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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ADF RECEIVES SOUTH ARTS RESILIENCE FUND GRANT

Durham, NC, November 5, 2020—The American Dance Festival (ADF) has been selected to receive a **South Arts Resilience Fund grant in the amount of \$50,000**. The South Arts Resilience Fund supports arts and cultural organizations making significant impact statewide, regionally, or nationally. The grant focuses on organizations that are learning from the COVID-19 pandemic and responding and positioning themselves for success in the medium or longterm after our country is able to safely move beyond the pandemic.

Support from the South Arts Resilience Fund will enable ADF to develop a plan to remain resilient for years to come, requiring bold decisions and institutional changes to better serve artists, our community, and the modern dance field in the time of a pandemic and beyond. The grant will provide artist honorariums, help supplement staff salaries, cover equipment costs to improve virtual experiences, and support studio cleanings and maintenance to ensure the space is safe for occupants. The grant will also provide funding for artists residencies and online dance classes.

The South Arts Resilience Fund, a part of the United States Regional Resilience Fund, is supported by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

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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