "Bring It On: The Musical" and ensemble in Stephen Sondheim's "Company."



MANDY PATINKIN

(Actor) has been fortunate to carve out a varied career including theater, the concert stage, film, television, and as a recording artist. In his 1980

Broadway debut, Mandy won a Tony Award for his role as Che in "Evita," and he was nominated in 1984 for his starring role in the musical, "Sunday in the Park with George." In 1989, Mandy began his concert career at The Public Theater. Since then he has toured (and continues to) his solo concerts. In 1997, he played a sold-out Broadway engagement of "Mandy Patinkin in Concert," with all profits benefiting five charitable organizations. In

WHO'S WHO

addition to his solo concerts, Mandy has created collaborations with artists including: opera super-star Nathan Gunn; Patti LuPone; and Taylor Mac. Mandy's newest feature film "Before You Know It," debuted August 2019 in NYC and Los Angeles. In television, Mandy won a 1995 Emmy Award for his performance in the CBS series "Chicago Hope." He recently completed eight seasons of the Award-winning Showtime Original Series "Homeland." As a recording artist on CBS Records, Mandy released two solo albums, "Mandy Patinkin" and "Mandy Patinkin In Concert: Dress Casual." Mandy resides in NYC with his wife, actress and writer Kathryn Grody.



KATHRYN GRODY

(Actress) is from Los Angeles and upon arrival in New York City, found herself employed on Broadway in "Scapino." She has worked extensively

Off-Broadway, winning Obie Awards for performances in Caryl Churchill's "Top Girls" and Christopher Durang's "The Marriage of Bette and Boo." Grody earned a Drama Desk nomination for performance in her autobiographical show "A Mom's Life" examining the pros and cons of what happens when an award-winning actress sets her career aside and becomes a stay-home mother. She was recently seen as Gaby in Susan Miller's "20th Century Blues" at Signature Theater. Her film credits include "The Lemon Sisters," "My Bodyguard," "Harry and Walter Go To New York," "Reds," and "Men With Guns." Her TV work includes "The Sunset Gang" and "Execution of Private Slovik." Her essays have appeared in "Harper's Bazaar," "Mountain Record" and "Oprah." The narrative version of "A Mom's Life" was published by Avon. She is on the board of Dances For A Variable Population and Downtown Women For Change, and is a Usual Suspect with New York Theatre Workshop. She has been married to Mandy Patinkin since 1980. They have two children.



LÉONARDO SANDOVAL

(Dancer) is a Brazilian tap dancer and choreographer. He is renowned for blending America's great tap tradition with Brazil's rich rhythmic

and musical heritage. A true dancer-musician, he is in demand as a solo performer, choreographer, and educator, and is a core member of acclaimed company Dorrance Dance. He and composer Gregory Richardson direct Music From The Sole, a tap dance and live music company that celebrates tap's Afro-diasporic roots, its lineage to forms like house dance and hip hop, and its unique blend of sound and movement. Léonardo's work has been presented at venues including Lincoln Center, National Folk Festival, Jacob's Pillow, and the Guggenheim Museum. Léonardo is a passionate believer in the transformational power of dance and music, and he is proud and honored to contribute to the extraordinary work of National Dance Institute as their inaugural Artist-in-Residence.



LLOYD KNIGHT

(Dancer) is a Principal Dancer with the Martha Graham Dance Company. Having joined in 2005, he performs the major male roles of the Graham

repertory including in "Appalachian Spring," "Embattled Garden," "Night Journey" and many others. "Dance Magazine" named him one of the "Top 25 Dancers to Watch" in 2010 and one of the best performers of 2015. Mr. Knight has starred with ballet greats Wendy Whelan and Misty Copeland in signature Graham duets. He has had roles created for him by such renowned artists as Nacho Duato and Pam Tanowitz. He is currently a principal guest artist for The Royal Ballet of Flanders directed by Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui. Born in England and raised in Miami, he trained at Miami Conservatory of Ballet and New World School of the Arts.

WHO'S WHO



BLAKELEY WHITE-MCGUIRE (Dancer) is an award-winning dancer, choreographer, répétiteur, and educator. She is a Principal Guest Artist and former Principal Dancer of

Martha Graham Dance Company (2001 to 2016, 2017). She earned her MFA in Interdisciplinary Arts from Goddard College, Vermont and currently serves on the faculties of Hunter College, The Ailey School, Taylor School, the American Dance Festival and as guest artist at Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music & Art and Performing Arts. Blakeley is an official Regisseur for the Martha Graham Center staging repertory internationally; most recently for Paul Taylor's American Modern Dance, Semperoper, Ballet Vlaanderen and Juilliard. Blakeley currently performs and choreographs with the inter-genre/generational dance collective Movement Migration, Buglisi Dance Theatre, and serves as NYC Department of Education facilitator for professional development in Dance Education.



LORENZO PAGANO (Dancer) is a native from Torino, Italy. He has been dancing for the Martha Graham Dance Company in New York for a decade embodying the majority

of Principal Dancer roles of the repertory ("Appalachian Spring," "Cave of the Heart," "Diversion of Angels," "El Penitente," "Embattled Garden" and "Night Journey" to name a few). Mr Pagano has also danced starring roles for new works by Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui, Lucinda Childs, Nacho Duato, Andonis Foniadakis, Pontus Lidberg, Bulareyung Pagarlawa, Troy Schumacher, and Sonya Tayeh. He has been a Guest Artist for the Lar Lubovitch Dance Company and Ballet Collective. He is a performer for Movement Migration, and he has danced

with Paris Opera 'forme' étoile and Artistic Director Aurélie Dupont in Martha Graham's "Lament." He has partnered Miami City Ballet and Béjart Ballet Principal Dancer Myrna Kamara in Martha Graham's "Moon Duet." In July 2016, Pagano was honored with the Italian International Dance Award as Male Rising Star.



CHARLOTTE D'AMBOISE (Actress, Singer, and Dancer) just concluded a run as Mrs. Mullins in "Carousel" at Chicago's Lyric Opera. She had previously starred on Broadway in the Tony-

winning revival of "Pippin" as Fastrada, a role for which she received an Outer Critics Circle Award nomination and won the Fred Astaire Award. Previously, she could be seen as Roxie Hart in the Broadway hit "Chicago," and as Cassie in the critically acclaimed Broadway revival of "A Chorus Line." Born in New York, Ms. d'Amboise made her Broadway debut in "Cats" in 1983. Ms. d'Amboise's extensive Broadway credits include her Tony-nominated performance in "Jerome Robbins' Broadway," Lola in "Damn Yankees," the Wife in Susan Stroman's critically acclaimed "Contact," and Kathy in the Roundabout Theatre's revival of "Company." The original Broadway productions of "Carrie," "Song and Dance," and the role of Claudine in the City Center Encores presentation of "Can-Can" are among her other Broadway credits. In the spring of 2005, Ms. d'Amboise replaced an injured Christina Applegate in the pre-Broadway and Broadway revival of "Sweet Charity." Once Applegate returned, d'Amboise remained as her standby while simultaneously performing the role of Roxie Hart in "Chicago." She has received the Fred Astaire Award for Achievement in Dance for her performances in "Damn Yankees," "Sweet Charity" and "Chicago"; the Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle Award for "Chicago"; the LA Ovation

WHO'S WHO

Award for Leading Actress in a Musical for "Chicago"; and the Los Angeles Drama Critics Circles Award for Leading Performance in "Chicago." Ms. d'Amboise's film credits include "The In Crowd," "American Blue Note," "Just Off The Coast," "The Preacher's Wife," the acclaimed documentary "Every Little Step," and "Frances Ha." On television, she has appeared in "The Kennedy Center Honors," "Law and Order," a videotaped performance of the Broadway musical "Contact," and made-for-TV movies. She is proud to be co-founder and co-artistic director with husband Terrence Mann of the Triple Arts Musical Theatre Intensive



TERRENCE MANN

(Actor and Singer) is a three-time Tony nominee. His credits include work on the Broadway stage, in film, and on television as a director, composer and artistic director. He

most recently was Jerry Springer in The New Group New York premiere of "Jerry Springer: The Opera" at Signature Theatre. On Broadway, he's won the Outer Critics Circle Award and was nominated for a Tony for his portrayal of King Charlemagne in the hit musical "Pippin." Most recently, he created the role of The Man in the Yellow Suit in Broadway's "Tuck Everlasting" and played Charles Frohman/Hook in "Finding Neverland." He originated the roles of the Beast in "Beauty and the Beast" (Tony, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle nominations), Inspector Javert in "Les Misérables" (Tony nomination), Rum Tum Tugger in "Cats" and Chauvelin in "The Scarlet Pimpernel." Other Broadway credits include "The Addams Family" (Mal Beineke), "Lennon" (Ensemble), "The Rocky Horror Show" (Frank-N-Furter), "Getting Away With Murder" (Greg), "A Christmas Carol" (Scrooge), "Rags" (Saul), "Barnum" (Ringmaster, matinee Barnum on tour), "Jerome Robbins' Broadway" (Narrator) and "Jekyll and Hyde"

(title roles, pre-Broadway workshop). Terry can be seen as Mr. Whispers in Season 2 of the Netflix Original series "Sense8." He appeared as Bob on the Sci-Fi Channel's series "The Dresden Files." He was the Director/Composer for the musical adaptation of "Romeo & Juliet." He was founding Artistic Director of the Carolina Arts Festival. He also served as Artistic Director of the North Carolina Theatre for ten years. He now serves as the endowed chair of Musical Theatre at Western Carolina University and is the Artistic Director of the Connecticut Repertory Theatre's Nutmeg Summer Series on the campus of the University of Connecticut. Terry and his wife Charlotte d'Amboise are co-artistic directors of the Triple Arts Musical Theatre Intensive for young performers at Western Carolina University.



TONY YAZBECK

(Actor, Singer, and Dancer) began his career at age 11 on Broadway in "Gypsy" with Tyne Daly. He has appeared in ten Broadway shows including "On The Town," for

which he was nominated for Tony, Outer Critics Circle, and Drama League Awards. He also received the Fred Astaire Award. His other Broadway credits include "Prince of Broadway" (Chita Rivera Award, Drama Desk and OCC noms), "Chicago," "Gypsy" with Patti LuPone (OCC nom), "A Chorus Line," and "Finding Neverland." Tony has appeared on TV in "Smash" and "Billions" and was recently part of the "Leonard Bernstein Tribute Concert" at Tanglewood on PBS. He has performed his own song and dance show throughout the country and most notably at Lincoln Center this past January. He will next be seen on Broadway portraying Cary Grant in the new musical "Flying Over Sunset" at Lincoln Center. His debut album "The Floor Above Me" is now available everywhere.

WHO'S WHO



DHARON E. JONES

(Actor, Singer, and Dancer) A native of Brooklyn, Dharon E. Jones began dancing with National Dance Institute and went on to graduate from Fiorello H. LaGuardia High

School of Music & Art and Performing Arts. In 2020, he made his Broadway debut in "West Side Story" in the roles of Riff and Action. His film work includes "Champions" and "Saturday Church"; On television, he has appeared in "Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt." He is currently a student at Ithaca College.



ELLEN WEINSTEIN

(Artistic Director, NDI) began teaching and choreographing for National Dance Institute in 1985 and was named Artistic Director in 1995. She is respon-

sible for the direction of NDI's In-School Program. Her work has been performed at venues as varied as Carnegie Hall, the Delacorte Theater, BAM, and Lincoln Center. Her choreography, "Wade in the Water," was featured at the White House at a state dinner hosted by President and Mrs. Clinton. As an artistic consultant to NDI's national programs, Weinstein has set works and directed residencies in major cities throughout the country, as well as in Russia, China, India, and Israel. Prior to joining NDI, she danced professionally with the Savannah Ballet, the Garden State Ballet, and several contemporary dance companies. Weinstein served as adjunct professor at the State University of New York at New Paltz. She received a BFA in Dance from SUNY Purchase.



JEROME KORMAN

(Music Director, NDI) has had the pleasure of collaborating with NDI's teaching artists to help develop Event of the Year performances that have covered wildly diverse topics ranging from John

Lennon to poetry to New Orleans. He is responsible for the music component of NDI's In-School Program and is involved in NDI's Teaching Artist Training and professional development initiatives. Korman is music director for Tony Yazbeck, Jenn Gambatese, and Eleanor Reissa. He composed music for the augmented reality app, Snowbird, and for Preeti Vasudevan's *Etudes*. In addition, he is a proud member of Paul Shapiro's Ribs and Brisket Review. He received BA from Columbia College and MAT from Lehman College.



DUFFIN GARCIA

(Choreographer, NDI) was born and raised in New York City. In 2006, he graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Computer Science from Lehman College, City

University of New York. Duffin began his professional dance training at the age of eight on a scholarship to the Eliot Feld Ballet. He joined National Dance Institute in 1988, performing in every NDI Event of the Year until his graduation in 1992. Now an NDI alumnus, he gives back to the program as a Senior Teaching Artist and Choreographer and has joined NDI's Board of Directors. In 1997, Duffin served as Associate Director to Founder Jacques d'Amboise for NDI's first International Residency in Israel and Palestine. He also assisted Mr. d'Amboise in a collaborative project with Professor Emeritus Seymour Papert and Marvin Minsky at the Media Lab of Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 2003. In 2004, he served



WHO'S WHO

as Associate Director to Mr. d'Amboise for NDI's cultural exchange residency in Shanghai, China, and is currently part of the training team in the development of the NDI/China Project, *Dancing Into The Future*.



BIANCA JOHNSON

(Choreographer, NDI) began her dance training at the Joffrey Ballet School. In 1984, Jacques d'Amboise invited her to join NDI. She attended Fiorello H. LaGuardia High

School of Music & Art and Performing Arts, and in 1999 received a BFA in Dance from New York University, Tisch School of the Arts. She began her professional career in works by Pat Catterson, Mark Dendy, Igal Perry, and Doug Varone, among others. Johnson has created original works for organizations including Youth Pride Chorus, House of the Roses, and The September Concert. Her work has been seen at the Apollo Theater, Symphony Space, The Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, The Kitchen, and Jacob's Pillow. She has worked at NDI since 2001 and directed the Event of the Year in 2012 and 2017. In 2012, Ms. Johnson founded Bianca Johnson & Dancers, a dance company for any age, gender, culture, or body type.



YAKIR BEN-HUR

(Associate Music Director & Media Production Manager, NDI) is a pianist/percussionist, composer, and educator. A native of Israel, Ben-Hur came to New

York to study with jazz legend Barry Harris in 1999. He holds a BFA and M.A. in composition from City College of New York. In 2004, he recorded the album, "A Sonny Day," featuring Avishai Cohen and Eli Degibri. Ben-Hur has performed in many

venues in New York City and has traveled the world performing and teaching. From 2006 to 2009, he served as musical director and pianist for the Grammy-nominated artist Amel Larrieux, with whom he recorded and arranged the album "Lovely Standards." Ben-Hur was a faculty member at the New School University from 2002 to 2012.



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TUESDAY

OCT 27

AT 12 PM

Estate planning can appear to be a daunting task, but in this 45 minute lunch-time conversation, you'll learn simple ways to let your legacy live on.

JOIN US AS WE DISCUSS:

- Options for achieving your philanthropic goals, both today and in the future
- Benefits you and your heirs can receive
- Why what you decide today can always be amended later
- How to make what you care about outlive you
- Your questions

RSVP to Brooke Berescik-Johns via email at bjohns@nationaldance.org.

Bring your lunch (or open your wine!) and discover how surprisingly simple it is to leave your mark for generations to come.

ABOUT NDI

At **National Dance Institute** (NDI), we believe the arts have a unique power to engage all children and motivate them toward excellence. Through our award-winning arts education programs, we strive to serve children of every background, ability, and socioeconomic status—transcending systemic barriers and expanding opportunities for all children to become their best. Our professional teaching artists foster in students a love of dance and music, a curiosity about the world, and a desire to achieve. These dedicated teachers help our young dancers learn to work together as they develop persistence, empathy, and confidence to support their success in school and in life.

Since our founding in 1976 by New York City Ballet principal dancer Jacques d'Amboise, NDI has empowered the lives of more than two million children. Under the artistic direction of Ellen Weinstein, NDI has developed a unique, proven teaching methodology that uses dance and music to improve children's critical thinking, foster pride in achievement, develop their global perspective, and hone their social-emotional, communication, and collaboration skills.

Inspiring Children through the Arts

During this time of remote and blended learning, NDI has consistently maintained operations and has continued to provide arts education to public schools in New York City and throughout the country. Students are engaging with NDI through live, synchronous classes, recorded videos, and virtual performances. Through **ndiMOVES**, we also offer customized, remote programming for school districts, charter school networks, and education organizations who are looking to incorporate the social-emotional benefits of the arts into their distance learning instruction. NDI fulfills our mission by offering our core programs to all children free of charge. Our inclusive **In-School Program** in New York City public schools ensures success for every child. Our **Advanced Programs** give our most motivated children the opportunity to deepen their dance and music study by joining our **SWAT Team** or **Celebration Team**, and by attending our **Irene Diamond Summer Institute**. **The NDI DREAM Project** (Dancers Realize Excellence through Arts and Movement) is our inclusive dance program providing children with and without disabilities the opportunity to perform. Videos in our **DREAM Project@Home**

and **ndiLIVE!** series bring dance and movement class to the public via social media.

NDI disseminates our acclaimed teaching method through the **NDI Collaborative for Teaching & Learning**, a professional development program for teaching artists, dance educators, musicians, and organizations worldwide. Every year, professional artists and educators from around the globe participate in our trainings and emerge from this transformative experience with an advanced set of teaching tools and a deepened understanding of the power of the arts in education.

Throughout our history, NDI has seeded programs both nationally and internationally. There are currently 12 **Associates of National Dance Institute** (ANDI) thriving in the United States that utilize NDI's pedagogy to serve over 30,000 children every year. Internationally, NDI has been working in Shanghai, China and in Beirut, Lebanon to train teachers in NDI's ground-breaking methodology and to promote the social development of children, helping them gain confidence through the study of dance, the arts, and international collaboration. These International Programs serve more than 8,000 children annually.

In the fall of 2011, NDI opened the doors to our permanent home—the **National Dance Institute Center for Learning & the Arts** located at 217 West 147th Street in Harlem. The NDI Center is home to the **Howard Gilman Performance Space**, three dance studios, two art galleries, green rooms, and administrative offices. The Howard Gilman Performance Space has seating for 175 and has been used for NDI classes, rehearsals, performances and events. It will be open once again when public gatherings are deemed safe and appropriate. The NDI Center is used for after school classes, rehearsals, teaching artist training, performances, special events, and in service to the local Harlem community. The NDI Center furthers our mission and expands our reach. It has become a beacon for children, teachers, and artists in New York City and worldwide. In keeping with the NDI tradition of collaboration, the NDI Center is also available to visiting artists and arts organizations.

NDI STAFF

Founder & President.....Jacques d'Amboise
Artistic Director.....Ellen Weinstein
Executive Director.....Traci Lester

ARTISTIC

Associate Artistic Director/Co-Director of DREAM Project.....Kay Gayner
Music Director.....Jerome Korman
Director of NDI Collaborative for Teaching & Learning.....Emily Meisner
Rehearsal Director of Advanced Programs.....Bianca Johnson
Associate Music Director/Media Production Manager.....Yakir Ben-Hur
Artistic Associate.....Tracy Straus
Music Associate.....Ly Bedaña

PROGRAMS

Senior Director of Education & Outreach.....Aileen Barry
Director of Advanced Programs.....Samantha Belth
Program Manager.....Christina Aguirre
Program Coordinator, NDI Collaborative for Teaching & Learning.....Natalie Correa
Program Assistant.....Ariel Fonner
Co-Director of DREAM Project.....Agnes McConlogue Ferro
Equity Advocate.....Calia Marshall

DEVELOPMENT

Chief Advancement Officer.....Michele O'Mara
Major Gifts Officer.....Brooke Berescik-Johns
Manager of Individual Giving & Special Events.....Armelle Kessler
Manager of Institutional Giving.....Hannah Bailenson
Development & Marketing Manager.....Pia Catton

PRODUCTION

Technical Director/Producer.....Kit Westerman

COMMUNICATIONS

Communications & Brand Manager.....Jannell Turner

ADMINISTRATION/OPERATIONS

Senior Director of Finance & Administration.....Gail Cruse
Finance & Human Resources Manager.....Rachel Lee
Finance Assistant.....Susan Loeb
Facilities/Studio Manager.....Mike Pitsikoulis
Facilities Maintenance.....Llewellyn Smith
Office Manager.....Cherita Griffin
Assistant to the Founder.....Emily Reid

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ARTISTIC STAFF

Teacher-Choreographers

Jennifer Aks-Neuman
Kelly Buwalda
Jessi Colon
Andrea Davey-Gislason
Jennifer Eisenberg
Nicole Frazzini
Arthur Fredric
Dufftin Garcia
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Fiona Mills
Dana Panepinto
Michelle Phillips
Angel Reed
Dr. Jenny Seham
Elizabeth Sellner
Eliana Slurzberg
Tracy Straus
Carlos Thomas
Ellen Weinstein

Musicians

Seiko Akita
Tony Allen
Adria Barbosa
Ly Bedaña
Yakir Ben-Hur
Robert Cookman
Alex Garcia
Micha Gilad
Claudia Govantes
Tim Harrison
Diana Herold
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Thank you!

