

The Annenberg Center Presents HopeBoykinDance in a Livestreamed World Premiere Performance, Thursday, March 11

(Philadelphia – March 2, 2021) — The **Annenberg Center** presents **HopeBoykinDance** on **Thursday, March 11 at 7 PM**. Beloved for her twenty-year tenure with the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, **Hope Boykin** makes her choreographic Philadelphia debut. A former PHILADANCO dancer, Boykin has graced the Annenberg Center stage many times, and now returns alongside five other dancers for the **world premiere of *Redefine US, from the inside OUT.***, a work that seeks to change the words and ideas we use to describe ourselves. This dance powerhouse is revered not only as one of Ailey’s “most striking performers, but she’s proven that she’s a choreographer with something to say.” (*Dance Magazine*)

The live performance at the Annenberg Center will be streamed online and includes an interactive Q&A with the performers and Annenberg Center Executive and Artistic Director Christopher Gruits. Visit [AnnenbergCenter.org](https://www.annenbergcenter.org) for details.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Hope Boykin (Choreographer/Dancer)

Educator, creator, mover and motivator Hope Boykin was born and raised in Durham, North Carolina. She was a three-time recipient of the American Dance Festival’s Young Tuition Scholarship and, while attending Howard University in Washington, D.C., she continued to pursue dance working with choreographer Lloyd Whitmore and his New World Dance Company. In New York City, Boykin studied at The Ailey School and worked as assistant to choreographers Milton Myers and the late Talley Beatty.

Boykin was an original member of Complexions and danced with PHILADANCO, with which she received a New York dance and performance (Bessie) award. Having just completed her 20th and final season with the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, she continued to build and create work as a 2019-20 Urban Bush Women Choreographic Center Fellow.

She has choreographed for numerous dance companies including PHILADANCO, Minnesota Dance Theatre and Dallas Black Dance Theatre. In 2016, she presented her third work of choreography for the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater called *r-Evolution, Dream*. In 2018, Boykin choreographed and wrote *MomentsUponMoments* for the DEMO series, commissioned by Damian Woetzel and the Kennedy Center. She had the honor of performing the work with New York City Ballet principal dancer Lauren Lovette, and then redesigned the piece for Vail Dance Festival in 2019. Most recently, she has created a work for BalletX and the Guggenheim’s Works & Process virtual commissions program; had her words and work displayed at Kaatsbaan Cultural Park; and been an annual keynote speaker for Lincoln Center Activate, a national education forum.

In roles as artistic lead for the two-week summer dance program, Kennedy Center Dance Lab, a two-week summer dance program for high school students, and Artist-In-Residence at the USC Glorya Kaufman School of Dance, Boykin confirms her company’s mission of leading young and aspiring artists to a secure foundation and concrete understanding, further developing a confidence and assurance that will be unmatched.

THERE ARE NO LIMITS.

About the Annenberg Center’s 2020-21 Digital Season

The Annenberg Center’s 2021 spring digital season comprises livestreamed performances featuring world premieres and Philadelphia debuts by top dance companies and outstanding jazz artists, collaborative music

performances, and screenings of independent films. Designed specifically for the digital stage, the live performances are broadcast using state-of-the-art digital technology from the Prince or Zellerbach Theatre, integrating live chat, and concluding with interactive discussions with the creators and performers. Livestreamed performances are available online for 48 hours after the start time for those who purchased access. Full season calendar can be accessed [here](#).

About the Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts

The Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts serves as a major cultural destination and crossroads connecting the University of Pennsylvania and the Greater Philadelphia region through innovative human expression in theatre, music, dance and film, serving an annual audience of over 80,000. The Annenberg Center also serves as a key resource for the arts at Penn, connecting master artists with Penn students in support of and as an enhancement to the arts curriculum. Student performing arts groups are also key users of the Annenberg Center's multiple performance and rehearsal spaces, while also staffing many operational roles throughout the academic year. In reflection of Penn's core values as a world-respected academic institution, the Annenberg Center emphasizes artistic and intellectual excellence, diversity and rigor in its presentations; prioritizes broad inclusiveness in the artists, audiences and groups it serves; manages outstanding performance, conference and meeting facilities; and stresses comprehensive event planning, production support and customer service. The Annenberg Center is a major provider of performing arts access for school children and actively engages a broad range of primary, secondary and post-secondary student audiences and inclusive constituencies from the campus, community and surrounding region. Visit AnnenbergCenter.org.

LIVESTREAM

HopeBoykinDance

Thursday, March 11, 7 PM

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This is an original, live event, performed on the Annenberg Center stage and streamed online, and includes an interactive Q&A with the performers. Visit AnnenbergCenter.org for more information.

Access Information for HopeBoykinDance

Visit AnnenbergCenter.org to purchase access to this show until 7:30 PM on March 11. The performance may be watched live at 7 PM on March 11 to participate in the chat and artist Q&A. It will be available on-demand to ticketholders through March 13. Visit the Annenberg Center's digital streaming [FAQs](#) for additional details.

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