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ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER RETURNS TO BAM JUNE 4–7, CULMINATING INAUGURAL SEASON LED BY ARTISTIC DIRECTOR ALICIA GRAF MACK

**Program Features New Production of Judith Jamison’s Emmy Award-Winning *Hymn* and
Medhi Walerski’s Company Premiere *Blink of an Eye***

All Performances Conclude with Alvin Ailey’s Masterpiece *Revelations*

NEW YORK – MAY 14, 2026 – On the heels of a successful 20-city coast-to-coast tour, [Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater](#), recognized as a “vital American cultural ambassador to the world,” culminates its 2025-26 season with a BAM (Brooklyn Academy of Music) engagement June 4–7. Under the leadership of Daria L. and Eric J. Wallach Artistic Director [Alicia Graf Mack](#), the company’s fourth BAM season promises to be a celebration of joy, beauty, and the transformative power of dance.

The centerpiece of the engagement is the return of [Hymn](#), Artistic Director Emerita Judith Jamison’s Emmy Award–winning tribute to Alvin Ailey, gracing the stage for the first time in more than 15 years. *Hymn* features personal recollections from the dancers collected and arranged by the multi-talented actor and playwright Anna Deavere Smith, along with a driving percussive score by Robert Ruggieri, to create a landmark work that’s as intimately moving as it is awe-inspiring. In 1999, *A Hymn for Alvin Ailey* became a television special as part of PBS’ “Great Performances: Dance in America” and received an Emmy award for Ms. Jamison’s choreography.

Also on the program is the company premiere of Medhi Walerski’s [Blink of an Eye](#). The work is an intriguing piece that probes the relationship between dance and music, laying bare the strength and vulnerability inherent in the creative process. The timeless beauty of J.S. Bach’s violin sonatas and partita anchors the athletic movement that is both precise and expansive.

All performances will conclude with the American classic acclaimed as a must-see for all, [Revelations](#). Choreographed when Mr. Ailey was 29, *Revelations* is an intimate reflection that explores the emotional spectrum of human condition, from the deepest of grief to the holiest joy. It has been seen by more people around the world than any other work of modern dance.

In keeping with Mr. Ailey’s mission of bringing dance back to the people, Ailey Arts In Education & Community Programs will host a [FREE Finding Grace Community Workshop](#) on **Saturday, May 30, at 2pm at The Plaza at 300 Ashland**. This workshop introduces participants to Ronald K. Brown’s movement style through a guided warm-up and choreography. Participants explore themes of transformation, healing, and compassion through movement, discovering how grace can be embodied in dance and in everyday life. Advanced registration is not required but encouraged by visiting [here](#).

Tickets to Ailey’s BAM season starting at \$35 are on sale now and can be purchased at the box office or online at bam.org/alvin-ailey. Please note, all online and phone orders are subject to a \$3 facility fee and an \$8 handling fee per ticket. All orders at the box office are subject to a \$3 facility fee per ticket.

In 1958, Alvin Ailey and a small group of dancers took the stage in New York and forever changed American dance and culture. One of the country's groundbreaking greats, his company earned a reputation as one of the finest international ambassadors of American culture, promoting the uniqueness of the African American cultural experience and the preservation and enrichment of American modern dance. Now in its seventh decade and led by Daria L. and Eric J. Wallach Artistic Director Alicia Graf Mack, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's performances continue to inspire, enlighten, and entertain all in a universal celebration of the human spirit.

For more information on Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater at BAM, visit ailey.org/bam.

For press materials including bios, b-roll, and more, members of the media may visit pressroom.alvinailey.org. Photos are available [here](#).

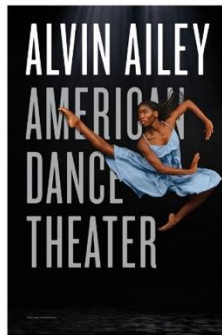


Photo Credits (L to R): Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater in Judith Jamison's *Hymn*. Photo by Andrew Eccles. 2025-2026 Season Image of Caroline T. Dartey. Photo by Andrew Eccles. Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's Constance Stamatiou, Jacquelin Harris and Renaldo Maurice in Alvin Ailey's *Revelations*. Photo by Danica Paulos. Please credit photos. **CTRL+ CLICK ON PHOTOS FOR HI-RES DOWNLOAD.**

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The creation of *Hymn* was made possible, in part, with public funds from the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency, and by grants from The Rockefeller Foundation and Diego Della Valle.

**Generous support for this production was provided by
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**The company premiere of *Blink of an Eye* is supported by commissioning funds from New York City Center.
Blink of An Eye was also made possible with support by Leanne Lachman.**

All performances of *Revelations* are permanently endowed by a generous gift from Donald L. Jonas in celebration of the birthday of his wife, Barbara, and her deep commitment to Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater.

ABOUT ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, recognized by US Congressional resolution as a vital American "Cultural Ambassador to the World," grew from a now-fabled March 1958 performance in New York that changed forever the perception of American dance. Forged during a pivotal moment in the civil rights movement, the company was established to uplift the African American experience while transcending boundaries of race, faith, and nationality with its universal humanity. Before his untimely death in 1989, Mr. Ailey named Judith Jamison as his successor, and for 21 years she brought the company to unprecedented success. Alicia Graf Mack, widely celebrated for her dance artistry during her years with Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, was appointed Artistic Director of AILEY as of July 1, 2025. Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater has performed for an estimated 25 million people in 71 countries on six continents, promoting the uniqueness of the African American cultural experience and the preservation and enrichment of the American modern dance tradition. In addition to being the Principal Dance Company of New York City Center, where its performances have become a year-end holiday tradition, the Ailey company performs annually at the Auditorium Theatre in Chicago, The Fox Theatre in Atlanta, Zellerbach Hall in Berkeley, CA, and at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark (where it is the Principal Resident Affiliate), and appears frequently in other major theaters throughout the world during extensive tours. AILEY also includes Ailey II (1974), a second performing company of emerging young dancers and innovative choreographers; The Ailey School (1969), one of the most extensive dance training programs in the world; Ailey Arts In Education & Community Programs (1992), which brings dance into the classrooms, communities, and lives of people of all ages; and Ailey Extension (2005), a program offering dance and fitness classes to the general public, which began with the opening of Ailey's permanent home—the largest building dedicated to dance in New York City, the dance capital of the world—named The Joan Weill Center for Dance, at 55th Street at 9th Avenue in New York City. For more information, visit ailey.org.

ABOUT BAM

A world-class home for adventurous artists, audiences, and ideas, BAM (Brooklyn Academy of Music) is North America's oldest performing arts center, showcasing the work of emerging artists and modern icons.

For more than 160 years, BAM has been a thriving, urban multi-arts complex renowned for presenting an unparalleled roster of visionary and cutting-edge dance, theater, music, opera, visual arts, literature, and film engagements. Attracting more than 750,000 people annually to its home in Brooklyn, BAM provides a welcoming cultural stage and meeting place for global and local communities of all backgrounds. BAM's distinctive multi-theater campus is alive year-round with inspired new engagements and signature programs alike including the renowned Next Wave (one of the world's most influential festivals of contemporary performing arts, founded in 1983), the iconic DanceAfrica, an acclaimed repertory film program, and literary, archival, educational and humanities programs. For more information visit BAM.org.

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