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## AileyCamp 2023 Empowers Kansas City Youth through Dance and Creativity

**Kansas City, MO** – Kansas City Friends of Alvin Ailey (KCFAA) hosts AileyCamp, a FREE six-week program for kids ages 11-14, starting June 5, 2023. This award-winning program, created in 1989 by KCFAA, offers two local campsites, Kansas City, Kansas, and Kansas City, Missouri, and is part of the 10 camps held nationwide.

After several years of lower enrollment due to COVID, KCFAA is excited that the Missouri camp is FULL, but there is still time to register for the camp in Kansas. To register, visit kcfaa.org/aileycamp.

No prior dance experience is required for AileyCamp, and all costs are covered! KCFAA provides transportation for students in the Kansas City Public Schools (KCPS) and Kansas City Kansas Public Schools (KCKPS) school district boundaries. Topeka students can participate in the fun of AileyCamp Kansas too, with bussing being offered to and from Topeka, Kansas.

The AileyCamp curriculum challenges students to learn dance and explore their creativity through writing, art, and music. The program includes field trips and social activities and helps youth develop their self-confidence in an atmosphere of warmth, respect, and trust.

"Mr. Ailey would be overjoyed to see the national impact of AileyCamp that started here in Kansas City thirty-four years ago," said KCFAA Chief Artistic Officer Tyrone Aiken.

At the end of this jam-packed summer, students will participate in a performance for their friends, families, and supporters.

Due to the generous in-kind donations and supporters of AileyCamp, students have access to dance attire, two daily meals, and field trips. Annually, AileyCamp partners with Camps for Kids, which matches donations up to \$1,500 to help fund the camp. To donate, please visit <a href="https://kcfaa.org/camps-for-kids">kcfaa.org/camps-for-kids</a>.

At the end of summer, students are invited to sign up for AileyCamp the Group or Studio classes for grades K-12, with enrollment beginning August 1, 2023. To discover more about Studio, visit <a href="kcfaa.org/studio">kcfaa.org/studio</a>.

## **About Kansas City Friends of Alvin Ailey**

The mission of Kansas City Friends of Alvin Ailey (KCFAA) is making dance accessible to all people by presenting the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and Ailey II, teaching young people critical life skills through dance, and modeling interracial and multi-cultural community partnerships. For more information, visit kcfaa.org.

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