

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CAROLYN ADAMS NAMED DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION  
AT THE PAUL TAYLOR DANCE FOUNDATION**

NEW YORK, July 28, 2021 – The Paul Taylor Dance Foundation (PTDF) announces the appointment of celebrated Taylor alumna and acclaimed educator Carolyn Adams as Director of Education, a new position at PTDF. Ms. Adams will be responsible for overseeing the operations and expansion of The Taylor School, as well as cultivating future educational leadership for the institution through her vast network in the dance community.

“In addition to her illustrious time dancing as one of Paul Taylor’s greatest muses, Carolyn Adams is a renowned dance educator who has dedicated her life to transforming the lives of dancers, dance-lovers, and students of all interests, abilities and backgrounds,” said Artistic Director Michael Novak. “Her insights on modern dance, coupled with a passion for inspiring others to find and nurture their artistry, will provide the leadership for our students and School to advance. I look forward to working with her to propel and expand our curricula at The Taylor School, and to develop new educational offerings throughout our organization.”

Ms. Adams joined the Paul Taylor Company in 1965. During her 17-year career with the Company, she created roles in such Taylor masterpieces as *Esplanade*, *Airs*, *Cloven Kingdom*, *Arden Court*, *Polaris* and *Big Bertha*, and distinguished herself in Taylor’s classic *Aureole*.

Ms. Adams is a life-long dance educator and advocate. With her sister Julie Adams Strandberg, she co-founded the Harlem Dance Studio, Dancing Legacy and the Repertory Etudes Collection. She is a faculty member at The Taylor School, faculty emerita at The Juilliard School and former director of education at Jacob’s Pillow. She is the founding artistic director of the New York State Summer School of the Arts School of Dance. Ms. Adams serves as chair of the external affairs committee of the Taylor Board of Advisors. She chaired Dance/USA’s national task force on dance education and she has also been a panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts and for the New York State Council on the Arts. She holds a B.A. from Sarah Lawrence College and an M.S.W. from Fordham University.

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“I am honored to take on this new position. With its amazing body of work, dedicated staff, and talented collaborators, PTDF is now positioned to expand all of its educational programs and build new partnerships, both nationally and internationally. Paul Taylor's work should belong to the world. So, we begin with the children,” said Ms. Adams.

Ms. Adams received the 2019 Martha Hill Award for Lifetime Achievement, a Dance Magazine Award in 2016, an award for Artistic Excellence from the International Association of Blacks in Dance in 2010 and the Balasaraswati/Joy Ann Dewey Beinecke Endowed Chair for Distinguished Teaching from the American Dance Festival in 2009.

**About The Paul Taylor Dance Foundation:**

The Paul Taylor Dance Foundation supports the Paul Taylor Dance Company, The Taylor School and The Taylor Archives. One of the most famous and dynamic modern dance ensembles of our time, the Paul Taylor Dance Company has been innovating and transforming the art form of modern dance since 1954. Founded by cultural icon and legendary dancemaker Paul Taylor, the 16-member Company houses 64 years of Taylor's unrivaled creativity and over a dozen contemporary commissions. Known for multi-disciplinary collaborations, passionate expression, and thrilling athleticism, the Company has performed in more than 500 cities in 64 countries, representing the United States at arts festivals in more than 40 countries and touring extensively under the aegis of the U.S. Department of State, and continues boldly into the future under the leadership of Artistic Director Michael Novak.

**About The Taylor School:**

The Taylor School, established in 1984, teaches modern dance technique and Taylor style to professional and pre-professional dancers as well as very young movers. The School includes a full Youth/Adult Program, a touring Taylor Teen Ensemble, a K-12 Outreach Program: Taylor-in-the-Schools, as well as Taylor Summer Camps and the Jody and John Arnhold Tier 3 Dance Education and Audience Development Initiative, which offers free tickets to Taylor Lincoln Center seasons and other free programming to K-12 public schools in NYC. The Taylor Intensives have achieved distinction by virtue of outstanding faculty members – including distinguished current members of PTDC and Taylor alumni -- and the exceptional personal attention given to each student. Fourteen current Taylor dancers trained at the Taylor Intensives prior to joining the Company.

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