DANCE NOW! MIAMI HONORS THE PAST, CELEBRATES THE PRESENT AND HERALDS THE FUTURE OF DANCE IN SOUTH FLORIDA WITH INNOVATIVE PROGRAMMING AND COMMUNITY INITIATIVES!

The Dance NOW! Miami 2015/16 season started in July when Artistic Directors Diego Salterini and Hannah Baumgarten traveled to Michigan to teach for three weeks at the prestigious Interlochen Summer Program, offering master classes in modern and jazz dance to over 50 young talented dancers from around the world. They also choreographed on both the student body and the faculty, creating new pieces and re-staging some of Dance NOW!’s repertory. Their work was chosen to be presented for the prestigious Interlochen Collage Performance on June 12 and 13, 2015 for a combined audience of over 6,000 attendees from all over the US and abroad. In addition the work was presented for an additional 1,000 audience members during both the Faculty showcase performance and the end of the program student performance.

In August, Dance NOW! Directors returned to Miami to teach for the Joffrey Ballet NY Summer Program at Florida Memorial University working with over 300 youth from the US and abroad. The concert was attended by over 500 parents and community members, and Salterini and Baumgarten were asked back to teach again for the 2016 Summer program as well to serve as both national and international recruiters over the year. Later in the season Baumgarten travelled the US for Joffrey, while Salterini conducted residencies and auditions throughout the US and as far as in Mexico, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, and Spain.

After a rebranding of the company’s Logo and website with Masterpiece in Motion, DNM’s fall season started with Salterini’s residency at the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music - Dance Department, where he taught 150 students as well as created a new ballet entitled “Themes and Variations”.

October opened with the Artistic Direction of the Daniel Lewis Miami Dance Sampler in collaboration with the Florida Dance Education Association and Miami Dance Futures. This year the sampler, a staple of the Miami dance community, brought together Companies and Choreographers including Dance NOW! Miami, Momentum Dance Company, Arts Ballet Theatre, Atma Yodadance, Bridgette Cormier, Siempre Flamenco, Hattie Mae Williams and the New World Dance Ensemble on the New World School of the Arts stage. Following the sampler the company travelled to Tampa, Florida to perform for the annual Florida Dance Education Organization conference, and presented three emerging choreographers for the November 2015 Miami Open Stage: Dawn Robinson-Patrick, Kristine Weaver and the up-and-coming Kiki Lucas of the new Mosaic Dance Company.

During the month of January, DNM performed at Palm Isles in Boynton Beach for a house of over 600; the varied, athletic and poignant repertory presented was met with rousing applause and a promise to follow DNM at future events. Also in January, Baumgarten travelled to Erie, Pennsylvania for ten days to create a new ballet “Interstellar Journey” on the students at Mercyhurst University and to teach Master Classes to the talented dancers and community members.

January concluded with “Partners in the Arts” the Dance NOW! Gala, raising money for the company’s educational programming, and honoring Mark Edwards & Dennis Steinberg, Merle & Danny Weiss, Ray Breslin & Patrick Pecoraro and Gary Farmer, major players in the South Florida Arts Community.

February began with Dance NOW!’s Masterpiece in Motion as part of the José Limón Dance Company’s International 70th Anniversary Celebration. Daniel Lewis created a suite of works, two Limón duets
accompanied by his own work, an homage to Limón, his mentor. The company has now grown to 8 dancers, 4 men and 4 women, plus a male apprentice. Lewis taught two weeks of open to the general public at the Little Haiti Cultural Complex, for the first time ever in Miami. The classes were attended by over 50 professional dancers from the community, and the series was covered by an article in Artburst. The works were performed at three Miami Dade venues, Aventura Arts and Cultural Center March 18, Little Haiti March 26 and Miami Dade County Auditorium Black box April 7, with a special appearance from Carolyn Dorfman Dance in Aventura and a talk back with the four choreographers.

In April the company continued its commitment to site specific and free performances with a “Pop Up Performance” on Lincoln Road April 9, and hosted another installment of Miami Open Stage at LHCC April 30, with choreographers Danella Bedford and Ferdinand de Jesus.

A new development for the company is their involvement with National Water Dance. The Company served as an integral part of the April 16 performance at the Deering Estate, and the schools where DNM’s Artistic Directors teach (Bridgeprepep Academy of Arts and Minds, Conchita Espinoza) participated in this National event.

The Season continued into the spring with the Afternoon Tea with Dance NOW! Miami and the South Beach Chamber Ensemble, May 15, at the recently renovated Miami Beach Woman’s Club, a free event, sponsored in part by the Collins Park Neighborhood Association, with a sold out house and a unique elegant event.

The major concert closing the Dance NOW! Masterpiece in Motion Season was LACRYMOSA, presented at the Fillmore Miami Beach, May 19, 20 and 21. This is a 1988 landmark work of Edward Stierle, Florida native, originally performed by the Joffrey Ballet, in a commentary on the AIDS epidemic of the time. In this epic and tragic story, life imitated art with the premature death of this emerging choreographer at age 23. This work brings to light the fragility of the human condition and casts particular attention on the growing epidemic in South Florida, and the May 19 performance was free to LGBTQ youth with a talkback led by community leaders in collaboration with Pioneer Winter’s project LEAP. The performances rounded out the season with three sold out shows. This work has been invited to be a part of the World Out Games in 2017, with a preview performance in Collins Park on June 4, 2016.

To finish out the season, the seventh World Dance Summer Intensive will occur June 13-18 at LHCC offering a broad range of classical and folkloric dance styles to young dancers who continue their professional training in the summer months. DNM company members will serve as instructors and mentors to the young artists.

Looking forward to next season, Dance NOW! is excited to announce that they have been awarded a National Endowment for the Arts - Art Works grant for the reconstruction of Ritmo Jondo, the 1953 Doris Humphrey work. Daniel Lewis, Dance NOW! Advisor will again take the helm in the reconstruction of this historic work and the company also has been granted funds to tour to Mexico City where it will collaborate with Mexico City Ballet and present Ritmo Jondo as part of its performances there.

We hope that you support Dance NOW! Miami for the 2017/18 Season as we continue to provide high quality programming within our community and beyond!

Sincerely,

Hannah Baumgarten, Diego Salterini, Artistic Directors
The mission of Dance NOW! Miami is to promote the artistic vision of co-founders Hannah Baumgarten and Diego Salterini. The company creates, promotes and produces contemporary dance of the highest caliber and through performance, arts education, community leadership and innovative programming, nurtures new talents, fosters artistic collaborations and makes the art of dance accessible to diverse audiences locally, nationally and internationally.

Dance NOW! has been described as “...unabashed beauty...” (Annie Hollingsworth, Artburst), “carnal and courageous...... with an impressive range of movement and motion”, (Mia Leonin, Miami Art Guide), ”...not only elegant and fierce, but dedicated to its community...a mature, exciting and bounds breaking company.” (Miguel Estefan, Miami Art Guide) with “...enough original vision here to make Dance Now! worth watching more than ever....”-Jordan Levin, Miami Herald

Dance NOW! Miami, in residence at Miami’s Little Haiti Cultural Complex, was founded in 2000 by Diego Salterini and Hannah Baumgarten through a chance encounter at PAN, a South Florida dance collective. The two quickly became dance partners and creative collaborators; their work bridges their diverse backgrounds in ballet, modern dance, and jazz, creating poetic narrative and theatrical artistry filled with fierce athleticism. Salterini hails from an illustrious career as television and theatre star in Italy, Baumgarten received her BFA from the Juilliard School and danced professionally in Utah, New York, Arizona and Florida.

The directors have created 16 full-length works and over 30 shorter pieces, individually and collaboratively, presented in twelve states and two continents, and hold a strong commitment to present the work of renowned choreographers including Gerald Arpino, Carolyn Dorfman, Michael Uthoff, Tandy Beal, Josée Garant and Tauna Hunter. Dance Now! has received critical and popular acclaim both at the national and international level. The company’s work has been presented in 15 states and three continents by Ballet Estable del Teatro Colon, Teatro San Francisco Saybe, Honduras, Michael Uthoff Dance Theatre, Arizona, Miami International Hispanic Ballet Festival, Spring to Dance in St. Louis, MO, Stockton University, New Jersey, Interlochen Center for the Arts, Michigan, the Cincinnati Conservatory, the Dance Gallery Festival of New York, ACDFA, and throughout Florida.

The company founded the Ekphrasis Project, creating site-specific work in museums and galleries, and has pioneered community cultural initiatives such as the Daniel Lewis Miami Dance Sampler celebrating Miami’s established companies and Miami Open Stage promoting emerging choreographers. Dance Now! has also garnered prestigious awards including: Best Experimental Dance Company (Miami Sun Post) and Top Ten Dance Events of the Year (Miami Herald) and Directors Salterini and Baumgarten received the Miami ArtZine “Visionary Award” in 2010.

EDUCATION
Dance Now! has a long standing commitment to Arts Education reaching over 17,000 children in the past 16 years through a variety of programs including Dance In Public Schools program and educational performances at the Little Haiti Cultural Complex as part of the Cultural Passport program. Dance NOW!’s World Dance Summer Intensive offers classes in classical and Folkloric dance; 75% of the students receive scholarship. Dance NOW!’s apprenticeship program provides mentoring and performance opportunities for highly talented youth; former apprentices often have pursued their dance educations at prestigious institutions such as the AILEY/Fordham program, New World School of the Arts, SUNY Purchase and the the Boston Conservatory. Former apprentices are now working professionally with organizations such as Nai Ni Chen, Jennifer Muller/the Works, Dallas Black Dance Theater, Ballet Hispanico 2, Buglisi Dance, Holland America Cruise Lines, Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines, and some return to Miami dance with the company.
Dance Now! Organizational Structure

Dance Now! Miami is headed its founders, Diego Salterini and Hannah Baumgarten, who serve as both Artistic and Executive Directors. The two collaboratively oversee the company’s artistic, educational, developmental, budgetary, and operating activities. They are advised by a Board of Directors, which is comprised of eleven voting individuals, plus six artistic advisors, who are non-voting members of the board.

The voting members make financial, programmatic, marketing and fundraising recommendations to the Artistic Directors, and marketing team. They also work in conjunction with development to strengthen the company’s fundraising efforts. Within the board, there are four officers who make up the Executive Board, and the entire voting board is responsible for budget approval. The Board makes financial and/or in-kind contributions of goods and services.

The Artistic Directors create and design all Artistic programing, determine the concept and theme for both individual performances and the season as a whole which is decided 12-36 months in advance. Once the concept has been presented to the Board, the Marketing committee and the Art Director work in conjunction to create a cohesive promotional and public relations campaign, which includes working with press contacts, updating the website, conducting e-mail blasts, developing printed materials, and placing advertising. There is also a strong emphasis on new marketing through electronic media led by a member of the Board.

Fundraising is initiated by the Board members and the Artistic Directors, who fulfill the company’s Development needs, including planning the annual Gala, grant writing and other revenue-generating efforts such as garnering bookings and reaching important community members.

Simultaneously, the Directors communicate with all artistic personnel, including a technical director, lighting, set and costume designers, and any guest choreographers, composers and musicians that may be hired, to begin preparations for the season. As the rehearsal structure is solidified, the directors call auditions, (re)hiring dancers, and managing the company roster. Dance Now! Miami has a strong history of retaining artistic personnel and, on average, has an annual membership of 7 dancers expanding to 8 for the 2015/16 season.

The comprehensive Educational Outreach is headed by the Directors who oversee all instructors contracted for the variety of educational programming. They coordinate the residencies, in-school and home based performances and summer intensives, as well as scout for apprentices to join the company.

Please also refer to attached organizational chart
Hannah Baumgarten – Founding Artistic Director, Dance NOW! Miami.
Hannah grew up between Santa Cruz, California, and Jerusalem, Israel where she began her dance training. Hannah received a B.F.A. from the Juilliard School under Benjamin Harkarvy after attending the University of Utah Ballet Department. She is a Florida Choreographic Fellow; her work has been presented internationally and nationally in 12 states and Hannah has taught throughout the US and abroad. Hannah danced with Utah Ballet, Michael Uthoff Dance Theatre, Labyrinth Dance Theatre, William Adair and Dancers, Karen Peterson & Dancers, Momentum Dance Company, Giovanni Luquini & Dancers and Ballet Flamenco La Rosa. While at Juilliard, Hannah danced lead roles in the works of Master Choreographers such as Graham, Limon, Taylor, Sokolow, Harkarvy and Nikolais and had her choreography presented at several venues in Lincoln Center. She founded Dance NOW! Miami with Diego Salterini, and through Dance NOW! has toured the US from New York to Arizona, Central America and conducted residencies in North and South America. Hannah directed the Magnet High School Dance Program at Dillard Center for the Arts in Ft. Lauderdale for 10 years and currently serves as adjunct faculty at the Academy of Arts & Minds High School. Ms. Baumgarten is certified in Pilates through Core Dynamics and has served as a grant panelist for the State of Florida and Miami-Dade Departments of Cultural Affairs. Baumgarten has been on faculty at the Interlochen Summer Camp since 2005 and the Joffrey Ballet School NY Summer Program since 2012.

Diego Salterini -- Founding Artistic Director, Dance NOW! Miami.
Diego, originally from Rome, Italy, moved to the U.S. in 1997 after an illustrious career as lead dancer and assistant choreographer for many popular Italian T.V. and theatre shows. In the United States he danced extensively with companies including Michael Uthoff Dance Theater. He trained with Maestro Roberto Salaorni who he considers his mentor, as well as Flavio Bennati (Teatro La Scala), Michelle Ellis (ABT), Mamy Raomeria (Maurice Bejart), Ranko Yokoyama (Luis Falco), Max Stone, Susie Taylor, Roger Dillhaunty, and Michelle Kadison. His choreography has been presented in nine states as well as Europe, Central and South America. His teaching career, spanning almost three decades, includes national and international organizations such as New World School of the Arts, FIU, Miami City Ballet School, Atlanta Ballet School, Mercyhurst College, Ballet Stadium (Sao Paulo) and I.A.L.S. (Rome), to name a few. Diego served as regional jazz dance adjudicator for Young Arts until 2012 and has been on faculty at the Interlochen Summer Camp since 2005 and the Joffrey Ballet School NY Summer Program since 2012.

Daniel Lewis, Miami Dance Futures, President.
Mr. Daniel Lewis is president of Miami Dance Futures, which he formed in 1988 to develop dance in South Florida and a consultant for the José Limón Dance Foundation in New York. He was the founding dean of dance of the New World School of the Arts, from 1987 to 2011, an eight-year professional dance program, starting in the ninth grade and ending with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree. Mr. Lewis is perhaps most widely known for his association with the work of José Limón. From 1962-74, he danced with the Limón Dance Company, originating roles in A Choreographic Offering, Legend, Psalm, The Winged, Comedy and The Unsung. In 1975, Mr. Lewis completed the choreography of The Waldstein Sonata, an unfinished work begun by Limón just before his death. As a choreographer, Mr. Lewis has been commissioned to create works by the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York State Council on the Arts, Dallas Civic Opera, American Opera Center at Lincoln Center, Amherst College, the University of California at Los Angeles, The Juilliard School. His repertory company, Daniel Lewis Dance, has performed and taught extensively throughout the United States, Europe and Scandinavia. Mr. Lewis graduated from New York’s High School of Performing Arts in 1962 and The Juilliard School in 1967. In 1990, the National Society of Arts and Letters awarded Mr. Lewis the gold medal for Lifelong Achievement in Dance. In 2001 he received The Florida Arts Recognition Award
recognizing his outstanding initiatives, leadership and excellence in supporting the arts in Florida. In 2002 he received a Life time achievement award from “dance4life”, and the Nancy Smith Award. In October of 2010 he received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Dance Educators Organization. In February of 2011, Miami Dade County and the City of Miami declared February 5, 2011 as Daniel Lewis Day. On April 6, 2011, he received a proclamation from the floor of the Florida State Senate for his work in the arts in Florida by Senator Anitere Flores He received the 2011 Martha Hill “Lifetime Achievement Award in New York City. In December of 2012 he received an Honorary Doctor of Fine Arts Degree from the University of Florida.

Bruce Brown, B. A. Technical Director, Lighting and Set Design.
Bruce hails from Michigan, where he received a B.A. in Theatre Directing and Design from Michigan State University. He first encountered the unique challenges of lighting for dance while on the faculty of the Interlochen Arts Academy. In 1984, he packed his bags and moved to Ft. Lauderdale to take on the responsibilities of designing for Dillard Center for the Arts, while continuing to freelance in the Midwest as a designer and director. In 1998, Bruce accepted the position of Artistic Director for Dillard, where he supervised the design and construction of the new 124,000 square foot educational arts facility until 2014. Bruce lit Dance Now’s Streaming,...Miles and Miles..., Suite 305, AMERICA[america], Donne: Mothers, Daughters, Sisters, Lovers... and Secondary Colors for which he received critical acclaim. Bruce also serves as the Technical Director for the Miami Dance Festival.

Federico Bonacossa, Composer/Musician. Federico Bonacossa graduated from the University of Miami in 2009 where he completed a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Classical Guitar Performance on a full scholarship. At the University of Miami, he studied classical guitar with Rene Gonzalez and Rafael Padron, composition with Lansing McLoskey, Dennis Kam, and Scott Stinson, and jazz guitar with Randall Dollahon. Federico also holds a Masters degree in Guitar Performance from the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore, Maryland, where he studied with Julian Gray, and a diploma from the Conservatorio Statale Pierluigi da Palestrina in Cagliari, Italy where he studied with Luigi Mazzullo. He also has studied privately with Kennesew State Professor Mary Akerman and with jazz guitarist Tom Lippincot. He is an active composer and arranger and a member of the Miami Guitar Trio. Some of his recent performances include concerts for the Scuola Civica Musicale of Olbia, Italy, the Society of Composers Inc., the Miami International Guitar Festival, Guitar Sarasota, the Miami Bach Society, the State College of Florida, the Boca-Delray Music Society, and a live concert for WLRN. He also performs regularly with Singer Susana Behar and violinist Federico Britos, with whom he recently performed at the Sephardic Jewish Synagogue in Lima, Peru. Federico is currently pursuing a Masters Degree in music composition at Florida International University where he is a teaching assistant. He studies composition with Dr. Orlando Garcia. He is also adjunct professor at Miami Dade College. Learn more at federicobonacossa.com

Larry Chidsey, Art Director. Larry comes to Miami from the heart of the Midwest—Ohio—but his living experiences also include Australia and the Marshall Islands. He moved to Florida in 1987 to attend the University of Miami where he received his BFA in graphic design. Having spent most of his life on an island, Larry decided to continue that lifestyle and moved to Miami Beach in 1991 where he started his freelance graphic design agency, Chidsey Graphics. Since then he has worked on ad campaigns, corporate identification packages, book covers and websites for numerous local and national clients.
THE COMPANY

Jenny Hegarty, Rehearsal Director. Jenny Hegarty began dancing at the Kathryn Barnett School of Dance in Red Bank, NJ at the age of 3. She then continued her training at the New Jersey Dance Theatre Ensemble and the Harkness Youth Ballet, both under the direction of Nancy Turano. She received a BFA in Dance Performance from Marymount Manhattan College and has had the opportunity of working with and performing in works by David Parsons, Stephen Petronio, Johannes Wieland, Eduardo Vilaro, Jason McDoile, and Kyle Amhed-Bukhari, along with being selected to perform at the Metropolitan Opera House in the Kirov Ballet's production of Sleeping Beauty. She has worked with DeXdance, Gehring Dance theatre, and Joi Street Dance Company, and has returned as a guest artist with NJDTE performing in Robert Battle's The Hunt, along with annual productions of The Nutcracker. More recently, Jenny has expanded her horizons working as a dance facilitator among clients with varying levels of communicative and physical ability within the Arts Access program at the Matheny School and Hospital in Peapack, NJ. She has worked with Kevin Black Productions, performing in Cirque du Monde, Cabaret, and Dance Explosion (An Evening of Ballroom Dance), and was a featured dancer in the Broward Stage Door Theatre’s production of On the Town. Jenny has danced for DNM for five years and is honored to be the new Rehearsal Director for the organization.

Isvel Bello. Isvel Bello was born in Matanzas, Cuba in 1987. Isvel graduated from the National School of Dance and the Higher Institute of Art in Havana. He danced with the Compañía Danza Espiral de Matanzas and Malpaso Dance Company based in Havana. He has participated in several festivals such as The III Dance Biennial Caribbean in Martínique, World Festival of Solos and Duets in Venezuela, International Ballet Festival of Havana, Luminato Arts Festival in Toronto and at the Jacobs Pillow Dance Festival in Massachusetts, among others. He has worked with American choreographers Ron K. Brown and Trey McIntyre and this is Isvel’s first season with Dance NOW!.

Edmundo Abel Berenguer. Edmundo Abel Berenguer is originally from Holguin, Cuba. Edmundo received a Bachelor’s Degree in Dance and Performing Arts from the Instituto Superior de Arte de Havana, Cuba in 2006. In Cuba he performed extensively with dance companies including Danzabierta, Danza Contemporánea de Cuba and Teatro "El Público", touring in Cuba and abroad. Edmundo moved to the U.S. in 2015 in order to make his work as a performer visible, for the opportunity to exchange with others artists and to explore the world of movement and choreography. This is Edmundo's first season with Dance NOW! Miami.

Amy Deer. Amy Deer, of Milford, MA, began her dance training at the age of 4 at Dance Works Academy. While there she studied various dance disciplines including ballet, tap, modern, jazz and musical theater. She then continued to focus on ballet with Cathy Hazeltine Fallon at Patricia Brosnihan Dance Center and Studio Ballet of Hudson and attended the Joffrey Ballet NYC summer intensive. A graduate of Mercyhurst University, Amy holds a B.A. in Dance and an Arts Administration minor. While there she studied with Tauna Hunter, Michael Gleason, C. Noelle Partusch, Christine Hay, Lesley Bories-Scalise, and Mark and Solveig Santillano. She performed with Mercyhurst Ballet Theater, Lake Erie Ballet, Ballet Concerto of Ft. Worth, TX and The Mercyhurst Dancers and most recently with BoSoma Dance Company.

Allyn Ginns. Allyn is excited to return to Dance Now for her second season. She grew up in Sacramento, California, where she trained in classical ballet with former Royal Ballet dancer Pamela Hayes. Allyn graduated from Barnard College in 2009, where she received a BA, cum laude, in Economic History with a Dance minor. While at Barnard, Allyn trained with Allegra Kent (NYCB), Robert La Fosse (NYCB/ABT), Cynthia Anderson (ABT/Joffrey), and Katie Glasner (Twyla Tharp Dance). While in law school at Georgetown University Law Center in Washington, D.C., Allyn was a member of Gin Dance Company in its inaugural season under the direction of Shu-Chen Cuff. In addition her work in dance, Allyn is an attorney admitted to practice in New York and Florida. She currently coordinates the legal services program at Cannonball, a non-profit arts organization, providing legal information and pro bono attorney referrals to artists in Florida.
**Benicka Jae Grant.** Benicka Grant is honored to begin her first season with Dance Now. Born in Miami, Benicka began her dance training at age 6 at Henry E.S. Reeves Elementary School. She continued training with Linda Agyopong, performing with Community Book and Theater Company and with United Dancers of Miami, currently known as Diva Arts Dance Studio. At the age of 14, she was accepted into New World School of the Arts and studied with the Thomas Armour Youth Ballet. Benicka attended college at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, TX and has trained at Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and Dance Theater of Harlem. She has studied under Shannon Haynes, Tyrell Rolle, Trenard Mobley, Peter London, Robert Battle, Ruth Weisen, Lara Murphy, Bambi Anderson, Leslie Peck, Shelley Berg, Myra Woodruff, and Millicent Johnnie and others. Some of Benicka's favorite theater and production credits include performing with Illuminate from Americas Got Talent, Six Flags over Texas, Cirque Dreams, and performing as the featured dancer in Lin Manuel's In The Heights. Benicka has taught ballet at Studio 74 in Ft. Worth, Texas and is currently the ballet teacher for Lyte On Your Feet Dance Company where she is training students ages 4-16.

"Great Dancers are not great because of their technique, they are great because of their passion"

**Luke Stockton.** Luke is a graduate of California State University of Long Beach (CSULB), where he received his Bachelor of Arts in Dance in 2009. During his time at Long Beach, he had the privilege to perform works by Twyla Tharp, River North Chicago Dance Company, Motion/Tribe Dance Company and many of the faculty members at CSULB. He was also a member of Body Current Dance, a guest artist with San Pedro Ballet and a performer at Disneyland. Luke has performed internationally with Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines and Norwegian Cruise Lines. He also has had the privilege to perform in the Ziff Ballet Opera House at the Adrienne Arsht Center in The Donkey Show: A Midsummer Night's Disco. Luke became a member of Dance NOW! Miami in 2012. During his second season, he was honored to be the first recipient of the John Beadel Fellowship for the 2013-2014 season. Also, he performed The Light Rain Pas de Deux choreographed by the founder of the Joffrey Ballet Gerald Arpino. Outside of the company, you may have seen him in a production by Kevin Black Productions or an instructor at various studios throughout South Florida. Luke is excited to be back for his third season with the company!

**Anthony Velazquez.** Anthony Velasquez, a Native of Miami, Florida, is a graduate of Marygrove college in Detroit, Michigan, where he received his Bachelors of Fine Arts in dance in 2013. At Marygrove he had the privilege to work with choreographers such as Robert Battle, Robert C. Jeffrey, Virginia Johnson, Kevin Iega Jeff, Derrick Seller. He also performed in works by Robert Battle, Martha Graham, Daniel Lewis, Jose Limon, and Kevin Iega Jeff while in training at New World School of the Arts. In 2013, Anthony danced with Deeply Rooted Dance Theater of Chicago as a company member. He also has had the privilege of working on projects throughout the United States states including performing with Ballet Chicago, in work by Derrick Sellers and he also has appeared in music videos of music superstars like Jennifer Lopez, Martha Wash, Luis Fonzi and Ricky Martin. Recently Anthony participated several projects in Miami, Florida and has choreographed several works for the Dr. Michael Krop Senior High School Dance Magnet program and for Intensity Dance Company. Entering his second season with the company Anthony is honored to work with all the company’s artists, musicians and its directors.
DANCE NOW! MIAMI
BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2016
Inspiring, Educating and Entertaining through the Art form of Dance!

Diego Salterini
Artistic Director
9313 NW 2nd Ct.
Miami Shores, Fl 33150
C (305) 610-0602
diego@dancenowmiami.org

Hannah Baumgarten
Artistic Director
900 Bay Dr. #411
Miami Beach, Fl 33141
H (305) 866-1549
C (305) 975-8489
hannah@dancenowmiami.org

Elizabeth G. Camargo, AIA
President
EC Architecture + Design
1530 W 27th St.
Miami Beach, Fl 33140
H (305) 444-7100
F (305) 444-9803
ecamargo@the-beach.net

John Beadel
Vice President
Associated Printing Productions
W (305) 623-7600 ext. 205
JBeadel@appi1.com

Malik S. Benjamin
Secretary
School of Architecture
Florida International University
11200 SW 8th Street PCA
381A
C (786) 897-1860
msb18@cornell.edu

David Mittenthal, C.P.A.
Treasurer
Goldstein Schechter Koch
4000 Hollywood Blvd., Suite 215
Hollywood, FL 33021
W (954) 989-7462
C (561) 578-0519
david.mittenthal@gskcpas.com

Renato Armijo
Fashion Director/In-house Designer
Chernaya Bridal House
600 NE 25 St # 21
Miami, Fl 33137
C (786) 241-8473
renatioarmijo@gmail.com

Sheila Baumgarten
Arts Consultant
396 Lombard St, Apt 4
San Francisco, Ca 94199
CH (415) 385-7273
Sheila.baumgarten@gmail.com

Sarah Campbell Smith, Esq., LEED AP
Akerman Senterfitt
1 SE 3rd Ave., 25th Floor
Miami, FL 33131
C (305) 301-1140
W (305) 982-5517
Sarah.campbellsmith@aker-man.com

Karen K. Crew, Esq.
Senior Attorney, Southeast Northern Trust Corporation
700 Brickell Avenue, 10th Floor
Miami, Florida 33131
W (305) 789-1300
kc117@ntrs.com

Sandra Curbelo
Miami Dade County Cultural Affairs Council
12881 SW 117 St
Miami, Fl 33186
C (786) 486-7263
sandracurbelo@hotmail.com

Robbi Easton
1090 Mariner Dr.
Key Biscayne, Fl 33149
H (305) 361-5892
C (305) 301-6615
rdaltonmia@aol.com

Pam Luria, Esq.
1800 West 23rd Street
Miami Beach, FL 33140
C (305) 742-7452
pamatthebeach@gmail.com

PO Box 416525•Miami Beach, Fl 33141 • T 305.975.8489 • info@dancenowmiami.org www.dancenowmiami.org
Cameron Basden
Gerald Arpino and Robert Joffrey Foundation
2335 Trapp Ave
Coconut Grove, Fl, 33133
C (312) 282-4636
cbasden@gmail.com

Harvey J. Burstein
Burstein Family Foundation
Miami ArtZine Magazine
1775 Washington Ave.
Miami Beach, Fl 33141
W (305) 535-6541
C (786) 301-9667
somiamibe@aol.com

Tiffany Hill
Non-Profit Consultant
3400 14th Street,
NW Washington, DC 20010
W (202) 371-9656
C (301) 318-7500
5050arts@gmail.com

Daniel Lewis
President, Miami Dance Futures
8901 SW 79th Ct.
Miami, FL 33156
C 305-725-0900
danieldance@att.net

George Neary
Associate Vice President/
Cultural Tourism GMCVB
701 Brickell Ave # 2700
Miami, Fl 33131
W (305) 529-3000
george@gmcvb.com

Michael Uthoff
Artistic and Executive Director Dance St. Louis
3547 Olive Blvd suite 301
St. Louis, MO 63101
W (314) 289-4101
C (602) 750-4537
muthoff@dancestlouis.org
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To Whom It May Concern:

I recently had the opportunity to attend an all day workshop presented by Dance Now! Miami at the Little Haiti Cultural Center in Miami, Florida. This workshop was specifically designed for Miami-Dade County Public Schools Dance Educators. The topics covered were relevant to the community. The lecture demonstration and performance was comprehensive and engaging. The content was well aligned with the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards in dance education. The workshop provided teachers with ideas and instructional strategies that could easily and immediately be implemented at the secondary level. The master class, although challenging was appropriate for the various ability levels of the participants.

The workshop also provided samples of content for a k-12 audience. Students attending a lecture demonstration presented by Dance Now! Miami would be benefited with a brief overview of the history of western concert dance and a company led discussion referencing the similarities and differences among ballet modern dance and jazz dance genres. The presentation also facilitates lessons on how to view and evaluate dance performance. Students are introduced to components of dance making, the various roles in dance production, and a look into the daily life of a dancer from morning class to evening performance.

The company is an ensemble of highly skilled artists capable of performing a diverse repertoire. The directors are knowledgeable and innovative. The organizational administration was extremely professional. This company demonstrates cultural value and a strong commitment to arts education. Teachers left the workshop energized and inspired. I highly recommend the Dance Now! Miami experience to arts funders, arts patrons, students and educators.

Cordially,

Dr. Tenai Davis,
FDEO President

cc: FDEO Board of Directors