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**PAUL TAYLOR DANCE FOUNDATION CANCELS THE
2020 PAUL TAYLOR AMERICAN MODERN DANCE SEASON
AT THE DAVID H. KOCH THEATER AT LINCOLN CENTER**

NEW YORK, June 24, 2020 – The Paul Taylor Dance Foundation (PTDF) announces the cancellation of its 2020 Paul Taylor American Modern Dance Season (PTAMD) at the David H. Koch Theater at Lincoln Center, which was scheduled to take place November 3 through November 22, featuring the Paul Taylor Dance Company (PTDC) due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Our annual Season at Lincoln Center is the highlight of our year, connecting us to our home audiences, sharing Paul Taylor's genius choreography and the beauty and power of the many facets of modern dance, both historical and new," said PTDF Artistic Director Michael Novak. "It is with heavy hearts that we cancel the 2020 Season, but the health and safety of our audiences, artists, production teams and staff remain the utmost priority as we move forward into the coming months. We look forward to the time when we can dance for our audiences in person."

A Taylor Company Commissioned dance to be created by New York City Ballet Principal Dancer Lauren Lovette and presented on the Gala performance of the 2020 PTAMD Season will be completed and premiered at a later date TBD. Work on pieces by Taylor Commissioned Choreographers Peter Chu and Michelle Manzanales interrupted by COVID-19 will resume as soon as the dancers are able to return to rehearsal.

"The Paul Taylor Dance Foundation is deeply saddened to not be able to share the great work of Paul Taylor and other exciting choreographers with the peerless New York City audience," said PTDF Executive Director John Tomlinson. "Our Seasons at Lincoln Center have been a highlight of each year and our performances in New York City have been a vital part of our existence for as far back as we can recall. It is painful to have to tell dancers, who have a limited window in their life to be able to dance such extraordinary work, that they must wait to share their brilliance with us. We plan to do all in our power to return to the stage as soon as it is possible."

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About Paul Taylor and PTAMD:

Paul Taylor (1930-2018) was the last of the pantheon of choreographers who defined the distinctly American art of modern dance. A virtuoso dancer for 20 years, Mr. Taylor turned exclusively to choreography in 1974; the dance that followed, *Esplanade*, was hailed an instant classic. His repertoire of 147 dances contains cogent observations on life's complexities and society's thorniest issues. They are performed by the Paul Taylor Dance Company, Taylor 2 and ballet and modern dance companies the world over. In 2015 he established PAUL TAYLOR AMERICAN MODERN DANCE to bring to New York's Lincoln Center – in addition to his own repertoire – masterworks of the past by renowned artists, and works by the next generation of choreographers creating on his Company. A Kennedy Center honoree, Mr. Taylor was the subject of the Oscar-nominated documentary, *Dancemaker*, and authored the acclaimed autobiography, *Private Domain*. He achieved countless accolades, including two of our nation's highest artistic distinctions: the Kennedy Center Honors and the National Medal of Arts. Mr. Taylor chose dancer Michael Novak to succeed him as Artistic Director; Mr. Novak assumed those duties in Summer 2018.

About the Paul Taylor Dance Company:

The Paul Taylor Dance Company is one of the world's most highly acclaimed and sought-after performing arts ensembles. Founded in 1954 by choreographer Paul Taylor, PTDC was led by Mr. Taylor until his death at 88 in 2018, after which dancer Michael Novak became Artistic Director. The Company has performed in some 524 cities in 64 countries. The Company performs Mr. Taylor's repertoire, comprising 147 dances.

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