

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ailey Extension and the Museum of the City of New York Announce ‘Let’s Move: A National Dance Day Celebration’ Launching New Dance Programs in conjunction with *Urban Stomp* Exhibition

Series of Family-Friendly Workshops Begin with Free NY-Style Mambo and Hip Hop Lessons at the Museum of the City of New York on Saturday, September 20

(New York, NY) – Ailey Extension is partnering with the Museum of the City of New York to present public programs celebrating dance by welcoming visitors into the galleries for interactive beginner-friendly classes taught by leading NYC instructors. The collaboration is inspired by the Museum’s current exhibition, ***Urban Stomp: Dreams & Defiance on the Dance Floor***, which explores over 200 years of social dance in New York City.

The partnership will kick-off at the Museum of the City of New York (1220 5th Ave at 103rd St) this fall on **National Dance Day, September 20**, featuring two free all-ages dance classes and a celebration of the history of social dance in New York City. Popular Ailey Extension Instructor and dancer **Katherine Jiménez** will teach New York-style mambo basics, followed by instruction in hip hop dance and culture led by Bronx-based dancer and celebrity choreographer **TweetBoogie**.

Programmed in coordination between Lisa Johnson-Willingham, Director of Ailey Extension, and Derrick León Washington, Curator of *Urban Stomp: Dreams & Defiance on the Dance Floor*, these workshops allow visitors to immerse themselves in some of the many dance styles explored throughout the exhibition. Led by globally renowned instructors who are experts in their fields, this series merges the welcoming and non-competitive spirit of Ailey Extension classes with the rich history presented in the exhibition to illuminate how these vibrant dances that have shaped—and been shaped by—New York City’s ever-changing cultural landscape.

The events will continue through the fall and winter with additional family programs and the return of the Museum’s popular weekend program, *Rhythm of the City*. Families will explore the history, culture, and community of hip hop through the interactive workshop, ***Move to the Music: Hip Hop***. On November 15, the Museum will stay open late for the after-hours program, ***Rhythm of the City: Hip Hop Won’t Stop***. In celebration of Valentine’s Day on February 14, ***Rhythm of the City: Salsa & Mambo*** will present dance instruction alongside live musical performances.

Participation is first come first serve, and advance registration is encouraged to guarantee a spot. To register, please visit: [Let's Move: A National Dance Day Celebration](#).

Learn more about each event below:

Let's Move: A National Dance Day Celebration

Saturday, September 20, 12 – 2:30 p.m.

Celebrate National Dance Day at the Museum of the City of New York in partnership with AILEY! Join us for an unforgettable celebration of community and social dance in New York during two high energy dance classes open to all ages—no dance experience required. First, learn New York-style mambo basics with renowned dancer Katherine Jiménez, then dive into hip hop dance and culture with the Bronx's own TweetBoogie. Don't miss out on this inspiring day of joy and movement!

Rhythm of the City: Hip Hop Won't Stop

Saturday, November 15, 6 – 10 p.m.

Join Ailey Extension and Museum of the City of New York for an upbeat celebration of hip hop culture featuring dance instruction from NYC professional dancers and choreographers.

Move to the Music: Hip Hop

Winter 2026, 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Learn about the history, culture, and community of hip hop from Ailey Extension instructors.

Rhythm of the City: Salsa & Mambo Night

Saturday, February 14, 6 – 10 p.m.

Celebrate Valentine's Day with Ailey Extension and Museum of the City of New York for a lovely evening of live music featuring salsa and mambo lessons. Come solo, with friends or with a partner—no experience needed to join in the dance.

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About *Urban Stomp: Dreams & Defiance on the Dance Floor*

Celebrating the creativity and joy of New York City dance cultures, [Urban Stomp](#) is a first-of-its-kind exhibition that explores over 200 years of social dance in the city, from the ballrooms and bars of the 19th century to the parks, living rooms, and clubs of today. The exhibition illuminates how New York's dance cultures and their related dance floors create spaces of collective celebration and social possibilities that have an impact everywhere. *Urban Stomp* is presented in collaboration with the Institute of Jazz Studies, Rutgers University–Newark. The exhibition is on view through **February 22, 2026**.

About Ailey Extension

Ailey Extension was founded to continue Alvin Ailey's legacy that "dance came from the people and should be delivered back to the people" by offering open dance classes that are accessible to all people in a welcoming, non-competitive environment. Ailey Extension enriches the lives of the community around us locally and internationally through dance classes, workshops, student performances, panel discussions, and private group classes with prominent dance instructors and musicians from around the world. Join Ailey Extension seven days a week, year-round online via Zoom, and in-studio at the home of the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater at 405 W 55th Street. Learn more at ailey.org/classes.

About the Museum of the City of New York

The Museum of the City of New York celebrates and interprets the city's history, art, popular culture, and civic life, highlighting New York's influence worldwide. Founded in 1923 as a private, nonprofit corporation, the Museum serves hundreds of thousands of visitors annually from around the world through exhibitions, school and public programs, publications, and collections. Learn more at mcny.org.

Media Contacts

Chris Gorman, pressoffice@mcny.org | 917.492.3482
Esther Akutekha, eakutekha@ailey.org | 212.405.9083