



HONORARY CHAIRPERSONS

First Lady Michelle Obama
Mrs. Laura Bush
Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton
Mrs. George Bush
Mrs. Nancy Reagan
Mrs. Rosalynn Carter
Mrs. Betty Ford (1918–2011)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Allen D. Roses, M.D., *Chairman*
Charles L. Reinhart, *President, Director Emeritus*
Curt C. Myers, *Secretary/Treasurer*
Mimi Bull
Richard E. Feldman, Esq.
James Frazier, Ed.D.
Nancy McKaig
Martha Myers, *Dean Emeritus*
Jodee Nimerichter
Adam Reinhart, Ph.D.
Arthur H. Rogers III
Ted Rotante
Judith Sagan
Russell Savre

PRESS CONTACT

National Press Representative: Lisa Labrado
llabrado@americandancefestival.org
Direct: 646-214-5812/Mobile: 917-399-5120

North Carolina Press Representative: Sarah Tondu
tondu@americandancefestival.org
Office: 919-684-6402/Mobile: 919-270-9100

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AMERICAN DANCE FESTIVAL 2015 SEASON DEDICATED TO DR. CHARLES “CHUCK” DAVIS

Durham, NC, March 3, 2015– The American Dance Festival (ADF) will dedicate its 82nd season to distinguished teacher, choreographer, and ambassador for dance, **Dr. Charles “Chuck” Davis**. The ceremony honoring Dr. Davis will be held **Thursday, June 11th at 7:00pm** prior to the season opening performance of Shen Wei Dance Arts at the **Durham Performing Arts Center**.

Dr. Davis is the founder of the African American Dance Ensemble and the New York-based DanceAfrica. A native North Carolinian, he has traveled extensively to Africa to study with leading artists. His relationship with ADF began in 1972 while the festival was at Connecticut College, and the Chuck Davis Dance Company was invited for a residency. In 1980 his growing reputation as one of the foremost and accomplished teachers and choreographers in the traditional techniques of African dance compelled ADF to recruit him for the position of Artist-in-Residence and to head its outreach program in North Carolina. Dr. Davis has also been an ADF faculty member and traveled to Indonesia as part of ADF’s International Linkages Program.

He has been a panelist for several programs of the National Endowment for the Arts and is a recipient of the AARP Certificate of Excellence, the North Carolina Dance Alliance Award, the 1990 North Carolina Artist Award, and the North Carolina Order of the Long Leaf Pine. He has served on the board of the North Carolina Arts Council, and in 1992 he received the North Carolina Award in Fine Arts, the state's highest honor. He received honorary doctorates from Medgar Evers College and Williams College. Dr. Davis received a Dance Magazine Award in 2004, the 2005 Community Dance Educator of the Year Award, the 2006 Balasaraswati/Joy Ann Dewey Beinecke Endowed Chair for Distinguished Teaching, a New York Dance and Performance Bessie Award for outstanding service to the field of dance in 2014, and is cited as one of "America's Irreplaceable Dance Treasures" by the Dance Heritage Coalition.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Robby Barnett
Brenda Brodie
Martha Clarke
Chuck Davis
Laura Dean
Garth Fagan
Eiko and Koma
Anna Halprin
Stuart Hodes
Roger W. Hooker, Jr.
Betty Jones
Bill T. Jones
Alex Katz
Donald McKayle
Meredith Monk
Carman Moore
Mark Morris
Ohad Naharin
Jeannette Schlottmann Roosevelt
Paul Taylor
Twyla Tharp
Michael Tracy
Doug Varone

Jodee Nimerichter, *Director*
Gerri Houlihan, *Dean*
Ruth S. Day, *Cognitive Scientist in Residence*

-MORE-

Box 90772 | Durham, NC 27708
919.684.6402 | fax 919.684.5459
adf@americandancefestival.org

americandancefestival.org

Dr. Davis is a friend and protector for many under-served and often neglected communities. He brings the joy of dance, the excitement of rhythm, and the intensity of humanity to everything he does. ADF Director Jodee Nimerichter stated “ADF, Durham, and the dance world are far richer places today because of Baba Chuck’s love and exuberance for the field.”

Performances during ADF’s 82nd season will be presented from June 11-July 25, 2015.

About ADF:

Founded in 1934 in Bennington, Vermont, ADF remains an international magnet for choreographers, dancers, teachers, students, critics, musicians, and scholars to learn and create in a supportive environment. ADF’s wide range of programs includes performances, artist services, educational programs and classes, community outreach, national and international projects, archives, humanities projects, publications, and media projects. ADF has been presenting the best in modern dance for 82 years. americandancefestival.org

#