



September 15, 2009
For Immediate Release

Gateway Dance Theatre Premieres "Peace in the Heart" October 24, 2009

Where: Temple Theater, Temple for Performing Arts, 1101 Locust St, Des Moines, IA 50309

When: October 24, 2009 7:30PM

Tickets: \$25, \$20 (Gateway Dance members), \$10 (students with ID). Tickets available at the Civic Center Box Office and its ticket outlets, or at Ticketmaster (<http://www.ticketmaster.com>, 1-800-745-3000).

Gateway Dance Theatre will premier "**Peace in the Heart**" on October 24, 7:30 PM at Civic Center's Temple Theater. The production is choreographed by Penny Furgerson of Gateway Dance Theatre and noted Indian choreographer, Sarmishtha Sarkar. This innovative work includes interpretations of diverse art forms, such as martial arts styles of Chau from India and Afro-Brazilian Capoeira, a fusion of Indian classical and modern dance styles. "**Peace in the Heart**" will also include revival and reinterpretation of Gateway Dance's signature pieces as well as present new pieces in Indian classical (Bharatanatyam) dance.

The production features a variety of musical talents including Roosevelt High School Gospel Choir along with exciting musicians from across Iowa. Mikiel Williams, an accomplished saxophonist well versed in a variety of instruments and the popular percussionist Lee "LeeMan" Furgerson III will lead a team of talented musicians, Rajshri Agarwal on vocals, Dipayan Mitra on the violin, and Sree Nilakanta on the Indian bamboo flute.

GDT Executive Director Penny Furgerson notes, "This production joins the global humanitarian efforts responding to a world disturbed by violence and power, on both personal and societal levels." The "Heart" of the choreography is based on an Indonesian blessing:

*No peace in the world without peace in the nation
No peace in the nation without peace in the village
No peace in the village without peace in the family
No peace in the family without peace in the heart*

GDT welcomes all age groups, but the concert is more geared toward older children and adults.

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p.2

About Gateway Dance Theatre

Since its founding in 1972, Gateway Dance Theatre (GDT) has been moving to the rhythms of the world, fusing Africa-American, Caribbean, Asian and Indian music and movement into a multi-media experience for people of all ages, skills and cultures. More than dance, GDT, located in the heart of downtown Des Moines, IA, is an experience rich in culture, education, friendship and joy.

Inspired by the Dance Theatre of Harlem and the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre, Gateway Dance Theatre was founded to provide quality urban arts programs. It is a multifaceted family friendly program based on the philosophy that training in the arts is essential to a complete education. GDT's presence and active engagement in the community is a catalyst to reach diverse communities to build cultural, leadership and economic relationships.

GDT encourages everyone to join in moving to the rhythms of the world.

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