



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Media Contact:
Craig W. Johnson, Executive Director
The Center for Contemporary Dance, Inc.
(407) 695-8366
Craig@TheCenterForDance.org

Teachers' Forum Examines State of Dance Education in Public Schools

WINTER PARK, FL - April 23, 2010 - [The Center for Contemporary Dance](http://www.thecenterfordance.org) and [The Orange County Arts Education Center](http://www.oceanarts.org) in partnership with Dr. Phillips High School will host the first of many Central Florida Dance Education Forums, open free of charge to all Florida dance and arts educators, on Friday, May 14 from 3-5pm at Dr. Phillips High School, located at 6500 Turkey Lake Road in Orlando, FL 32819. Designed to establish a collaborative community of educators dedicated to examining and improving the quality of dance education at the public school level, the two-hour forum is structured as a roundtable discussion with topics including:

- The statistical state of dance education in Central Florida
- Current challenges in public school dance education
- The impact of dance education on academic performance
- Creating a vibrant future for dance education in public schools

Facilitated by Director of The Orange County Arts Education Center Scott T. Evans and Executive Director of The Center for Contemporary Dance Craig W. Johnson, the forum will open with a special performance by students in the Dance Magnet Program at Dr. Phillips High School. According to Johnson, a key function of the forum is to "create a platform where dance educators can be heard and where solutions to challenges can be discovered in collaboration." Evans adds, "Ultimately, the goal is to develop innovative models for dance education that enhance student performance in both academic and artistic arenas."

To attend the Central Florida Dance Education Forum, please RSVP by calling The Orange County Arts Education Center at (407) 540-9916 or The Center for Contemporary Dance at (407) 695-8366. Registration may also be completed online through the Orange County Arts Education Center's website at www.oceanarts.org.

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About The Center for Contemporary Dance



A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that is home to [five professional dance companies](#) and an [institute for dance education](#). The Center for Contemporary Dance is a leading production center for dance performance and arts education programs. Over the past 8 years, The Center for Contemporary Dance has supported emerging and seasoned artists in the creation and presentation of more than 200 new dance works. In addition to producing professional stage productions, The Center develops arts education programs that reach child welfare organizations, underserved populations and our public schools. To learn more about The Center for Contemporary Dance, please call (407) 695-8366 or log on to www.TheCenterForDance.org.

About The Orange County Arts Education Center



The mission of the Arts Education Center is to build connectivity, collaboration

and support among Orange County's leaders, residents, nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, and businesses to make high-quality arts education accessible and a source of pride to all. Among the initiatives for the Center are the Annual Principals Appreciation Breakfast, Arts Educators Forums, Arts Integration Program, Arts Summer Camp Fair, Careers in the Arts Forums, and the Magic Journey to the Arts Program. To learn more, please call (407) 540-9916 or log on to www.ocae.org.

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