

## DANCE PARADE PRESS CONFERENCE AT CITY HALL

Monday, May 14, 2012

### Dance Parade Press Conference at City Hall

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#### PRESS RELEASE

Event: Press Conference at City Hall

Start: May 14, 2012 12:00 pm End: May 14, 2012 12:30 pm

Organizer: Rebecca Myles, Dance Parade Publicity Lead

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Venue: The Steps of City Hall, New York, NY

Address: Entrance on Broadway, New York, 10025

Dance Parade invites members of the Press to join 50 vibrant diverse and passionate dancers who will represent over 6000 dancers registered in the parade May 19th. An announcement to TV, radio and print media will include the reading of the City of New York's Mayoral Proclamation making May 19th "Dance Parade Day", an overview of the history and mission to inspire the public with 75 styles of dance, the organization's Community Kinect program and testimony from those involved.

#### Confirmed Speakers included are:

- Greg Miller, Dance Parade Executive Director highlights the mission & history of Dance Parade.
- City Council Member Rosie Mendez on the importance of Dance Parade and the Arts & Culture in NYC.
- Nikki Creary, Dance Parade Production Director presents 5/19 Parade Route and Parade/Festival lineup.
- Mariana Bekerman, DanceFest Curation Chair highlights the Festival Lineup
- Dance Parade Board Chair Erik Slavin on the free after party at Webster Hall for registered dancers
- Shireen Dickson – Announces Dance Parade's Community Kinect program. Three of Dance Parade's teaching artists (Dhoonya Dance, Jamaican Dancehall Aerobics and Broadway Bodies) will be on hand to describe their 5 week residences in partnership with the NYC Parks & Recreation Department. Over 100 youth from various Recreation Centers will celebrate the end of their 5-week program by participating in the parade and presenting their work on stage at the post-parade Dance Festival.
- The Community Kinect Program features: Dhoonya Dance (Indian Bhangra), Broadway Bodies (Dance Theater) and Jamaican Dancehall (Jamaican Dancehall Aerobics)
- The Sixth Annual Dance Parade on Saturday has 4 Grand Marshals. Today, we will introduce Elisa Monte.
- Dance/NYC Director, Lane Harwell, talks on the importance of Dance Parade in the face of cuts in Arts funding.
- [Click here to read Lane's remarks.](#)
- Kate Peila, Director Dance New Amsterdam highlights choreography from Terry & Oliver Steele
- Jamie Marie Hannigan, Director of Stage Stars and participant in past 6 years of dance parade speaking on why she loves dance parade
- Paul Nagle, Executive Director at the Cultural Strategy Initiative, speaking on how Dance Parade sustains and grows Community

#### In Attendance:

- Annie Bergen, NYC & Co Arts & Culture
- Mary Silverstein, Pink Tutu Ballet
- JuxtapOle, Ariel Rosalis, Flamenco Dancers
- Jimena Martinez, co-founder of Cumbe Center for African & Diaspora Dance – speaking on how Dance Parade helps emerging dance studios
- Michael White and a plethora of dancers perform Silent Disco in the City Park courtyard
- Playful NYDP (New York City Dance Police) ticketing attendees for not dancing

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