



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Dancewave Gala 2018 Honoring Dance and Community Leaders

Dancewave's scholarship fundraiser puts dance education in the spotlight

March 15, 2018 - Brooklyn, NY - Dancewave Gala, one of Brooklyn's premiere cultural events, brings together prominent individuals in the forefront of arts, education, politics, philanthropy, and business to recognize their achievements and contributions, while raising critical funds to support Dancewave's Scholarship Initiative, providing annual access to dance education for deserving NYC youth.

Dancewave Gala 2018 takes place on **April 25, 2018 at The Green Building in Gowanus, Brooklyn from 5:30PM-12:00AM.**

The Scholarship Initiative is a key tenet in support of Dancewave's mission: *providing all NYC youth access to a supportive dance experience that embraces and encourages individuality and equips students with the life skills to unlock their full potential as people and community members.* Support for this mission enables Dancewave to foster youth development through dance by bringing dance residencies into public schools, offering affordable dance classes, and providing teens with opportunities to learn and perform the work of world-renowned choreographers through pre-professional companies and ensembles.

Dancewave Gala 2018 honors former NYC Ballet Principal Dancer and star of the recent award-winning documentary, *Restless Creature*, **Wendy Whelan**, the award-winning founder/visioning partner of Urban Bush Women, **Jawole Willa Jo Zollar**, Former KeySpan Executive, **Al Wiltshire**, and New York State Assembly Member, **Jo Anne Simon**. Their work is at the intersection of community, service and the arts and is a boon to the cultural fabric and access to the arts in Brooklyn and beyond.

Past honorees and presenters have included award winning choreographer **Camille A. Brown**, dance advocate and founder of Dance Education Laboratory (DEL) **Jody Gottfried Arnhold**, Emmy award-winning choreographer and *So You Think You Can Dance* judge **Mia Michaels**, American Ballet Theater's **Misty Copeland** and **Paloma Herrera**, Brooklyn Borough President **Eric Adams**, New York City Council Members **Laurie Cumbo**, **Jimmy Van Bramer**, and **Stephen Levin** and New York State Senator **Velmanette Montgomery**.

In celebration of dance, diversity, and community, the night will feature the Dancewave Company performing an excerpt from Urban Bush Women's "*Walking with 'Trane'*". Guests will dance the night away to classic soul music spun by WBGO radio host and DJ Felix Hernandez of



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the Rhythm Revue show.

Tickets are on sale for \$200 (pre-sale tickets offered at a discounted rate of \$150 until March 16, 2018). VIP tickets (\$250) are limited and include an exclusive cocktail hour with a scotch tasting and the intimate and exclusive opportunity to engage with the Gala honorees.

For more information and sponsorship opportunities, visit Dancewave.org/Gala or email press@dancewave.org.

Dancewave is the dance education nonprofit focusing on the development of the whole person through an accessible dance experience. Dancewave envisions a world where, through access to the dance experience, youth become empowered individuals who contribute to the fabric of their communities...and beyond. For more information visit www.dancewave.org.