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Bates Dance Festival ends season with popular Musicians' Concert, Different Voices showcase, Festival Finale

LEWISTON, Maine -- Bates Dance Festival reprises three popular annual offerings as it nears the end of its 2016 season.

The annual Musicians' Concert, a global mix of music by eight remarkable composers and players, takes place at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 2, at the Franco Center, 46 Cedar St., Lewiston. Admission is \$15 for adults, \$10 for seniors and \$7 for students.

The Different Voices concerts, showcasing diverse styles and perspectives by visiting choreographers from around the world, take place at 7:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday, Aug. 4 and 5, in Schaeffer Theatre, 329 College St. Admission is \$25 for adults, \$18 for seniors and \$12 for students.

The Festival Finale presents student dancers of all ages performing contemporary works by festival choreographers at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 6, in Alumni Gymnasium, 130 Central Ave. Admission is \$6, available only in cash sales at the door.

Tickets are available at <u>batestickets.com</u>. For more information, please visit the festival website -- <u>batesdancefestival.org</u> -- or call the BDF box office at 207-786-6161.

The Musicians' Concert offers a different perspective on creativity at the Dance Festival. Thoughtful, playful and profound music takes center stage as extraordinary composers, known for their collaborations with dancers, perform a program of original and improvised works that blend musical styles from around the globe.

Showcasing diverse styles and perspectives, Different Voices offers up a lively

and eclectic evening of multidisciplinary dance. Sharing the program are former Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company dancers Paul Matteson and Jennifer Nugent; master improvisers Chris Aiken and Angie Hauser; gifted Atlanta-based dance makers Kristin O'Neal and Gregory Catellier; the witty and hilarious performance artist Sara Juli; former Hubbard Street and Gus Giordano Chicago choreographer and dancer Autumn Eckman; Ivory Coast dance maker Michel Kouakou; Japanese dance and media artist Junichi Fukuda; and emerging choreographer Margot Gelber.

Celebrating the next wave of dance luminaries, the Festival Finale showcases work by Doug Varone, Kate Weare, Marianela Boán and Autumn Eckman, and also represents the Festival's Youth Arts Program.

About the Bates Dance Festival

Founded in 1982 at Bates College, the Bates Dance Festival brings together an international community of contemporary choreographers, performers, educators and students in a cooperative community to study, perform and create new work.

The festival serves as an annual destination for artists, students and audiences to engage in a full range of activities and performances that foster a creative exchange of ideas, encourage exploration of new ground and provide access to a wide spectrum of dance and movement disciplines.

At press time, support for the 2016 season has been provided by Bates College, the National Endowment for the Arts, the New England Foundation for the Arts, National Performance Network, the Sequoia Foundation, Morton-Kelly Charitable Trust, the Shapiro Family Foundation, Norway Savings Bank, Center Street Dental, I.dres, and generous individual donors.