

ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER TO APPEAR ON APRIL 1st
DANCING WITH THE STARS BROADCAST

Featured on “Macy’s Stars of Dance” as Ailey’s 50th Anniversary Celebration Begins

New York- March 27, 2008 – Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, America’s foremost cultural ambassador, will appear as a special guest on the Tuesday, April 1 broadcast of “Dancing with the Stars” to help kick off their nationwide 50th anniversary celebration. The Ailey company will be featured as a part of “Macy’s Stars of Dance,” a weekly part of the “Dancing with the Stars Results Show” presenting some of the best choreographers and performers from different styles of dance. The Company, whose popularity is unrivaled, honors the African-American cultural experience and the American modern dance tradition, inspiring and uniting people of all backgrounds around the world.

The genius of Alvin Ailey changed forever the perception of American dance. Furthering his belief that “the dance came from the people and that it should always be delivered back to the people,” the Company has traveled to 71 countries on six continents. Today that legacy continues with the remarkable vision of Artistic Director Judith Jamison and the extraordinary artistry of the Ailey company’s 30 dancers. The Ailey mission now encompasses professional dance training, community programs for young people and classes for the general public, which are headquartered in Ailey’s New York City home - the nation’s largest building dedicated to dance.

On the broadcast, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater will perform an excerpt of Alvin Ailey’s signature masterpiece, *Revelations*. Since its premiere in 1960, *Revelations*’ universal themes of redemption, faith and hope have touched more people worldwide than any other dance work. Audiences from New York City and Los Angeles to South Africa, Russia and China greet the ballet with thunderous applause and standing ovations.

With a heritage proudly rooted in the past 50 years and a vision firmly focused on the 21st century, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater eagerly embraces opportunities to introduce this important American icon to new generations. Artistic Director Judith Jamison explains, “Dance is something that’s a shared experience. When we’re together on the dance floor or on the stage of life, we can communicate with our hearts and souls. It’s a reward to know that we have inspired people, and we love doing it.”

B-roll is available via Pathfire, or on PRNewsire from this link:

<http://www.prnewswire.com/broadcast/32514/consumer.html>.

Hard copies are also available by request.

For more information on Ailey and the Company’s 50th anniversary, please visit: www.alvinailey.org.

About Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater grew from the now fabled performance in March 1958 at the 92nd Street Y in New York City. Led by Alvin Ailey and a group of young African-American modern dancers, that performance changed forever the perception of American dance. The Ailey company has gone on to perform for more than 21 million people on six continents, earning a reputation as the most acclaimed international ambassador of American culture. Fifty years later, the Company continues the legacy of founder Alvin Ailey and the remarkable vision of Artistic Director Judith Jamison – promoting the uniqueness of the African-American cultural experience and the preservation and enrichment of the American modern dance heritage. Beauty, spirit, hope and passion know no bounds. That is the power of Ailey.