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ADF INVITES SUBMISSIONS FROM NORTH CAROLINA DANCE ARTISTS

Durham, NC, November 9, 2020—The American Dance Festival (ADF) is seeking submissions of original choreography by North Carolina dance artists to be a part of Duke University's RESIST COVID / TAKE 6! exhibition.

The Nasher Museum of Art is collaborating with Duke Arts and Duke Health to present an unprecedented outdoor exhibition by Carrie Mae Weems. The project emphasizes the disproportionate impact of the deadly virus on the lives of communities of color, through large-scale banners and window clings, posters, street signs, and more.

“We’ve all been impacted by COVID-19. It’s an ecological health crisis of epic proportions — an international disaster,” Weems said, in a statement. “And yet we have indisputable evidence that people of color have been disproportionately impacted. The death toll in these communities is staggering. This fact affords the nation an unprecedented opportunity to address the impact of social and economic inequality in real time. Denial does not solve a problem. And I thought, ‘How can I use my art and my voice as a way of underscoring what’s possible and bring the general public into a conversation, into heightened awareness of this problem to better the community in which I live?’”

ADF is seeking diverse dance artists and dance genres (solos, duos, or small groups) to perform original works in front of one of five selected RESIST COVID / TAKE 6! installations. **The submitted work should be no longer than one minute in length and compliment or respond to one of the chosen images/locations.** Submissions may be selected to be part of a social media campaign that will compliment the exhibition. If selected, artists will be filmed performing their response in front of the actual artwork in Durham. Edited videos will be posted on social media by the Nasher and ADF. Selected artists will receive a small honorarium, a Nasher art bag filled with small art objects created by Carrie Mae Weems for RESIST COVID / TAKE 6!, and a five-class ADF online class card.

Deadline for submissions is November 18. To view the exhibit locations and to apply visit <https://bit.ly/3kcOY7N>.

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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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