

NEWS FROM SAN DIEGO CITY COLLEGE

1313 Park Boulevard · San Diego, CA 92101 · 619.388.3911 · hbunkows.sdccd.edu

April 28, 2009

CONTACT:

Director Alicia Rincon, San Diego City College Dance Department
619 388 3563, arincon@sdccd.edu; www.sdccity.edu/savilletheater

“CITY MOVES” – CELEBRATING MUSIC AND DANCE AT CITY COLLEGE SAVILLE THEATRE

Guest artist Monique Gaffney will join the San Diego City College dance department for “City Moves”, an evening of Afro-Cuban, Modern, Hip Hop, and Swing dance at the campus Saville Theatre. The dance faculty and their talented students will present three shows only on Friday, May 8 at 8:00 p.m. and Saturday, May 9 at 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Award-winning dancer and actress Monique Gaffney, through her work with Juan Carlos Blanco, Director of Omo Ache Afro-Cuban Dance Company, will enthrall the audience with a collection of three authentic Afro-Cuban dances. Titled *Bailes AfroCubanos*, and accompanied by live drumming, each section of the dance illustrates the cultural richness of Cuba. First,, *Elegua: Elegua* is the Guardian of the Crossroads of Life for the Yoruba nation in Cuba who continues to preserve the culture of their African descendants. Second, *Afrekete: Yemaya* is an *Orisha* of the *Yoruba* pantheon, known as the mother of us all. She owns the seas and the oceans, and in the beginning the entire Earth was hers; and third, *Gaga: Gaga* is a *Franco-Haitian dance* derived from the *Bantu* speaking nation. This dance is used as a means of travel from one community to another for a variety of celebrations, a la carnival.

City College dance department director Alicia Rincon will salute American history through showcasing the great musicians, dancers, and singers who came together to create the music and dance known as *SWING!* The contagious energy of the Swing era will have you singing along to: *It Don't Mean a Thing*; and *Jumpin'* at the Woodside written by the fabulous Count Basie. The dance also features the songs Harlem Nocturne, GI Jive, and Stompin' at the Savoy.

Assistant Professor, Terry Wilson, will explore the images from a garden where plants and vines weave together to create a moving environment. Set to the music of Album Leaf, “*Through life, flow like a Vine*”, dancers engage the stage with woven and sweeping patterns. A metaphor for life, the vine creates images that nourish growth and occupy space in spectacular lines and designs.

Dance instructor, Terri Shipman will examine nature's element, the wind. Her piece, *Bluster*, ventures into concepts representing the development of a wind storm in the desert. Accompanied by the music, the Clogs, images of wind, sand and tumble weeds emerge through the dance, taking the audience on a journey through the desert.

Set to the classical favorites Bach and Vivaldi, Debi Toth-Ward creates “*Flight*”, an exploration of the journey and symbolism of what every human must do to “fly the coop”. Through gesture and expansive movement, the piece takes a look at first flight and investigates the division between vulnerability and new found power.

Blending styles of contemporary dance and hip hop movement, grace shinhae jun presents “*before your boom boom*”. With music by Black Eyed Peas, MIA, Nujabes, and Def Cut K’naan, this piece creates various spatial patterns that examine the way hip hop music ranges from nonsense rhymes to rhymes communicating critical messages.

The performance will close with “*Fairy Tales from the Fringe*”, Patricia Rincon’s work investigating century-old fairytales about celestial beings, vanity, love and tragedy. Through research of various fairytales, a multi-cultural perspective is represented and told in various languages from their origins. The dance examines how to look at both ancient and contemporary ways of telling *fairytales* and how they are still communicate powerful messages through their sage meaning.

“City Moves” runs Friday and Saturday evenings, May 8 and 9 at 8:00 p.m. and Saturday afternoon, May 9 at 2:00 p.m. The Saville Theatre, with free parking, is located on the San Diego City College downtown campus at 15th and “C” Streets. Ticket prices are \$15.00 for general admission, and \$10.00 for military, senior and students. For additional information: #619.388.3563 or www.sdcity.edu/savilletheater.

San Diego City College is a downtown urban college offering 1,500 day, evening, weekend and online classes to more than 17,000 students each semester. City College is part of the San Diego Community College District, comprised of City College, Mesa College, Miramar College and Continuing Education.

###

What: “City Moves” – an evening of Afro-Cuban, Hip Hop, Modern and Swing Dance

When: Friday, May 8 at 8:00 p.m. and Saturday, May 9 at 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Where: Saville Theatre at San Diego City College; 15th & C Streets; free parking

Cost: \$15.00 for general admission, \$10.00 for military, senior and students.

Contact: #619.388.3563, arincon@sdccd.edu, www.sdcity.edu/savilletheater