American Dance Festival Names Tondu New Managing Director

Durham, N.C. – January 10, 2022 – The American Dance Festival (ADF) has promoted Sarah Tondu to the new role of Managing Director.

Sarah has held several positions at ADF including seasonal House Manager (1997–2001), Director of School Administration (2001–2007), Director of Performances and Community Programs (2007–2013), and Director of Communications and Marketing (2013–2021).

In her new role as the Managing Director, Sarah will take over day-to-day administrative management after the retirement of Cynthia Wyse, Director of Finance and Administration, last month. She will also oversee ADF’s summer intern program, which provides hands-on experience to those interested in arts management.

Sarah holds a Bachelor of Arts and a Master of Fine Arts in Dance from Mills College.

About ADF:
Throughout its 88-year history, ADF has been a nationally recognized leader in 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.

Through ADF’s Summer Intensives, more than 300 students from some 28 countries and 38 states study with 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.

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.

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