



THE PERFORMANCE GARAGE

Celebrates **25 Years of Impact** on April 5, 2025

Philadelphia, PA – The Performance Garage, a vital hub for the arts in Philadelphia, is proud to announce its 25th Anniversary Gala on **Saturday, April 5, 2025**. The event will celebrate the organization's remarkable journey, honoring two iconic figures whose contributions have elevated Philadelphia's cultural landscape: **Joan Myers Brown**, founder of Philadanco, and **David Devan**, General Director and President of OperaPhiladelphia.

Since its founding in 2000, The Performance Garage has played an essential role in nurturing and supporting the local dance community, providing space for over 900 dance companies and choreographers to create, rehearse, and present their work. With a mission to reduce barriers for artists, the organization has offered affordable rental rates, mentorship, and opportunities for collaboration, allowing emerging and established dance artists to thrive in the heart of the city.

"Our work over the last 25 years has had a lasting impact on the artists we serve, the audiences we engage, and the city of Philadelphia as a whole," said Performance Garage Executive Director Jeanne Ruddy. "This milestone is not just about our past—it's about the ongoing importance of our mission to create a vibrant, accessible space for dance to flourish. We're excited to celebrate our achievements and look forward to continuing our work in the years ahead."

In addition to providing rehearsal and performance spaces, The Performance Garage has developed a series of impactful programs, including:

- **DanceSpace:** An incubator for local talent, offering affordable rental rates for dance companies to produce new work.
- **DanceVisions:** A program where resident artists engage with the community through lectures, open rehearsals, master classes, and the creation of new world premieres.
- **YouthMoves:** A program that offers free formal dance training to students, helping to build confidence and discipline through the arts.
- **HubChats:** Panel discussions on relevant topics in the dance world, offering valuable insights to both audiences and artists.
- **DanceFilms:** A unique film series where resident artists present films that have inspired their choreographic practice.

The Gala will serve as an opportunity to reflect on The Performance Garage's quarter-century legacy, while also raising crucial funds to support its mission.

"We are grateful for the ongoing support of our community, and your support will help us continue to serve the thousands of people who rely on us for training, rehearsal space, and a platform to share their artistry," said Jeanne Ruddy.

The 25th Anniversary Gala will feature a special evening honoring Joan Myers Brown and David Devan for their outstanding contributions to the arts. Attendees will enjoy a night of performances, entertainment, and celebration as The Performance Garage looks to the future, continuing to support dance as an integral part of Philadelphia's cultural fabric.

Save the Date: April 5, 2025 – Join us in celebrating 25 years of dance, creativity, and community. Together, we can ensure that The Performance Garage remains a vital force for the arts for years to come.

For more information or to purchase tickets, please visit: www.performancegarage.org/annual-gala or contact our Development Director, Molly Dougherty at mdougherty@performancegarage.org.

About Performance Garage – Founded in 2000, The Performance Garage is a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting and promoting the art of dance in Philadelphia. With a focus on providing affordable space and opportunities for local artists, the organization has become a vital resource for dance companies and choreographers, as well as a space for audiences to experience diverse dance performances. The Performance Garage fosters creativity, collaboration, and artistic growth in the dance community.



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