

Rock-A-Your 2K10 Soul



As we speak, Ailey dancers are preparing to perform their signature piece, *Revelations*. They're living the dreams they tell you about below. *gendance* is honored to welcome you to 2K10 with our New Year's Eve issue titled, *Revelations and Resolutions*; The beloved dreams and aspirations of *Alvin Ailey Dance Theatre* performers. Happy New Year to all GFF's across the globe.

Constance Stamatiou

My New Year's **resolution** is to live life day by day. To grow as a person, and a dancer with no limits. 2010 will be the next chapter of my life filled with family, happiness, and love. The biggest **revelation** I've had this year is the importance of self-reflection and having peace. Life is short, life is beautiful, life is love and it is important to do what makes you truly happy. I will continue to use dance as my outlet to express myself.

Rachael McLaren

My **revelation** this year has surprisingly been all about food. I love to eat, and traveling around the world with this company has ignited my passion for cooking. It's amazing how much you can learn about a culture through their food. Dancing with this amazing company means I barely have enough time to think about anything other than dance. I've decided that my New Year's **resolution** for 2010 will be to make time to explore different interests and passions that I would have otherwise been too busy to explore, such as cooking classes (and eventually culinary school).

Jamar Roberts

My New Year's **resolution** is to remain creative and to live in the moment. The biggest **revelation** I've had this year is the importance of love. Both giving and receiving.

Kirven James Boyd

My **resolution** for the New Year is to be even more grateful for every opportunity I get to dance. Also, I will embrace the fact that everything happens for



a reason and every challenge is a test that is only going to make me a better person. The biggest **revelation** I've had this year was realizing the importance of surrounding myself with good people. Dancers that work hard motivate me to be better both in life and in dance.

Antonio Douthit

My **resolution** is to always remember why I love to dance and how blessed I am to be doing what I love to do for a living. My **revelation** of this year is that I realized that my dream as a young man have come true, which was to be in Alvin Ailey performing ballets I saw as a kid and the dream of traveling the world.

Josh Johnson

The year has been a beautiful year. My **revelation** is that I've learned how to love the days and enjoy life for all that it is. My New Year's **resolution** is to promote peace and love in all that I do.

Hope Boykin

I usually shy away from calling a new plan or idea, which happens to fall around the latter part of December, a "New Year's Resolution," because the plans are often hard to keep. Maybe this year will be different. Around the end of the AAADT's domestic tour, I decided to take a vacation (the Revelation). Actually this was the very first vacation that I had ever been on as an adult. It took several days to learn to relax, but once I got it, I loved every moment.

Lately I've been working hard, as have all of my colleagues, and I have been thinking about that vacation and rest time. I have decided to take time out for myself on a regular basis (the Resolution). Being a part of AAADT affords so many opportunities, and as a member of the hardest working dance company in the world, believe it or not, I am always adding to my already amazingly heavy schedule. But the reality is that I must take care of my body; it is my instrument.

So here it is, my New Year's Resolution... I, Hope Boykin, do solemnly swear to take time for myself, rest and recuperate, and go on nice long vacations every year.

This issue is dedicated to our ultimate favorite piece, *Revelations*. Thank you, *Alvin Ailey Dance Theatre* for giving us a New Year's Eve



to remember. If you're lucky enough to be at the Ailey performance tonight at City Center, congrats. If you're not, <u>watch this clip</u>. (You may find yourself clapping and standing at the end as always.)

December 31, 2009

Photo Credits:

Photos of Constance Stamatiou, Rachael McLaren, Jamar Roberts, Kirven James Boyd, Antonio Douthit by Andrew Eccles

Josh Johnson, photo by Eduardo Patino Hope Boykin, Photo by Matthew Karas