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Photo: Photo of the Patricia McBride & Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux Center for Dance attached. Tom Johnson should receive photo credit. Additional photos available.

North Carolina Dance Theatre moving to the Patricia McBride & Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux Center for Dance

701 N. Tryon St., Charlotte, N.C., 28202

The community is invited to First Chance to Dance,
an open house celebration on **June 12, 2010, 1-5 p.m.**
The open house includes free dance classes and a performance.



Charlotte, N.C. - North Carolina Dance Theatre is holding an open house at its new facility, the Patricia McBride & Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux Center for Dance, on Saturday, June 12, 2010, from 1-5 p.m. The open house, entitled First Chance to Dance, is a drop in event for the community to visit the new Center for Dance, take free dance classes, watch the professional dancers of North Carolina Dance Theatre in rehearsals and enjoy a free performance of Artistic Director's Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux's *Shindig* at 4:30 p.m.

The Patricia McBride & Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux Center for Dance is a 37,000 square foot facility built to house NC Dance Theatre's administrative and rehearsal spaces, and NC Dance Theatre School of Dance. Located at 701 North Tryon Street, next to the McColl Center for Visual Art, the Center has six dance studios and a 200-seat performance venue. The Company's administrative operations move to the Center for Dance on June 1, 2010, and summer classes begin at the Center on June 28.

First Chance to Dance Open House Details:

1-4:30 p.m.

Attendees are free to explore the Center for Dance and enjoy watching North Carolina Dance Theatre Company dancers rehearse. Rehearsals will be held in the Center for Dance's 200-seat performance venue.

1-4 p.m.

School of Dance faculty are teaching free, beginner level dance classes, appropriate for ages 6 to adult. Attendees may take one or several of the 30-minute sample classes.

First Chance to Dance Class Schedule

Class Times	Class 1	Class 2
1:00 p.m.	Jazz	Ballet
1:30 p.m.	Modern	Afro-Caribbean
2:00 p.m.	Hip-Hop	Ballet
2:30 p.m.	Jazz	Afro-Caribbean
3:00 p.m.	Modern	Ballet
3:30 p.m.	Hip-Hop	Afro-Caribbean
4:00 p.m.	Jazz	Ballet

North Carolina Dance Theatre School of Dance is holding registration for its fall classes. Students who register for classes will receive \$10 off the registration fee or price of a dance card.

4:30-5 p.m.

At 4:30 p.m. North Carolina Dance Theatre company dancers will present a special "send off" performance of Artistic Director Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux's *Shindig* in the Center for Dance's performance venue. The Company leaves the next day, June 13, to travel to Washington, D.C., to perform *Shindig* at the Kennedy Center's *Ballet Across America* program.

First Chance to Dance details available at ncdance.org/firstchancetodance.

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About the Patricia McBride & Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux Center for Dance

North Carolina Dance Theatre began construction on the Center for Dance in 2009. Since moving to Charlotte from Winston Salem, N.C., in 1990, NC Dance Theatre has leased office and rehearsal space.

In 2003 NC Dance Theatre initiated a capital fundraising campaign, led by Hugh L. McColl Jr., to build its own facility. The initial phase of the capital campaign raised \$4.5 million. An additional \$1.8 million endowment was established to sustain NC Dance Theatre during its transition to and operation of a new facility. Dance Theatre became a partner in the Campaign for Cultural Facilities in 2005. This initiative, convened by the Arts & Science Council, provides, in part, additional capital funds for NC Dance Theatre's new facility. In 2008 NC Dance Theatre applied for and received a grant from Knight Foundation for \$1.5 million. The parcel of land for the Center for Dance was donated by Bank of America, N.A.

At the Center for Dance groundbreaking in April 2009, Hugh L. McColl Jr., announced the Center would be named after Dance Theatre's artistic leaders, Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux and Patricia McBride. The 37,000 square foot facility will house Dance Theatre's administrative and rehearsal spaces, and NC Dance Theatre School of Dance. Located at 701 North Tryon Street, next to the McColl Center for Visual Art, the Center contains six dance studios, three overlooking North Tryon Street, and a 200-seat performance venue. The Company's administrative operations

move to the Center for Dance on June 1, 2010, and summer classes at the School of Dance begin on June 28.

Details:

North Carolina Dance Theatre is supported, in part, with operating support by the Arts & Science Council. Dance Theatre is also supported by individuals, corporations, and local and national foundations, the North Carolina Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts.

To find out more about NC Dance Theatre visit ncdance.org.