

national dance institute



48TH ANNUAL

gala

APRIL 15, 2024



MERIDIAN CAPITAL GROUP IS PROUD TO SUPPORT

NATIONAL DANCE INSTITUTE 48TH ANNUAL GALA

WE HONOR **MARC SOLOMON** FOR HIS UNWAVERING COMMITMENT TO THIS WORTHY ORGANIZATION. HIS ONGOING SUPPORT SETS A SHINING EXAMPLE FOR ALL TO FOLLOW.

*RALPH HERZKA,
MERIDIAN CAPITAL GROUP*



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national dance **institute**

FOUNDED BY **JACQUES D'AMBOISE** IN 1976

KAY GAYNER
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

JERMAINE JONES
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MARC S. SOLOMON
BOARD CHAIR

WELCOME YOU TO NDI'S

48TH ANNUAL GALA

Earth's Song

HONORING

RICHARD E. FELDMAN

President, SHS Foundation

HONORING

BILL IRWIN

Tony, Drama Desk, Obie, and MacArthur 'Genius' Award Winner

REMEMBERING

ARNOLD S. PENNER

Dream Maker Award

WITH JOYFUL PERFORMANCES BY

THE CHILDREN OF NATIONAL DANCE INSTITUTE

WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

**Arnold S. and Madaleine
Penner Foundation**



ndi gala committee

HONORARY GALA CHAIRS

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Ariana DeBose

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Deborah Colson & Mark Diker	Laure & Maximilien Maisonrouge
Jennie L. & Richard K. DeScherer*	Kathy & Joe Mele
Valerie & Charles Diker	Danielle Diniz & Daniel Ulbricht
Patricia Dugan Perlmuth	

STAR COMMITTEE

Yahya Abdul-Mateen II	Kevin Kline
Charlotte d'Amboise	Rebecca Krohn
David Amram	Ask la Cour
Alec Baldwin	Norm Lewis
Hilaria Baldwin	Terrence Mann
Mikhail Baryshnikov	Ann M. Martin
Ashley Bouder	Sara Mearns
Isabella Boylston	Fredrick Earl Mosley
Camille A. Brown	Mandy Patinkin
Clifton Brown	Justin Peck
Homer Bryant	Tiler Peck
Michael Cerveris	Teresa Reichlen
Glenn Close	Desmond Richardson
Adrian Danchig-Waring	Gregory Richardson
Joaquín De Luz	Calvin Royal III
Megan Fairchild	Leonardo Sandoval
Robert Fairchild	James Taylor
Whoopi Goldberg	Daniel Ulbricht
Kathryn Grody	Edward Villella
Lysiane Luong Grooms	Wendy Whelan
Red Grooms	Alton Fitzgerald White
Mai Lê Hô	Frank Wood
Sterling Hyltin	Tony Yazbeck
Bill Irwin	
Steve Jordan	

ndi board of directors

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Frances Guillemot
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Judy Weston*
Shirley Young*

Ellen Weinstein
Artistic Director Emerita

**In Memoriam*



a message from the chair

Dear Friends,

Welcome to National Dance Institute's 48th Annual Gala! I truly look forward to this night every year and am overjoyed to be here with you, celebrating our shared passion for NDI.

What a thrilling and busy year this has been. NDI is now in over **fifty** schools throughout New York City, reaching 6,500 children each week; the NDI DREAM Project—our program for children with and without disabilities—celebrates its 10th Anniversary, and we have trained dozens of additional educators in the teaching method established by our beloved founder, Jacques d'Amboise, nearly 50 years ago. This is only a fraction of what keeps the staff working tirelessly out of NDI's beautiful Center in Harlem.

It was only 12 months ago that NDI's very own Jermaine Jones (an NDI alum himself!) was named Executive Director, and wow, did he hit the ground dancing! He had many steps to learn but proved to be a quick study. Jermaine did a remarkable job in his first year. Kay Gayner, our inspired and inspiring Artistic Director, continued to amaze us with her creativity and energy. Completing NDI's very own Dream Team is Michele O'Mara, our gifted and unflappable Chief Advancement Officer. As dazzling as this trio is, NDI could not perform its magic without its talented and dedicated staff and teaching artists whose commitment to the children, families, and communities we serve is beyond compare.

My heartfelt congratulations to our Honorees—Richard E. Feldman, who believes so deeply in the power of the arts and in arts education, and the brilliant, award-winning Bill Irwin for sharing his time and talents in support of NDI through the years.

On behalf of the NDI Board of Directors, our staff, and every child and family we will serve this year and beyond, we are so glad you are here. Thanks to your support, NDI shines brighter, transforming thousands of children's lives through its inclusive and one-of-a-kind arts education programming. Enjoy this wonderful evening!

With warmest gratitude,



Marc S. Solomon, *NDI Board Chair*



a message from our artistic director

Dear Spectacular NDI Family and Friends,

A poem from our beloved Founder, the phenomenal and unforgettable Jacques d'Amboise:

Accept Without Question!

When a dancer dances, joy moves,
Celebrating the rhythms of space and life.

No one who thinks will ask,
"Why do you dance?"
It's like asking the flower,
"Why do you bloom?"

The flower makes no promise,
It doesn't function with a contract.
It is earth and rain's gift to us,
Blessed by the sun.
So too is dance.
Accept without question!

We hope this evening you'll accept this gift of dance, this gift from Jacques and Ellen Weinstein of NDI, and celebrate with us the gifts of Mother Earth and the sheer, unbridled joy of dancing in community. With children, this evening, together. That's you, that's me, that's us.

Enjoy the show!

With every good wish, and as Jacques would say, "May you always have joy in your life,"



Kay Gayner, *Artistic Director*



a message from our executive director

Dear Friends,

Welcome to National Dance Institute's 48th Annual Gala! It is hard to believe that a full year has gone by already since I took on the role of Executive Director. As many of you know, I started as a performer on these very stages, and now I have the privilege of working alongside our amazing Artistic Director Kay Gayner in paving a very bright future for so many children.

Behind the scenes, every member of the NDI staff believes in our mission with enthusiasm, dedication, and passion. It is clear when you speak with our team and walk through our space, how much more than a job NDI is to all of us. Watching the magic of our Teaching Artists during rehearsals, witnessing the joy that dance and live music bring, and seeing the smiles on children's faces each Saturday as they bond, laugh, and collaborate on a common goal reminds me of my childhood with my NDI family. I see it happening with each new generation, year after year as NDI's impact continues to thrive, stronger than ever.

Our theme for this year's Gala, "Earth's Song," is so pertinent in today's world. Over 6,500 children in our In-School Program have been learning about our living environment, sustainable ecosystems, and how activism brings forth positive change. We hope that at the end of this evening, you too will be reminded of how important it is for every individual to take responsibility for the stewardship of this beautiful planet.

With love,



Jermaine Jones, *Executive Director*



honorees



RICHARD E. FELDMAN

President, SHS Foundation

Richard E. Feldman is a native New Yorker born and raised in Jackson Heights, Queens. He attended public schools, the City University of New York and Rutgers Law School. He was the Deputy Bureau Chief of the New York State Attorney General's office before becoming a partner in the Manhattan law firm of Sonnenschein Sherman & Deutsch. Twenty years ago he became the President of the Samuel H. Scripps (SHS) Foundation. The mission of the SHS Foundation is to support and encourage the performing arts. Richard's grants have allowed dance companies to expand their vision and have been influential in launching the careers of young choreographers. He serves on the Boards of Brooklyn Academy of Music, the American Dance Festival, and the Paul Taylor Dance Company.



BILL IRWIN

*Tony, Drama Desk, Obie, and
MacArthur 'Genius' Award Winner*

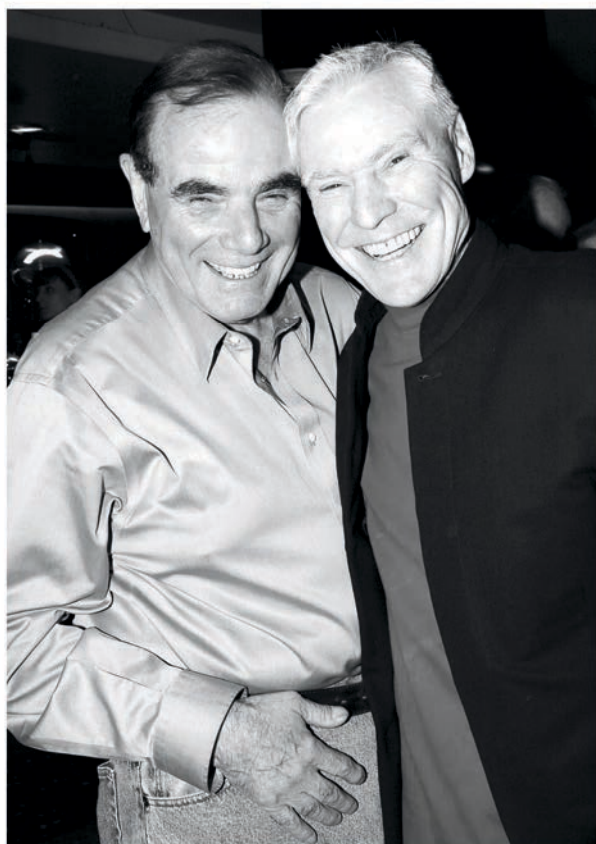
Bill Irwin is an actor, director, writer, and clown. His original works include *The Regard of Flight; Largely New York, Fool Moon, Old Hats, The Happiness Lecture*, and others. His theater credits include *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf, The Goat, Waiting for Godot, Endgame*, and *ON BECKETT*, an evening of passages from Samuel Beckett's work. On television, Irwin can be seen in character roles including Mr. Noodle of *Elmo's World* and Nate Haskell, the serial killer on *CSI*. His film credits include *Rachel Getting Married, The Grinch Who Stole Christmas, Eight Men Out*, and *Stepping Out*. Irwin gratefully acknowledges the awards and fellowships that have allowed him to continue exploring the theater.

FOR HIS UNWAVERING SUPPORT OF NDI
AND THE CHILDREN, WE ARE PLEASED TO
POSTHUMOUSLY PRESENT

ARNOLD S. PENNER

WITH

THE DREAM MAKER AWARD



special thanks

TO THOSE WHOSE GENEROUS PARTICIPATION HELPED TO MAKE THIS EVENING A SUCCESS:

Charlotte d'Amboise
Christopher d'Amboise
Amy Adler
Simon Bloch
Stephen M. Breitstone
Trudy Chan
Thomas Collins and Matthew
Goodrich
Lauren Cramer
Dolce & Gabbana
Paige Dubicki
Agnes McConlogue Ferro
Eros Flowers
Robert Foley
Kenna Morris-Garcia &
Beatrice Garcia
Glen Oaks Club
Karen Gutch
Stephen and Samantha Hall
Lauri Hornick
J. Seward Johnson Atelier

Steve Jordan
Judy Kinberg
The Late Show with
Stephen Colbert
L'Avenue at Saks Fifth Avenue
Gustave-Henri P. Maisonrouge
Maison Atia
Calia Marshall
Craig Meisner
Fiona Mills
Craig Morris
Meryl Natter
Jim Neuberger
Giles Nicholson
Brittany Pollack
Nico Ramirez
Miriam Reines
Mindy, John, and Avery Roberts
Barbara and Jack Rennert/
Poster Auctions International
Marc S. Solomon

Zachary Solomon
John Tutalo
United States Tennis Association
Jon Vegosen
Brian Warwick and Stacey
Vollman Warwick
Ellen Weinstein
Heather Weston
Winged Foot Golf Club
Frank Wood
Yadey Yawand-Wossen
Ziegfeld Ballroom
Jeannette Zucker

The Families of our DREAM &
Celebration Team Dancers,
especially Tya Drennon,
Dr. Carla Rogers Henry, and
the family of Paloma Celemi

With special thanks to:



NDI LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

NDI's Jacques d'Amboise Center for Learning & the Arts is housed in what is presently called Harlem, New York. We acknowledge the Lenape people, the original stewards of the land on which NDI's Center is built. We offer respect to their ancestors, and to the Black ancestors who shaped Harlem as we know it today. Our histories are intertwined. We travel along their pathways.

At NDI, we commit to deepening our organizational connections to and support of the Lenape people and the Black communities in Harlem through trainings, community engagement events, and artist support, among others. To find out more about the people who first inhabited the land on which you live, please visit Native Land at www.native-land.ca. Native Land is an app to help map Indigenous territories, treaties, and languages.

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 serve children of diverse backgrounds, abilities, and socioeconomic positions—transcending systemic barriers and expanding opportunities for all children to become their best. Our professional teaching artists encourage 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. NDI developed a unique, proven teaching methodology that uses dance and music to improve children's critical thinking, develop their global perspective, and hone their social-emotional, communication, and collaboration skills. Under the artistic direction of Kay Gayner, NDI has continued to deepen its practices through the lens of inclusion and diversity, and fulfills our core mission of offering our programs to all children **free of charge**.

Our joyfully rigorous and inclusive **In-School Program** takes place during the school day, centering the arts in the curriculum and ensuring 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** (Scholarships for the Willing, Achieving, and Talented) 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 together. Videos in our **DREAM Project@Home** and **ndiLIVE!** on YouTube series bring

on-demand dance and music classes to the public via social media and allow children everywhere to experience the joy and magic of NDI programs free of charge.

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. In the United States, there are currently 12 **Associates of National Dance Institute** (ANDIs) that utilize the **NDI Method** 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 groundbreaking methodology and to promote the social development of children, helping them gain confidence through the study of dance, the arts, and international collaboration.

In the fall of 2011, NDI opened the doors to our permanent home—the **Jacques d'Amboise Center for Learning & the Arts** located at 217 West 147th Street in Harlem. NDI's Center is home to three dance studios, two art galleries, green rooms, administrative offices, and the Howard Gilman Performance Space, which has seating for 175 and has been used for NDI classes, rehearsals, performances, and events. NDI's Center has become a beacon for children, teachers, and artists in our local Harlem community, throughout New York City, and worldwide.

2023-2024 partner schools

MANHATTAN

PS 1M

Partner since 1985
8 Henry Street

PS 2M

Partner since 1985
122 Henry Street

PS 6M

Partner since 2013
45 E 81st Street

PS/MS 7M

Partner since 2013
160 E 120th Street

PS 20M

Partner since 2009
166 Essex Street

PS 33M

Partner since 2006
281 Ninth Avenue

PS 40M

Partner 1979–1998;
returned 2005
320 E 20th Street

PS 41M

Partner since 2006
116 W 11th Street

PS 87M

Partner since 2011
160 W 78th Street

PS 110M

Partner since 2009
285 Delancey Street

PS 116M

Partner since 2021
210 E 33rd Street

PS 123M

Partner since 2011
301 W 140th Street

PS 124M

Partner since 1985
40 Division Street

PS 130M

Partner since 1985
143 Baxter Street

PS/MS 161M

Partner since 2011
499 W 133rd Street

PS 163M

Partner since 2005
163 W 97th Street

MS 167 (After School)

Partner since 2024
220 East 76th Street

PS 183M

Partner since 1991
419 E 66th Street

PS 184M

Partner 2009–2011;
returned 2021
327 Cherry Street

Shuang Wen/PS 185M

Partner since 2021
20 W 112th Street

PS 189M

Partner since 1984
2580 Amsterdam Avenue

PS 197M

Partner since 2022
2230 Fifth Avenue

PS 199M

Partner since 1997
270 W 70th Street

PS 200M

Partner since 2022
2589 Seventh Avenue

PS/IS 217

Partner since 2021
645 Main Street

Mott Hall/IS 223M

Partner since 1984
401 W 164th Street

PS 234M

Partner since 2007
292 Greenwich Street

PS 290/MNS

Partner since 1996
311 E 82nd Street

PS 340M

Partner 2015–2016;
returned 2023
64 West 17th Street

Spruce Street/PS 397M

Partner since 2013
12 Spruce Street

PS 452M

Partner since 2010
210 W 61st Street

Special Music School

Partner since 2006
129 W 67th Street

Hunter College Elementary School

Partner 1981–1984;
returned 1997
71 E 94th Street

Saint David's School

Partner since 2022
12 E 89th Street

BRONX

PS 11X

Partner since 2024
1257 Ogden Avenue

PS 14X

Partner since 2022
3047 Bruckner Boulevard

PS 51X

Partner since 2015
695 E 182nd Street

PS 105X

Partner since 2003
725 Brady Avenue

PS 140X

Partner since 2024
916 Eagle Avenue

PS 152X

Partner since 2022
1007 Evergreen Avenue

MS 302X (After School)

Partner since 2015
681 Kelly Street

BROOKLYN

PS 8K

Partner 2009–2016;
returned 2024
37 Hicks Street

PS 10K

Partner since 2012
511 Seventh Avenue

PS 24K

Partner 2019–2020;
returned 2023
427 38th Street

PS 107K

Partner since 2022
1301 Eighth Avenue

PS 169K

Partner since 2016
4305 Seventh Avenue

PS 235K

Partner since 1998
525 Lenox Road

PS 503K (After School)

Partner since 2024
330 59th Street

PS 705K

Partner since 2024
443 St Marks Avenue

QUEENS

PS 45Q

Partner since 2012
126-28 150th Street

JERSEY CITY, NJ

Dr. Lena Edwards Academic Charter School

Partner since 1980
509 Bramhall Avenue

ndi auction

HARRY SANTA-OLALLA

Auctioneer



Harry Santa-Olalla is a professional auctioneer and experienced fundraising consultant, with a passion and proven ability to help not-for-profits raise more through their auctions and pledge drives. Harry began his fundraising career in London, utilizing technology and an engaging methodology to help raise more at gala benefits.

Harry now supports many of the largest not-for-profits in the United States, both as a pre-campaign consultant, and on stage during the events themselves. Harry prides himself on maximizing audience participation in the auction or pledge drive call to action. He has a unique ability to tastefully draw something out of everyone, uniting rooms to a common fundraising goal, coupled with integrity and a sharp wit.

SCAN TO BID ON NDI'S AUCTION!



NDI AUCTION CONDITIONS OF SALE

1. All purchases are final and must be paid for on the night of the auction. No exchanges or refunds will be allowed. All items purchased become the property of the successful bidder upon checkout.
2. National Dance Institute reserves the right to add or withdraw items from the auction without notice. No statement made in this catalog or orally at the auction or elsewhere shall be deemed as a warranty, representation or assumption of liability.
3. All listed item values are furnished by the donors, and National Dance Institute is not responsible for the accuracy of the figures.
4. Unless otherwise specified, transportation is not included in trip packages, and gratuity, taxes and liquor are not included in restaurant packages.
5. Unless otherwise specified, all auction items must be redeemed within one year of April 15, 2024; dates and times are to be arranged at the mutual convenience of donor and buyer.
6. National Dance Institute is not responsible for any vendor/store that may cease operations after the auction date.
7. National Dance Institute is not responsible for any lost gift certificates after the auction.

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starchild auction

Help our children reach for the stars! NDI's arts education programs transform the lives of thousands of New York City public school children and their families each year. With your support of our **StarChild Program**, we will be able to bring the magic and joy of the arts to even more children.



\$25,000 ADOPT A SCHOOL

For nearly 50 years, NDI has been a steadfast partner of New York City public schools. Your generosity will help bring our joyful and engaging arts and learning programs to an entire grade of children for a full year.



\$10,000 ADOPT A CLASS

NDI is currently in over 250 classrooms in schools across Brooklyn, Queens, Manhattan, and the Bronx. Your support will make it possible for an entire class to experience the transformative power and collaborative spirit of the arts for a full year.



\$5,000 MAKE A DREAM COME TRUE

At NDI, we believe that every child can dance. Your involvement will help children with disabilities to experience the thrill of the arts through dance, live music, and performance.



\$2,500 KEEP THE MUSIC PLAYING

Live music is integral to all of NDI's arts education programs. Your donation will ensure that NDI musicians and their music fill not only our classrooms, but the lives of our young dancers as well.



\$1,000 SPONSOR A DANCER

NDI is reaching thousands of school children from all corners of the nation's largest public school system with our rigorous and participatory arts and learning programs. Your contribution will help ensure that each and every one of these dancers has the opportunity to experience the joy and power of the arts in their lives.

gala production team

PRODUCERS

Michele DeSantis O'Mara
Armelle Kessler

EVENT PRODUCERS & GALA OFFICE

Ruth Schwartz & Co.

PRODUCTION DIRECTOR

Melissa Caolo

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Mike Pitsikoulis

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER

Kelly Cole

REHEARSAL & DECK STAGE MANAGER

Emily Lafreniere

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Keith Truax

COSTUME DESIGNER

Lynn Hippen

DÉCOR

Zak Events

gala orchestra

MUSIC DIRECTION

Jerome Korman

KEYBOARDS

Ly Bedaña
Jerome Korman

VOCALS

Calia Marshall
Greg Stamper
Jamie Kelton

BASS

Yakir Ben-Hur

GUITAR

Todd Keller

DRUMS

Ronen Itzik

TENOR SAXOPHONE

Jacob Chung

TRUMPET

David Sneider

ndi dancers

Saskia Antoine
Teagan Arnold
Phoebe Barnes
Janeil Bernadel
Camila Bustillo
Livia Cagney
Paloma Celemi
James Chen
Sawyer Cheng
Yatziri Cruz
Dillan De Leon
Luna Demogenes
Sabine Dorian
Artem Dudnik
Abby Durante
Hylie Fletcher
Beatrice Garcia
Joy Garcia
Preston Grant
Emma Guan
Jackie Harrington

Thaddeus Henry
Mikayla Isaac
Brooklyn Isom
Calah Rose John
Shawn Jones
Declan Kenneally
Isadora Kenneally
Aria Kramer
Lexi Lawin
Mila Lemoine
Siyng Li
Richard Lin
Lydia Little
Thaddaeus Little
Enzi Mbondo-Garza
Adalyn Mulcahy
Moksha Mulchandani
Lucina Ni
Peter Nicholson
Jillian Panlilio
Anne Pospisil

Olivia Reeves
Tsega Richman
Dean Riley-Driver
Dominic Scocca-Ho
Nathaniel Segura
Andrew Shen
Charli Shepard
Niko Sirasi
Bishop Takyi
Griffen Takyi
Jemma Tedla
Mira Tiongson
Sofia Tutalo
Uschi Umscheid
Ceci Unite-Lawrence
Kunga Wangchuk
Laura Yoon
Brianna Zucker

performance credits

THE WORLD IS OURS

Choreography by Mary Kennedy

Music: "The World is Ours" by Joseph Lawrence Altruda, Antonina Armato,
Andrew Lawrence Bloch, Edmond Thomas Dunne, Timothy James Price

Arranged by Yakir Ben-Hur

NDI Celebration Team

RIVER ON FIRE

Choreography by Kay Gayner

Music: "Smoke on the Water" by Richard Blackmore, Roger D. Glover,
Ian Anderson Paice, Ian Gillian, Jon Lord

Arranged by Ly Bedaña

NDI Celebration Team

Generously Underwritten by the Lawrence Family

ABOUT NDI'S IN-SCHOOL PROGRAM (VIDEO)

Produced by ALL OF US FILMS

Directed and Executive Produced by Benjamin Ryan Nathan

Lead Produced by Yevgeniya Kats

Photography Direction by Robert Gregson

Edited by Kenneth Casey Swoyer

Titles, Motion Graphics by Diego Rotmistrovsky

Production Coordination by Keaton Shapiro

Featured Partner Educators: Dr. Donny Lopez (Principal, PS 163M),

Emily Little (Assistant Principal, PS 163M), and Bongsi Doughty (Fifth Grade Teacher, PS 163M)

Made Possible by the Four Friends Foundation

MR. BLUE SKY

Choreography by Kay Gayner and Elizabeth Sellner

Music: "Mr. Blue Sky" by Jeffrey Lynne

Arranged by Jerome Korman

NDI DREAM Dancers

LET'S GO CRAZY

Choreography by Elizabeth Sellner

Music: "Let's Go Crazy" by Prince

Arranged by Tim Harrison

NDI Celebration Team

Generously underwritten by Chris Schlank and Amy Zhen

EARTH'S SONG

Choreography by Mary Kennedy

Music: "Afrik" by Omer Avital

Arranged by Yakir Ben-Hur

NDI Celebration Team

song lyrics

"THE WORLD IS OURS"

From the sky to the sea to the air that we
breathe

From the depths of the earth to the stars

(Light up the world, light up the world)

Run like you're born to fly
Live like you'll never die
Dare what you dare to dream
And everything in between

I had an epiphany one night,
looking at the endless star filled sky
The world is ours!
The world is ours!
The world is ours!
(We're all we are we're all we are)
The world is ours!

Sing out your battle cry under the stage
and sky
Oceans and land divide, united we
feel inside

The world is ours!
The world is ours!
The world is ours!
The world is ours!
The world is ours!
The world is ours!

(We're all we are we're all we are)

The world is ours!
(Light up the world, light up the world)

"SMOKE ON THE WATER"

Smoke on the Water and fire in the sky.
Smoke on the Water.

Smoke on the Water and fire in the sky.
Smoke on the Water.

Smoke on the Water and fire in the sky.
Smoke on the Water.

"MR. BLUE SKY"

Sun is shinin' in the sky, There ain't a cloud
in sight

It's stopped rainin', everybody's in the play
And don't you know, It's a beautiful new day?

Hey
Runnin' down the avenue
See how the sun shines brightly in the city
On the streets where once was pity
Mr. Blue Sky is living here today, hey
Mr. Blue Sky, please tell us why
You had to hide away for so long (so long)
Where did we go wrong?

Mr. Blue Sky, please tell us why
You had to hide away for so long (so long)
Where did we go wrong?

Hey you with the pretty face
Welcome to the human race
A celebration, Mr. Blue Sky's up there waitin'
And today is the day we've waited for
Oh, Mr. Blue Sky, please tell us why
You had to hide away for so long (so long)
Where did we go wrong?

Hey there, Mr. Blue
We're so pleased to be with you
Look around, see what you do
Everybody smiles at you

Hey there, Mr. Blue
We're so pleased to be with you
Look around, see what you do
Everybody smiles at you

Mr. Blue Sky, Mr. Blue Sky, Mr. Blue Sky,
Mr. Blue Sky

Mr. Blue, you did it right
But soon comes Mr. Night creepin' over
Now his hand is on your shoulder
Never mind, I'll remember you this
I'll remember you this way

Mr. Blue Sky, please tell us why
You had to hide away for so long (so long)
Where did we go wrong?

Hey there Mr. Blue (sky)
We're so pleased to be with you (sky)
Look around see what you do (blue)

Everybody smiles at you
Doh doh doh...

song lyrics

"LET'S GO CRAZY"

Dearly beloved, we are gathered here today to get through this thing called "Life"

Electric word, life. It means forever, and that's a mighty long time. But I'm here to tell you.....there's something else:... The Afterworld

A world of never-ending happiness, You can always see the sun, day or night... Hit it!

If you don't like the world you're living in take a look a-round you at least you got friends.

You see, I called my old lady for a friendly word

She just picked up the phone, dropped it on the floor ahhh ahhh is all I heard

Are we gonna let the elevator break us down? Oh no, Let's go!

Let's go crazy! Let's get nuts!

Look 4 the purple banana 'til they put us in a truck

Are we gonna let the elevator break us down? Oh no, Let's go!

Let's go crazy! Let's get nuts!

Look 4 the purple banana 'til they put us in a truck

Let's Go Crazy

Let's Go Crazy

Go Go Go

Go Go Go

Go Go Go

Go Go Go

Go Go Go Go Go Go



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EARTH DAY

by Jane Yolen

I am the Earth
And the Earth is me.
Each blade of grass,
Each honey tree,
Each bit of mud,
And stick and stone
Is blood and muscle,
Skin and bone.

And just as I
Need every bit
Of me to make
My body fit,
So Earth needs
Grass and stone and tree
And things that grow here
Naturally.

That's why we
Celebrate this day.
That's why across
The world we say:
As long as life,
As dear, as free,
I am the Earth
And the Earth is me.

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Rosemary Carey* and	Donna Polisar*	Ann S. Teichmeier*
Ed Hynes	Julie Rice*	Marcia Thompson*
Judy Kinberg	Sheila Scheingold*	Kate Weil
Catherine Kirsch	Lois Schneider	Judy* and Josh Weston

**In memoriam*

A legacy gift to NDI is a gift that will live on forever.

If you would like to explore leaving NDI in your will, or giving options that provide tax and financial benefits to you now, or your dependents later, please contact Michele DeSantis O'Mara, Chief Advancement Officer, at (212) 226-0083 or momara@nationaldance.org.

in honor of

RICHARD K. DESCHERER

The National Dance Institute family mourns the passing of our dear friend and champion, Dick DeScherer. Dick was a trusted friend of our founder, Jacques d'Amboise, a devoted Board member, and a guiding force at NDI for over three decades. His commitment to the arts and their ability to transform lives was unwavering. NDI flourished thanks to his brilliance, wisdom, and sound advice. His presence will be deeply missed. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to all those who knew and loved him, especially his children, grandchildren, and beloved wife, Jennie.

– The Board and Staff of National Dance Institute

2023-2024 highlights



JUNE 2023: NDI's 2023 Event of the Year "Rise" celebrated Dr. Maya Angelou with performances by more than 150 NDI dancers at NYU Skirball Center.



JULY 2023: During the Irene Diamond Summer Institute at our Center in Harlem, dancers worked collaboratively and rigorously for the month of July.



AUG 2023: Dance educators from around the country and the world joined us in NYC for a two-week intensive training in the NDI Method held by the NDI Collaborative.



SEPT 2023: Jermaine Jones, Kay Gayner, and the d'Amboise Family celebrated Jacques and Arnold S. Penner at NDI's Building Dedication Ceremony.



SEPT 2023: A new school year launched by NDI's extraordinary Teaching Artists, including the team at PS 41M, one of 51 In-School Partners across NYC.



NOV 2023: ANDI (Associates of NDI) Conference with Artistic and Administrative Leadership from around the US came to NYC for professional development workshops led by the NDI Collaborative.

2023-2024 highlights



NOV 2023: During the 2023 NYC Marathon, a robust cheering squad supported Team Jacques runners to the finish line with NDI as an official charity sponsor.



NOV 2023: NDI Dancers lit up the stage at our Fall Benefit, "It's All in the Shoes" which featured performances by stars of ballet, hip-hop, tap, Irish step dance, and a bit of clowning by Bill Irwin.



FEB 2024: The NDI DREAM Project celebrated its 10th Anniversary with an Alumni Reunion including current and alumni DREAM dancers, families and caregivers who cheered for 10 more years of inclusive dance.



MARCH 2024: NDI Alumni danced together before a packed house at the Jacques d'Amboise Center for Learning & The Arts alongside generations of Alums at our Annual Homecoming event.



FEB 2024: NDI's Jerry Korman (far right) moderated a discussion between performers at Jacques' Art Nest, "If Music be the Food of Love...PLAY ON!," with Angela & Jennifer Chun, Jonah Bokaer, Charles Renfro, The Ebony Hillbillies, Dennis Lichtman & the Mona's All Stars, and NDI dancers.



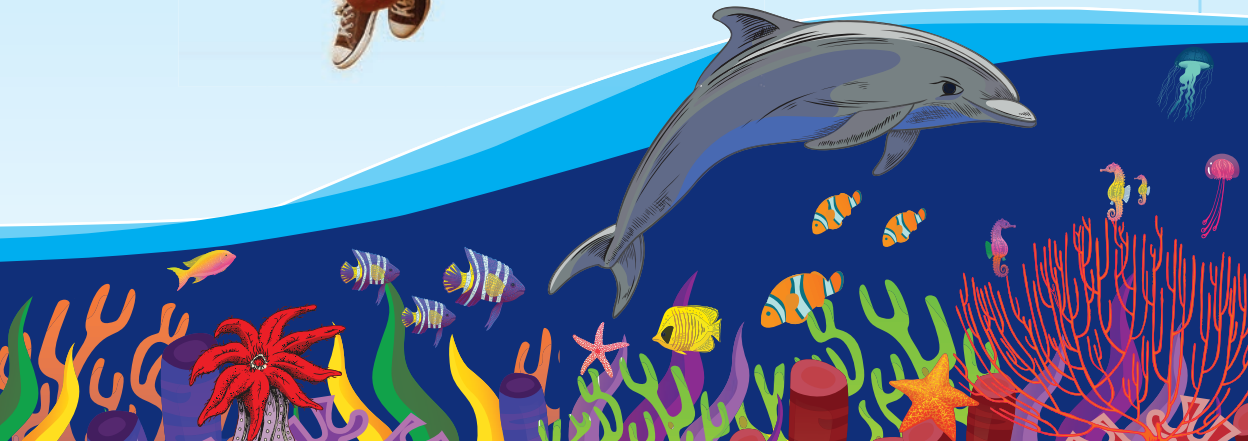
Dear Mimi,

I am very proud to know you.
You are a very special person
who does very special things.

Love,
Roz

P.S. Arnold agreed with me.





Congratulations

FOR ALL THE HARD WORK THAT HE DOES





to Marc Solomon

TO MAKE NDI AS SUCCESSFUL AS IT IS!



— CINDY LEVINE

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THANK YOU!

HELEN STAMBLER NEUBERGER ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE TIFFANY REA-FISHER, INC.

NDI's Helen Stambler Neuberger Artist-in-Residence Program is a one-year residency designed to support the creative process of a movement-based artist of color. The position offers emerging or established artists an opportunity to develop their craft while working with elementary and middle school-age students.



Live Arts. She has worked extensively with fashion designers to present their works, including for events and films with Louis Vuitton and Paola Hernández. Among Rea-Fisher's more recent accomplishments is the premiere of her 2022 Dance Theatre of Harlem commission, *Sounds of Hazel*, celebrating the life of the classical pianist, singer,

Tiffany Rea-Fisher, Inc. is the Helen Stambler Neuberger Artist-in-Residence for 2023-2024. In this role, she has been working with NDI children and Teaching Artists throughout the year, setting choreography on NDI Advanced Teams dancers.

Hollywood star, and trailblazing activist Hazel Scott.

Rea-Fisher is currently the Artistic Director of EMERGE125, a Mellon Foundation grant-funded dance company headquartered out of Harlem and the Adirondacks, currently in residence at The Flea Theater. She is also the dance curator for Bryant Park Picnic Performances; the Executive Director of the Adirondack Diversity Initiative; and is the co-founder of Inception to Exhibition, a non-profit that facilitates low cost, high quality space rentals for use by artists from a variety of disciplines.

Rea-Fisher is a COHI member of the International Association of Blacks in Dance, an Advisory Board member of Dance/NYC, a Bessies Award Selection Committee member, and a proud member of Women of Color in the Arts. Rea-Fisher was the first dance curator for the interdisciplinary arts organization The Tank, where she now sits on their Board of Trustees, and served for many years as the Director of the Lake Placid School of Dance. She is a 7-time consecutive AUDELCO award nominee, a 2022 Toulmin Fellow, a National Dance Project Award winner, a Creatives Rebuild New York Awardee, a John Brown Spirit Award recipient, and was awarded a citation from the City of New York for her cultural contributions, education, and all of her many satellite projects.

Over the course of her career, Rea-Fisher has been commissioned by the Dallas Black Dance Theater, the NYC Department of Transportation, Utah Repertory Dance Theater, and The National Gallery of Art in D.C. Her works have been seen on stage at the Joyce, the Apollo, New York City Center, Joe's Pub, Aaron Davis Hall, Bryant Park, Red Bull Stadium, Works & Process at the Guggenheim, the Children's Museum of Manhattan, Chelsea Factory, and New York

National Dance Institute's Artist-in-Residence program is made possible with the support of Helen Stambler Neuberger and Jim Neuberger.



NDI's Ambassadors Council is a group of social and socially-minded patrons in their 20s, 30s, and 40s dedicated to uplifting and promoting the mission of National Dance Institute by building a community of young arts supporters.

Ambassadors work to promote the mission of NDI through personal and professional connections, social events, community engagement, and collaboration on volunteer projects and fundraising activities. Members help further NDI's goal of bringing joyful, inclusive, and transformative arts education programs to children and communities throughout New York City and beyond.

Ambassadors Council Membership is \$75 per year.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- Recognition as an **Ambassadors Council Member** on all NDI materials.
- Invitations to **exclusive Ambassadors Council events** and gatherings throughout the year.
- Two (2) complimentary tickets to an **Event of the Year performance**.
- Invitations to purchase specially priced tickets to **NDI's Annual Gala, Fall Benefit, and the Event of the Year Benefit Performance**.
- Invitation to attend the **Irene Diamond Summer Institute** and **NDI DREAM Project** final showcases.
- Invitation to purchase specially priced tickets to select performances in the **Jacques' Art Nest series**.
- Discounted tickets for **partner performances** held at the Jacques d'Amboise Center for Learning & the Arts.
- Opportunities to **volunteer** at NDI events.
- Discounted venue **rental rate** for the Jacques d'Amboise Center for Learning & the Arts.



FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO BECOME A MEMBER, SCAN THE CODE.

ndi staff

Founder Jacques d'Amboise*
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Executive Director Jermaine Jones

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Music Director Jerome Korman
Director of NDI Collaborative for Teaching & Learning
..... Emily Meisner
Associate Music Director Yakir Ben-Hur
Artistic Associate Tracy Straus
Music Associate Ly Bedaña
Rehearsal Director of Advanced Programs Elizabeth Sellner
Marc S. Solomon TA Fellow & Advanced Teams Family Liaison
..... Fiona Mills
Director of NDI/Dance by CLES Project Andrea Davey-Gislason

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Company Manager of Advanced Teams Samantha Belth
Program Director, In-School Programs Hannah Bailenson
Program Coordinator, NDI Collaborative Sofia Baeta
Program Coordinator Carol Lee
Program Assistant Arianna Cancél
DEIA Manager Calia Marshall
Co-Director of the NDI DREAM Project Agnes McConlogue Ferro

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Senior Manager of Special Events & Operations Armelle Kessler
Institutional Giving Coordinator Sophie Wang
Engagement & Events Coordinator Toni France
Development Associate Catie Robinson

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Facilities & Production Associate Emily Lafreniere

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Executive Assistant to the Artistic Director & Special Projects
Coordinator Emily Reid
Finance Manager Tony Wong
Finance Assistant Susan Loeb
Office Manager & Administrative Assistant Iyonna Cousins
Facilities Maintenance Chris Macareno & Llewellyn Smith

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Maranda Barry
Jessi Colón
Andrea Davey-Gislason
Heather Dutton
Arthur Fredric
Duffin Garcia
Kay Gayner
John Hines
Bianca Johnson
Mary Kennedy
Erin Landers
Mack Lawrence
Calia Marshall
Ryan McNally
Emily Meisner
Fiona Mills
Kenna Morris Garcia
Tina Moya
Dana Panepinto
Sun Woo Park
Michelle Phillips
Aria Roach
Angel Reed
Bashir Page Sanders
Elizabeth Sellner
Elizana Slurzberg
Tracy Straus
Lexi Viernes
Maia Virgil
Amy Walsh
Ellen Weinstein

MUSICIANS

Seiko Akita
Benjamin Balatbat
Adrià Barbosa
Ly Bedaña
Yakir Ben-Hur
Alec Castro
Eric Gersen
Claudia Govantes
Tim Harrison
Todd Keller
Jerome Korman
Mark Kross
Matt Malanowski
Jason Mills
Jodie Moore
Alex Ngo
Ammon Taylor

Congratulations

TO

MARC SOLOMON

AND

THE WHOLE NDI FAMILY



– ANDREW & RACHEL ROSEN



In honor of

OUR FATHER & GRANDFATHER

MARC SOLOMON

WE'RE VERY PROUD OF YOU!

SENDING ALL OUR LOVE!

ZACH, BETH, SCARLETT, BRODY, AND SYLVIE

ADAM, ADAM, JORDAN, AND WILLOW





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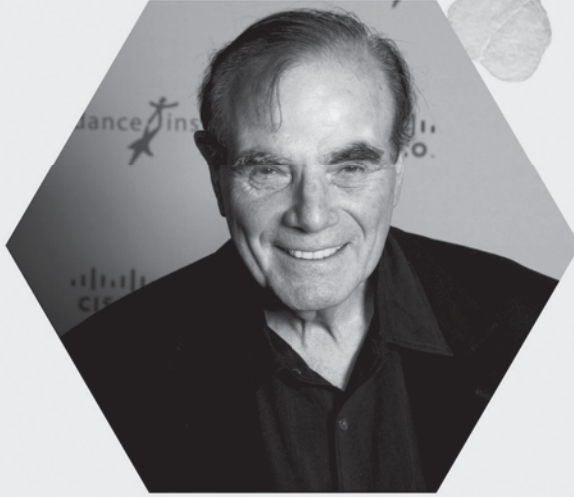
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IN MEMORY OF



Arnold Penner

WHO WORKED TIRELESSLY ON BEHALF OF
MANY COMMUNITIES AND CHARITIES IN
THE US AND ABROAD. HE WILL BE MISSED BY
MANY BUT ESPECIALLY BY THOSE WHO SAW
INTO HIS SOUL. WE WILL NEVER FORGET HIS
SENSE OF HUMOR AND WARMTH.

– GERALD COHEN

MANS

LUMBER | HOME

WE ARE PROUD TO SUPPORT
NATIONAL DANCE INSTITUTE,
MARC SOLOMON, AND
THE SOLOMON ORGANIZATION





Marc S. Solomon

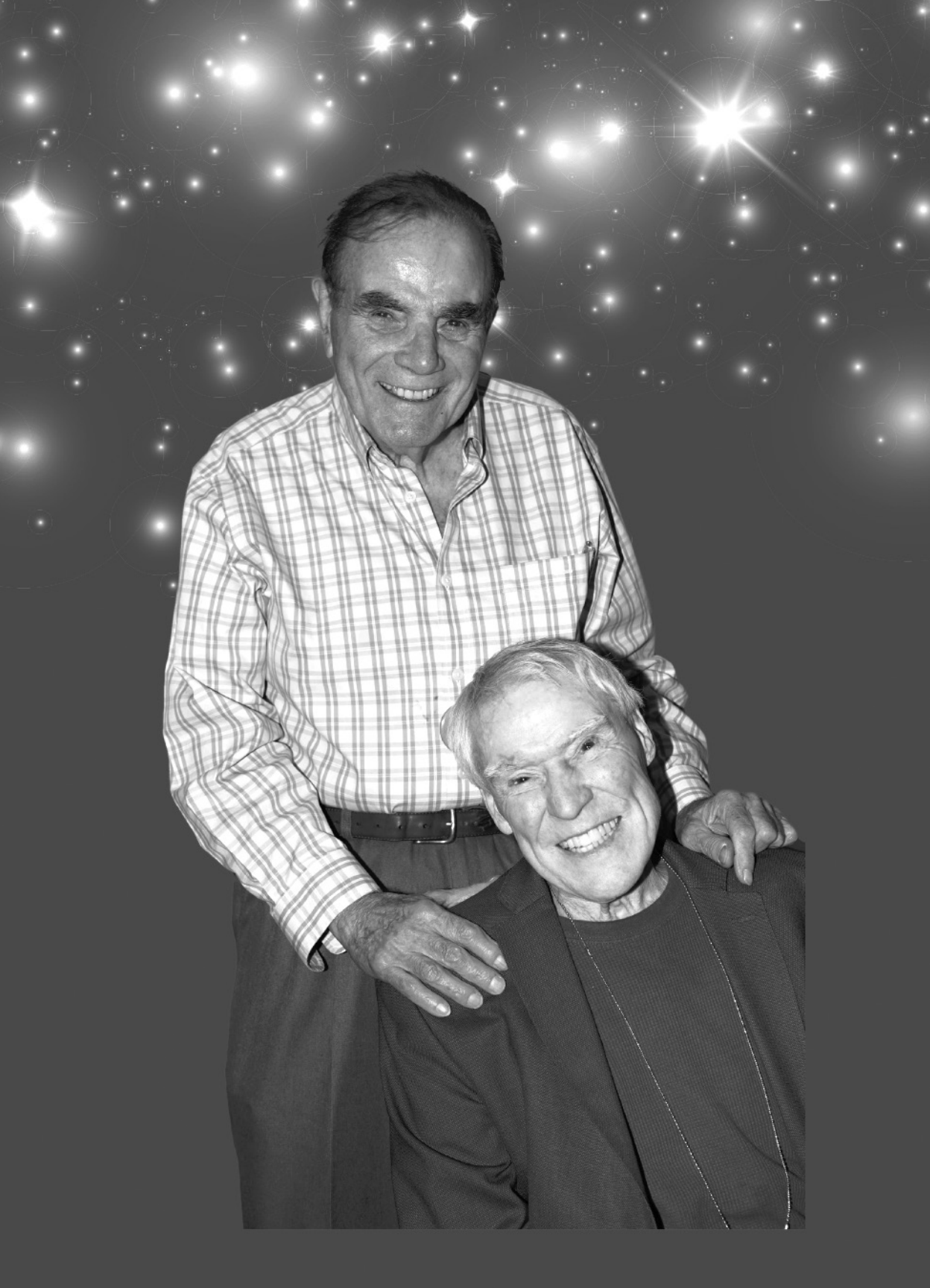
SALUTES NATIONAL DANCE INSTITUTE'S
DEVOTED BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND
THE EXTRAORDINARY NDI STAFF WHO, EVERY DAY,
WORK TIRELESSLY IN SERVICE TO NDI'S MISSION
OF BRINGING THE ARTS INTO CHILDREN'S LIVES.



**THANK YOU
NDI**

**FOR ALLOWING US
TO CELEBRATE
ARNOLD'S LEGACY
AND COMMITMENT
TO NDI.**

– MIMI, AMY, JACK, NANCY AND IYALA





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IN HONOR OF
CINDY LEVINE
&
MARC SOLOMON

FOR THEIR TIRELESS EFFORTS
ON BEHALF OF

NATIONAL DANCE INSTITUTE

YOUR INVOLVEMENT, UNWAVERING
DEVOTION, AND DEDICATION
HAVE HAD AN INCREDIBLE
IMPACT ON THE LIVES
OF SO MANY CHILDREN



WITH RESPECT & ADMIRATION,

RUTH & STEVEN KATZ
DEBORAH & WAYNE ZUCKERMAN



IN MEMORY OF

ARNOLD PENNER

AND IN HONOR OF

CINDY LEVINE & MARC SOLOMON

AND

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FOR THEIR DEDICATION AND LEADERSHIP OF

national dance  institute

MARIE AND MARSHALL ROSEN




WE ARE PROUD TO SUPPORT
NATIONAL DANCE INSTITUTE
AS THEY CELEBRATE
THE LEGACY OF OUR DEAR FRIEND
ARNOLD PENNER.



Arnold,
We love you and miss you very much.
Michael Zacharias and Family





We are proud to support
in remembrance of
generous friend



Attilio & Beve
Michael & Meli
Michael & J



at National Dance Institute
of our amazing and
Arnold Penner.



erly Petrocelli
ssa Weinbaum
ill Lamoretti



WE SALUTE THIS YEAR'S
EXCEPTIONAL HONOREES
**RICHARD E. FELDMAN
AND BILL IRWIN**

AND REMEMBER THE LEGACY OF
ARNOLD S. PENNER



CONGRATULATIONS
TO ALL THE DANCERS!

- PAMELA FARR AND
BUFORD ALEXANDER

IN HONOR OF

MARC SOLOMON

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NDI BOARD DIRECTOR EMERITA

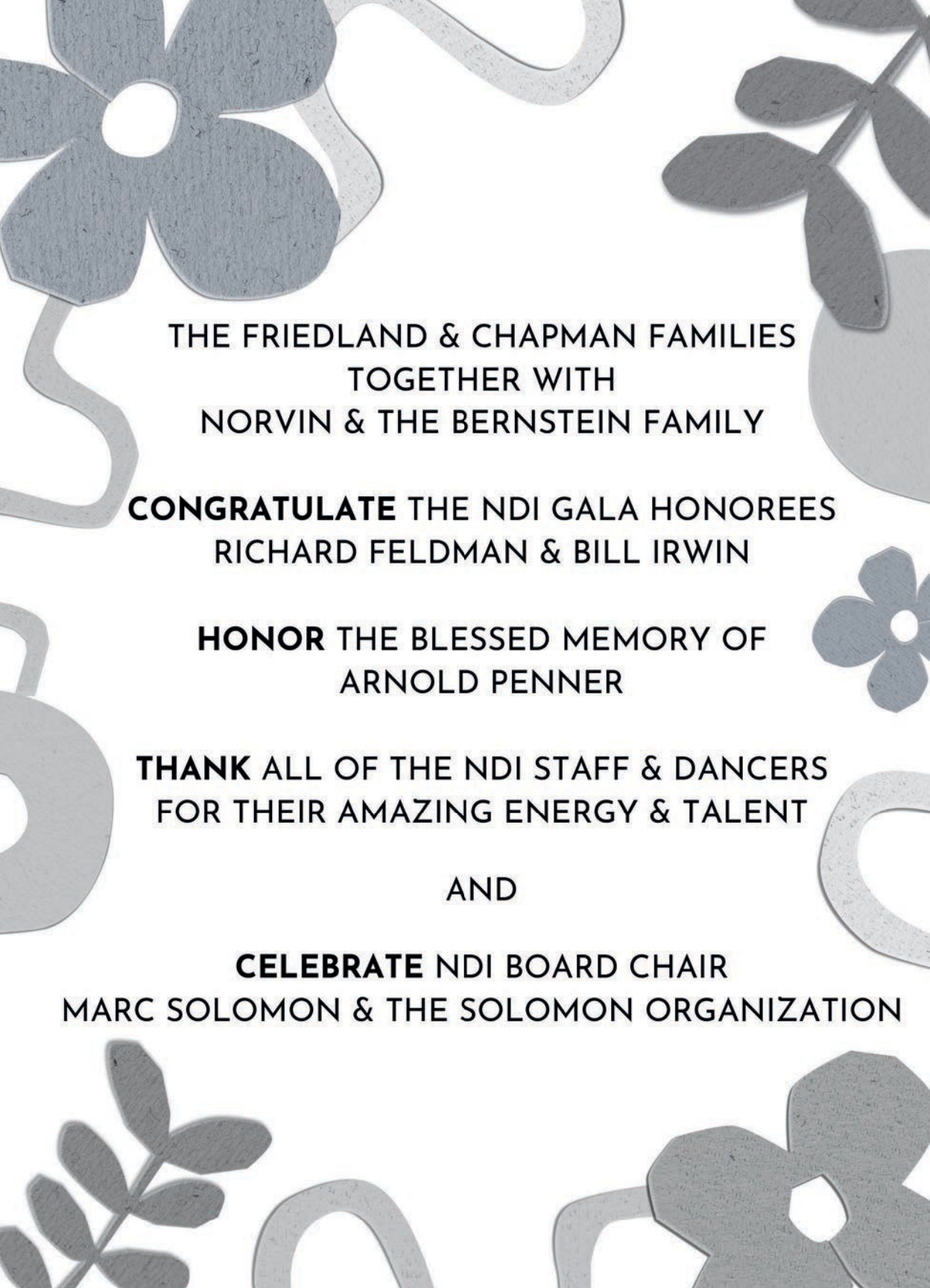
Lovingly,

HER CHILDREN

RICHARD ORRIDGE

VALERIE ORRIDGE PRESTON

JEFFREY ORRIDGE, ESQ.



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TOGETHER WITH
NORVIN & THE BERNSTEIN FAMILY**

**CONGRATULATE THE NDI GALA HONOREES
RICHARD FELDMAN & BILL IRWIN**

**HONOR THE BLESSED MEMORY OF
ARNOLD PENNER**

**THANK ALL OF THE NDI STAFF & DANCERS
FOR THEIR AMAZING ENERGY & TALENT**

AND

**CELEBRATE NDI BOARD CHAIR
MARC SOLOMON & THE SOLOMON ORGANIZATION**

IN HONOR OF
MARC SOLOMON AND MARK ROSEN'S COMMITMENT
TO THE EXTRAORDINARY CHILDREN OF
NATIONAL DANCE INSTITUTE
—TERRY AND ALEXANDER BRUCKER



Congratulations

TO ALL THE TALENTED
 DANCERS OF NDI!

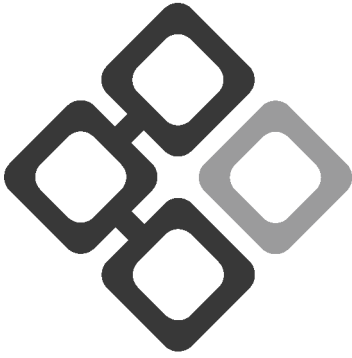


“ I remember learning to work for something, give it everything we had, and be free in that one fleeting moment of performance. I remember being inspired by a group of people who worked tirelessly to build something they believed in.

—Isaac Grody-Patinkin, NDI Alum, Class of 1997



Love,
 MANDY AND KATHRYN



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With Much Appreciation To
Cindy and Marc
For Your Dedication to NDI

Jill & Sandy Sirulnick



Congratulations

to the honorees and
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with special remembrance of Arnold Penner



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SAVE THE DATE

NDI'S 2024 EVENT OF THE YEAR

Earth's Song

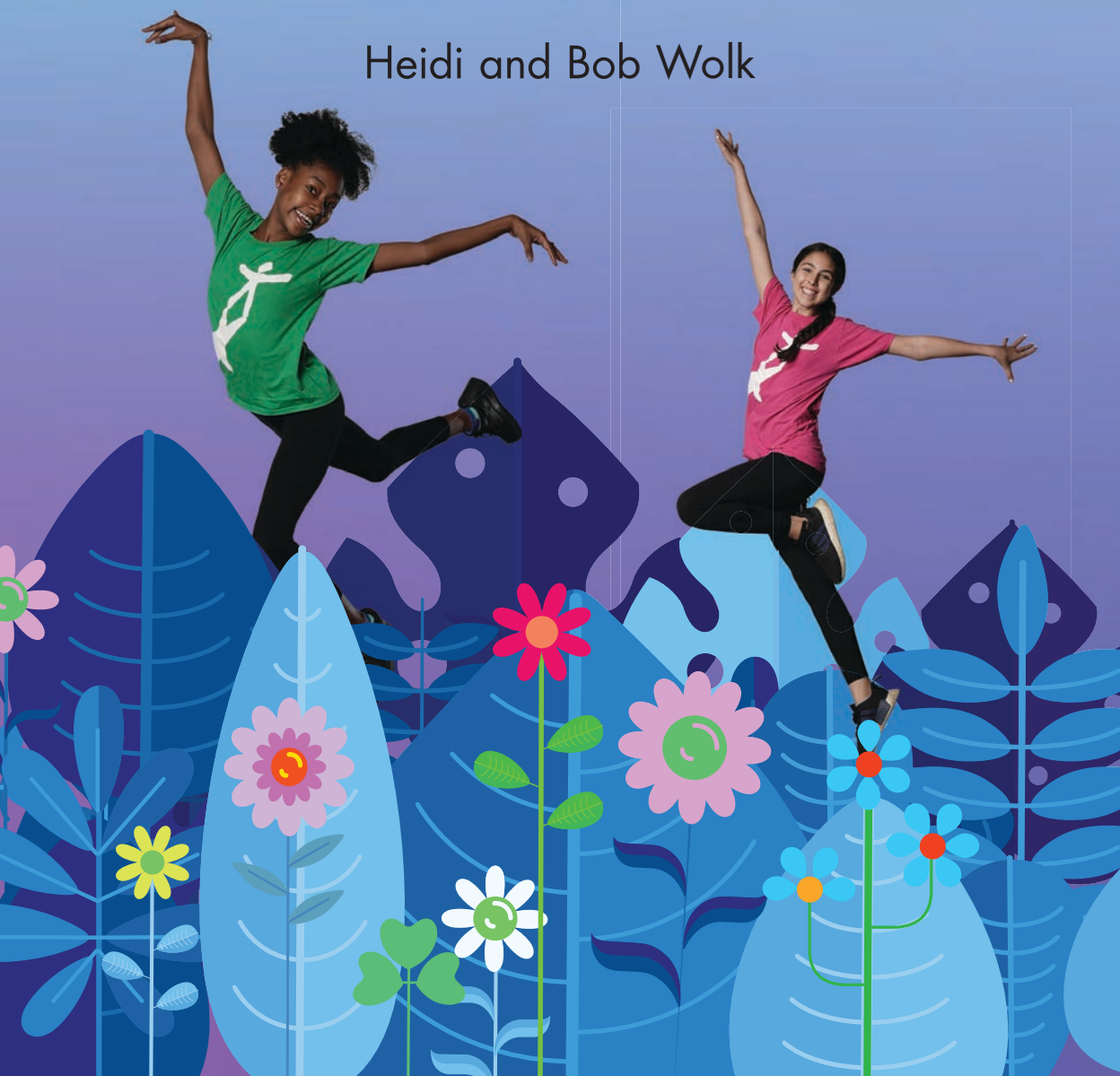


JUNE 15, 16 & 18 | NYU SKIRBALL CENTER

Sparked by the urgency of climate change and inspired by youth-led movements for climate justice, NDI's 2024 Event of the Year, "Earth's Song," focuses on the living environment. Directed by NDI Teaching Artist Mary Kennedy, over 150 NDI dancers will perform original choreography that explores the beauty of the natural world and its inextricable connections to human life.

We are proud to support
National Dance Institute,
our friend **Marc Solomon**
and **Honoree Bill Irwin.**

Heidi and Bob Wolk





IN MEMORY OF
OUR DEAR FRIEND
AND NDI CHAMPION
ARNOLD PENNER

—Donna and Mark Rosen

