

**Contact:** Julia H. Cain  
Joy of Motion Dance Center  
Phone: 202-907-5113  
press@joyofmotion.org

**Street Address:**  
Joy of Motion | Friendship Heights  
5207 Wisconsin Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20015  
www.joyofmotion.org

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DancEthos and Joy of Motion Dance Center co-present “Part and Parcel,”  
weaving artist and audience viewpoints

**Washington, DC:** DancEthos, 2018-19 Resident Company of Joy of Motion, offers an evening of dance that explores both performance and process. The concert will also feature guest company **DanceArtTheater** and Joy of Motion’s conservatory-style training program, **LEAP!** for Adults. Performances will take place on **March 2 and 3** at the Jack Guidone Theater at Joy of Motion | Friendship Heights.

Featuring choreographers **Tiffany Haughn, Mat Elder, Kelly Fisher,** and **Meredith Barnes,** “Part and Parcel” promotes interaction and feedback - offering the audience the opportunity to ask questions of the choreographer, as well as listen to the creator’s thoughts on the intent of the work and the choreographic process.

DancEthos’ Founding Artistic Director **Tiffany Haughn** presents three works in the program. **Amalgamation** (2004), like the Kenji Bunch score that inspired it, is beautiful and heartfelt one moment and satirical and whimsical the next. The athletic and energetic quartet **1 by 1** (2016) demonstrates the concept (and danger) of herd mentality. Created for the LEAP! program, **Fault Lines**, examines how our unwillingness to adapt our beliefs prevents us from living our fullest life and forging relationships outside of our echo chambers.

**Mat Elder's** premiere draws upon multiple forms of art including video, photography and theatre to inform his movement and inspire conversations of social justice gathered by his experience as a practicing social worker. **Kelly Fisher's** premiere explores the ebbs and flows of dependence and independence throughout our lives, from infancy to adulthood.

DanceArtTheater will premiere **Seasons** by Founding Artistic Director Meredith Barnes. With movement inspired by poetry and by personal experiences, the piece portrays the unique qualities and feelings that accompany each season.

## **SHOW INFORMATION**

Saturday March 2 at 8:00 PM and Sunday March 3 at 7:00 PM

Jack Guidone Theater at Joy of Motion | Friendship Heights

5207 Wisconsin Ave NW, Washington DC, 20015

Tickets at [joyofmotion.org/shows](http://joyofmotion.org/shows)

## **ABOUT THE COMPANIES**

### **Joy of Motion Dance Center**

A non-profit charitable organization founded in 1976, Joy of Motion Dance Center has since developed into “the area’s most comprehensive dance institution” (Washington Post), engaging 60 faculty members and teaching artists, providing more than 300 weekly classes, and drawing nearly 9,000 unique students and artists annually to three studio locations (in two Wards of DC and in Bethesda, MD). With more than 40 years of history in the District, Joy of Motion has become the hub of a vast artistic community, committed to excellence both in high-level training and community-based arts experiences.

Our Mission: to unite dance students, professionals, and audiences by providing exceptional education and performances that stimulate a universal love of dance.

## **DancEthos**

By making dances that reflect the beliefs and spirit of our culture, DancEthos works towards reducing the distance between two people through the arts. Founded in 2010, DancEthos hopes to foster dialogue through dance and broaden the local dance audience base by creating and performing work that is accessible to dancers and non-dancers alike. The company's repertory is moving and high-spirited, and an ensemble of 13 dancers perform with boundless energy and abandonment.

*DC Theatre Scene* declares that DancEthos is where "imaginative choreography collides with extraordinary emotions" (2015) and *The Washington City Paper* states that its repertory "shows off not only the range of the dancers, but the range within contemporary dance itself" (2015). *DC Metro Theater Arts* proclaims that DancEthos is "a local treasure" (2015) and that our performances are "...stunning, captivating, relatable, romantic - everything I desire" (2013). To learn more, please visit [www.dancethos.org](http://www.dancethos.org).

## **DanceArtTheater**

DanceArtTheater's mission is to inspire, encourage, and enlighten students and audiences through dance. The company was established in April 2014 and is directed by Meredith Barnes. Since its beginning, DanceArtTheater has strived to contribute a unique voice to the dance community, and to foster deeper partnerships with companies and artists that also call the DC region their home.

## **ABOUT THE CHOREOGRAPHERS:**

**Meredith Barnes** is the founder and director of DanceArtTheater, whose mission is to inspire, encourage, and enlighten students and audiences through dance. Meredith received her BFA in dance choreography and performance from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. She has choreographed more than 20 works for companies like Joffrey Ballet Workshop, Terpsichorean Dance Company, Auburn University "Daunce," Yes Virginia Dance, Black College Dance Exchange, Cora de Vicenza, Co-Motion Dance Company, Lawton City Ballet, Mid-America Dance Network showcase, and many other choreography concerts.

Meredith is currently the Dance Director at The Fairfax Academy for the Communications and the Arts.

**Mat Elder**, from Tennessee, received a Bachelor of Science in Theater and Dance from Middle Tennessee State University and a Master of Fine Arts in Choreography from Smith College. Notable performances include *Alwin Nikolais: Leaving a Legacy* national tour and Bill T. Jones' reconstruction of *Love Redefined* at the American Dance Festival. He is named one of the "Top 5 to Watch in D.C." by Ngoma Dance Magazine (2016). His past residence and teaching credits include Middle Tennessee State, Smith College, American College Dance Festival Northeastern Division, the Williston Northampton School, Howard Community College, and Georgetown University. Mat's choreographic works have been presented nationally including The Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Mat currently dances and collaborates with Mari Meade Dance Collective, Christopher K Morgan & Artists, and Ekilibre Dance Company. He is a Guest Artist at Drexel University.

**Kelly Fisher**, originally from Boston, is a dancer, choreographer and dance educator. She graduated from Brigham Young University (Idaho) with a BA degree in Dance, emphasis in pedagogy. She has choreographed and co-choreographed works that have been performed in Idaho and have toured around the mid-western States and Indonesia. Kelly has also performed and toured with BYU-Idaho's Dance Alliance company to Western Canada, Panama, Costa Rica and the western states in the US. Currently, she teaches hip hop, ballet and creative movement at CityDance POP!. Kelly is currently dancing with two companies in the DC area, DancEthos and DEVIATED THEATRE.

### **Tiffany Haughn**

Tiffany Haughn has been a teacher and choreographer in the Washington, DC dance community for 15 years. She has been on the faculty of George Washington University, George Mason University, The University of Mary Washington, Northern Virginia Community College, BalletNova (previously Arlington Center for Dance), Workhouse Arts Center at Lorton and The Dance Institute of Washington among others, and is currently teaching at Joy of Motion Dance Center. She has been chosen for "Who's Who Among American Teachers" four times and received the Lifetime Achievement Award. Her choreography has been presented in the DC area at The Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Dance Place,

Woolly Mammoth Theatre, The Workhouse Center for the Arts, American University Greenberg Theater, Joe's Movement Emporium, Kogod Cradle at Arena Stage, and Atlas Performing Arts Center, among others. In New York, her choreography was presented at Dance Space Center, The Bridge, and New Dance Group Arts Center. She has performed with The Lindt International Ballet, Saltare Dance Company, Jennifer Walker & Company, Threshold Dance Company, and as a guest performer with CrossCurrents Dance Company. Ms. Haughn holds a BFA in Dance and BA in psychology from Jacksonville University and an MFA in dance from George Mason University.

###