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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ADF RECEIVES RENEWED FUNDING FOR PARKINSON'S PROJECTS

Durham, NC, July 8, 2020—The American Dance Festival (ADF) is pleased to announce that it has been awarded funding to continue its Parkinson's projects for 2020-21.

ADF has been awarded a second **South Arts Cross-Sector Impact Grant of \$10,000 to support an innovative collaboration with Saxapahaw, NC, choreographers Tommy Noonan and Murielle Elizéon (Culture Mill) and Dr. Jeff Hoder (Duke University Associate Professor of Physical Therapy)**. This transdisciplinary project bridges professional dancers, people with Parkinson's disease (PD), and medical researchers. In the project's third phase, collaborators will expand workshops to reach communities in Durham and rural Alamance County, narrow their focus to evaluate beneficial outcomes of creative movement on PD, and develop a pilot toolkit of medically informed recommendations to be widely distributed to arts and non-arts sectors working with the PD community. **More information is available at www.movingthrough.live.**

This project is funded in part by ADF with a grant from South Arts in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts and the North Carolina Arts Council. Culture Mill's work is made possible in part with a grant from the Kenan Charitable Trust. Additional support is provided by RTI International.

ADF has also been awarded a fourth **Parkinson's Foundation Community Grant of \$18,000 to support its Parkinson's Movement Initiative (PMI)**. PMI offers cost-free classes in partnership with Poe Wellness Solutions and NC Dance for Parkinson's to individuals living with Parkinson's disease and their caregivers. In 2020-21, PMI will offer four weekly classes (two Pilates for PD and two Dance for PD). **More information is available at www.americandancefestival.org/community/parkinsons-movement-initiative.**

American Dance Festival is proud to offer Parkinson's Movement Initiative classes in partnership with NC Dance for Parkinson's and Poe Wellness Solutions and support is provided by a community grant from the Parkinson's Foundation. Through this support, all classes offered through the Parkinson's Movement Initiative are free for people living with PD and their caregivers.

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Additional support is provided by RTI International, the Lyna J. Rogers Fund of Triangle Community Foundation in memory of Betty Y. Powell, and individual donors.

About ADF:

Throughout its 87-year history, ADF has been a nationally recognized leader in our indigenous art form of modern dance. Generations of dancers and choreographers have come to ADF as students, taught as faculty, and created and performed work as professional artists. Each summer, ADF has been the beating heart of the dance world. The best companies in the world premiere work on ADF's stage, much of it commissioned by the festival. Other festivals and season programs are measured against ADF. Over 25,000 people see performances by more than 20 companies each season. The festival has commissioned 442 works and premiered over 700 pieces including dances by Martha Graham, Merce Cunningham, and Paul Taylor. Each summer at ADF, more than 300 students from some 28 countries and 38 states study with ADF's 70 faculty members. They come as kids in leotards with as many doubts as dreams. They leave as dancers and artists—and sometimes even new members of companies. Lives change in those 5½ sweaty weeks. Beyond the summer, ADF maintains year-round dance studios offering movement classes to over 650 participants, provides over 180 free classes to almost 4,000 local dancers, and offers choreographic residencies providing artists with the necessary space and time to create. americandancefestival.org.

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