



THE ROBERT AND JUDI
**NEWMAN
CENTER**
UNIVERSITY OF DENVER

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PRESS RELEASE

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2020 Presenting Denver Dance Festival Announces the Selected Artists

Presenting Denver and The Robert and Judi Newman Center for the Performing Arts co-presenters of the 2020 Presenting Denver Dance Festival announce the artists who will create world premieres for the Dance Festival taking place on June 20-21, 2020. The mission of the dance festival is to increase the accessibility of dance. Through the dance festival we provide free or affordable opportunities for the public to engage with Colorado dance as a participant or spectator. The festival also provides stipend opportunities for Colorado artists to premiere new choreographic works, educational content, or audience engagement activities.

Festival artists were selected by a pool of jurors. [Jurors](#) for the 2020 Presenting Denver Dance Festival were Kathi Crum, Colorado Ballet Academy Faculty and choreographer; Mary Wohl Hann, director, choreographer and performer; Rachel Harding, dance educator, performer and dance studio owner; Chris Harris, performer, choreographer and dance educator; and Helanius J. Wilkins, choreographer, performance artist and scholar. Jurors represent a cross section of the dance and arts community in metro Denver.

"It is through the arts that mankind comes together to be uplifted and inspired. It is my honor to contribute my time to support such valued endeavors through Presenting Denver encouraging, recognizing, and showcasing Colorado's creative choreographic talents." said Crum, Festival Juror.

Main Stage artists premiering works in the "New & Now" concert in the Byron Theatre at the Presenting Denver Dance Festival will be BRIA Danse, Claire Kendall Creative Projects, Edgar L. Page: Feel the Movement, Hannah Kahn Dance Company, Lauren Beale in collaboration with Amanda Leise, Lisa Engelken Breaking Barriers, Maureen Breeze Dance Theater and Robert Sher-Machherndl's | Lemon

Sponge Cake Contemporary Ballet. Performance dates are June 20, 2020 at 8:00 p.m. and June 21, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. Tickets for the main event will go on sale March 1, 2020.

The Public Stage artists will show new works at the free “No Walls” concert taking place outdoors on The Graduation Green on the University of Denver campus on June 20 and 21, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. Artists are Candice Barth, Edgar L. Page: Feel the Movement, Fernanda Oliviera, jk-co, School of Breaking, Symbiosis, and Thomas Dance Project.

Artist leading free Community Presentations will be Lauren Beale & Brooke McNamara of Eunice Embodiment and Spoke N Motion Dance. Lauren Beale & Brooke McNamara of Eunice Embodiment will facilitate an improvisational exploration lab for all ages in a coming together of movement, inter-connection and play. Through a range of guided imaginative prompts, gentle partnering and movement structures, participants will have the opportunity to dive into their unique creative impulses, connect and forge expressive relationships and come together in community with the environment. Spoke N' Motion Dance is an integrated dance company which includes dancers with and without disabilities and will present about integrated dance and inclusion of all abilities in the arts. The focus of this presentation will be on methods of creating a fully inclusive environment, including aspects of choreography, teaching, and performance. Community Presentations will take place on the Public Stage.

Presenting Denver and the Newman Center will be hosting an audition on February 8, 2020 for festival artists who are seeking dancers. “Together with the Newman Center, we are excited to host our first audition open to local dancers. The audition will be a wonderful opportunity for Colorado based dancers to be seen by such esteemed choreographers and potentially open up additional career opportunities” said Meredith Hutson, Executive Director of Presenting Denver. “The Newman Center is thrilled to co-present the second biennial Presenting Denver Dance Festival. The inaugural festival in 2018 was a great success and enabled us to expand our dance programming reach in the community.” said Newman Center Executive Director Kendra Whitlock Ingram.

We are also pleased to announce the Artist-in-Residence, Edgar L. Page: Feel the Movement, will be selecting dancers from the February 8, 2020 audition for this special choreographic work to be performed on the Public Stage. Presenting Denver will be providing stipend compensation for the dancers selected. The piece will be created at the Newman Center a few days prior to the festival weekend. Edgar L. Page received the Audience Favorite Award at the 2018 dance festival and was invited back to create two works for the 2020 festival.

For information or to register for the audition, visit the Presenting Denver website at <https://presentingdenver.org/pd-dance-festival/>.

Tickets for the 2020 Presenting Denver Dance Festival Main Stage event will go on sale to the public on March 1, 2020 and can be purchased on the Newman Center website at <http://www.newmantix.com>, over

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the phone, or at the Newman Center box office.

Information about the dance festival artists, donation based, and free activities can be found on the Presenting Denver website at <http://presentingdenver.org/pd-dance-festival/>. Due to space, some events may require pre-registration.

About the Presenting Denver Dance Festival: The 2020 Presenting Denver Dance Festival, co-presented by Presenting Denver and The Robert and Judi Newman Center for the Performing Arts will take place at the University of Denver campus on June 20-21, 2020. The festival will feature 2 stages as well as dance activities over the span of the weekend.

About Presenting Denver: Presenting Denver is a 501(c)(3) organization based in Denver, Colorado. Presenting Denver was founded in 2013 with a commitment to define Denver as an innovative dance hub. Linking education, accessibility and the performances of dance, Presenting Denver's mission is to support the art of dance through increased public exposure and the appreciation of movement as an innovative art form. Our vision is to inspire individuals to connect and reconsider their world through the art of movement. Additional information can be found [online](#).

About The Robert and Judi Newman Center for the Performing Arts: Opened in 2002, the Robert and Judi Newman Center for the Performing Arts at the University of Denver is a multi-disciplinary arts venue that provides innovative, diverse, and thought-provoking performance and education opportunities, enabling the Denver and Colorado community to be engaged, inspired, and connected through the performing arts. The Newman Center is home to the Lamont School of Music, DU Theatre Department, the Newman Center Presents series, over 150 hosted events, and approximately 500 performances each year. More information can be found [online](#) and on [Facebook](#).

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