

50
YEARS
1972-2022
GATEWAY
DANCE
THEATRE

PRESENTS

SANAA
YA
SANAA

(Pronounced Saa-Nee-ah ya Saa-Nee-ah,
Swahili for "Art in Art")

CELEBRATING
BLACK HISTORY



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CELEBRATE AN AFTERNOON OF BLACK CULTURAL ARTS



SANAA YA SANAA

(pronounced Sa-Nee-ah ya Sa-Nee-ah, Swahili for “Art in Art”)

Celebrating Black History

February 26, 2022

Family Activities: 11:30am - 1:30pm

Showcase: 2:00pm – 4:00pm

**Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden, Dupont Room
909 Robert D. Ray Drive, Des Moines**

Gateway Dance Theatre gratefully acknowledges and appreciates the generous support received from the Iowa Department of Public Affairs, Cole-Belin Foundation, and Tamoka Enterprise.

Executive Director



Penny Furgerson

Stage Manager



Sydney Furgerson

Videographer

Doug McBride

Photographer

Eric Salmon

IOWA ARTS COUNCIL
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

**COLE-BELIN
FOUNDATION**

Showcase Program

Emcee: Rheyra Spigner

Facilitators: Abena Imhotep, Katya Gibel Mevorach

Guest of Honor: Simon Estes

Special Guest: Ruth Ann Gaines

Introduction

Fanga

Welcome song and dance with call and response

Origin from Liberia, brought to the United States by Pearl Primus

Choreography: Traditional form Charles Moore, adapted by Penny Furgerson

Call & response, Percussion: Lee "Leeman" Furgerson III

"Old Jim Crow Got to Go"

written by Amanda Gorman American Poet Laureate , narrated by Abena Imhotep

Crowns

Crowns: Potraits of Black Women in Church Hats by Michael Cunningham, Craig Marberry.

Narrated by Abena Imhotep.

Models/ Actors: Anita Garrison, Chanice Gbaylee, Dashana Langford Taylor

Color

"Color" by Langston Hughes' "Black out Loud" narrated by Simon Estes.

Music : Ed Harris

Choreographed by Penny Furgerson assisted by Karla Sears and Toni Jones

Movement by Toni Jones, Veola Perry, Karla Sears

50 years of Gateway Dance Theatre video

Traditional African Fashion

If I can Help/We shall Overcome

Vocals: Tina Haase Findley

Gospel Suite Excerpt: Could You Believe

Music by Roberta Flack, Donny Hathaway

Choreographed by Shirley Rushing, new arrangement Penny Furgerson

Performed by Shelly Curtis, Lyra Halsten, Debina Nath

Modern African Fashion

SAY Poetry

Poetry by Kai Brown and Angel Murray

Wade in the Water

Music by Staple Singers

Choreography: Betty Toman adapted by Penny Furgerson

Performed by Shelly Curtis, Debina Nath

Amazing Grace

Vocal: Satya Iyer

**Lift Every Voice and Sing
Everyone**

**Gateway Dance Theatre's
Board of Directors**

Penny Furgerson
John Furgerson
Susan Judkins
Anupreet Minhas
Sree Nilakanta
Lu Spaine
Catherine Tran

GDT Staff

Executive Artistic Director:
Penny Furgerson
Program Coordinator:
Sydney Furgerson
Associate Director: Debina Nath
AmeriCorps Vista Associate: Jonah
Kruse

**50th Anniversary Planning
Committee**

Prakash Kopparapu, Chairperson
Shelly Curtis
John Furgerson
G.Thomas Furgerson
Anita Garrison
Sree Nilakanta
Pragyna Nishant
Smitha Nishant
Umesh Sheyte
Lu Spaine
Catherine Tran

Since 1972, Gateway Dance Theatre (GDT) has been moving to the rhythms of the world, fusing African American, Caribbean, Asian and Indian music and movement into a multimedia experience for people of all ages and backgrounds.

Gateway Dance Theatre's vision is to advance a diverse art movement for all ages, broaden arts outreach, increase cultural sensitivity, and champion social justice.