



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Kansas City Friends of Alvin Ailey**  
**Susan Stanton,**  
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### **Kansas City Friends of Alvin Ailey Announces Leadership Changes**

**Kansas City, MO** – Kansas City Friends of Alvin Ailey, a leading arts organization that celebrates black culture through dance, announces that CEO Melanie Miller will retire on July 31, 2023.

During Miller's time, the organization achieved financial stability and several milestones, including the presentation of the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater in March 2023 to nearly 5,000 people in Kansas City in sold out performances, strengthening the organization's position as an arts leader in the community. Under her leadership, Miller ensured that operations and programming continued during and post-COVID, introducing some new programming, and solidified KCFAA's reputation in Kansas City.

"It has been an honor to lead KCFAA for the past four years," said Miller. "I am incredibly proud of what we have accomplished together as a team and am confident that Kansas City Friends of Alvin Ailey is well-positioned for even greater success in the future."

The Board of Directors expresses their gratitude to Miller for her exceptional contributions and dedication to the company's success. As Miller transitions to new opportunities, she leaves behind a lasting legacy and a strong foundation for continued growth.

In the interim period, Susan Stanton, a previous board member and current advisory board member for KCFAA, will assume the responsibilities of CEO. Stanton has been an integral part of KCFAA's history and brings with her a wealth of leadership experience and strategic vision to ensure a smooth transition.

"I am honored to take on the role of interim CEO and continue the outstanding work done by Melanie Miller," said Stanton. "I look forward to working closely with our talented team to continue KCFAA's mission and upkeeping relationships in the Kansas City area."

The Board of Directors will initiate a comprehensive search for a new CEO to lead Kansas City Friends of Alvin Ailey into its next phase of growth. They will consider candidates who embody the company's values and have a background in promoting inclusion through dance.

### **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](http://kcfaa.org).*

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