



DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS  
City of Los Angeles

201 North Figueroa Street  
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WEB culturela.org

**MEDIA ALERT**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

January 16, 2008

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**THE NATE HOLDEN PERFORMING ARTS CENTER PRESENTS  
*THE STATE OF DANCE IN SOUTH LA SYMPOSIUM/DANCE CONFERENCE*  
February 1 – 3, 2008**

Los Angeles – The Nate Holden Performing Arts Center for the Performing Arts will present The State of Dance in South LA Symposium/Dance Conference, from February 1 through 3, 2008. The event is an outgrowth of the July 8, 2006 State of the Arts in South LA and it will feature presentations by noted individuals in the fields of theater, fine arts, music, dance, museums and galleries, literary arts, cinema, education, festivals, and special events. The goal of the Symposium/Dance Conference is to develop a coalition of dance service organizations representing South Los Angeles. Dance professionals, educators, students, community members, and presenting organizations are cordially invited to attend this free event.

The conference involves leaders, institutions, dancers, educators, and philanthropic groups designed for the purpose of identifying existing resources and needs of the dance community. The coalition of dance service organizations, individuals, local municipal offices, and the business community will work together to identify traditional, non-traditional, and non-dance industry partnerships that emphasize the economic survival of dance as an industry. Information compiled from the conference will be used by the Department of Cultural Affairs as part of its research to develop a new Cultural Master Plan for the City of Los Angeles.

Invited participants include arts presenters, professional and non-professional dance organizations, media representatives, local theaters, local representative of IABD, Department of Cultural Affairs, arts funding institutions, individual foundations, The Los Angeles County Commission on the Arts, The Los Angeles Urban League, LA Unified School District, LA Community College District, and leaders from the dance field based in Los Angeles, San Francisco, The Inland Empire, Riverside, San Bernardino, and San Diego County.

The Opening Reception will be held on February 2 at 6:00 p.m., followed by performances by internationally acclaimed choreographer and dancer Nejla Y. Yarkin at 7:30 p.m. The three-day event will also feature a special performance and tribute to legendary artist Carmen Delavaladde of Alvin Ailey, master classes by international artists, performances by local dance companies, a plenary roundtable, workshops, panels, master classes, and folk and contemporary dance concerts.

The event is organized by the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs in association with the African Marketplace, Inc, and the Dance- South LA Planning Committee. For additional information call 323.734.1165. The Nate Holden Performing Arts Center is a facility of the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs, and is located at 4718 W. Washington Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90013, 323.964.9822.



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### **ABOUT DCA**

The Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) serves as a leader to generate and support high quality arts and cultural experiences for Los Angeles residents and visitors. DCA also advances the social and economic impact of the arts and assures access to arts and cultural experiences through grant making, marketing, public and community arts programming, arts education, and creating partnerships with artists and arts and cultural organizations in every community in the City of Los Angeles.

DCA grants \$3.4 million annually to over 300 artists and nonprofit arts organizations and awards the Artist-in-Residence (A.I.R.) and City of Los Angeles (C.O.L.A.) Individual Artist Fellowships. It provides arts and cultural programming in numerous Neighborhood Arts and Cultural Centers, theaters, and several arts and education programs for young people. The Department operates two historic monuments, directs public art projects, and manages the City's Arts Development Fee, Art Collection, and Murals Program. DCA markets the City's cultural events through development and collaboration with strategic partners, design and production of creative promotional materials, and management of the [culturela.org](http://culturela.org) website.

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