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For Immediate Release

An Anniversary Celebration of Music and Dance Pioneers at GSU

University Park, IL, October 5, 2015 – You know their music. It's the kind that interrupts a moment with the immediate urge to move. How perfect then to celebrate their work in a contemporary dance performance. GSU's Center for Performing Arts welcomes PHILADANCO! at 45, The Philadelphia Dance Company, for their 45th anniversary tour on **October 24th at 8 p.m.** The program honors the contributions of Joan Myers Brown and the legendary James Brown, pioneers in dance and music. The Center is also celebrating its 20th anniversary, and is pleased to welcome this iconic tribute to the stage.

PHILADANCO is premiering three new programs for the 2015-16 touring season. Brown, founder of PHILADANCO and recipient of the 2012 National Medal of Arts for her phenomenal contributions to contemporary African-American dance, couldn't be more proud of her company. The company will perform its signature work "Enemy Behind the Gates," by the explosive dance stylist and former Ailey dancer Christopher Huggins. This is a work that was inspired by enemies that live within our midst. They look like you...They act like you...They live like you, but they are not one of you. The program will also include the musical genius of Nina Simone in Matthew Rushing's new work "Moan" for PHILADANCO. Known as the 'High Priestess of Soul,' Simone's seductive and hypnotic style will be reflected in the dance.

The second half of the show includes excerpts from the Apollo Theater's 2013 production honoring the "king of funk" James Brown. It is fun, it is funky, and when the tunes get rolling, we dare you to stay in your seat. Includes remixes of hits "Think (About It)", "Get on the Good Foot", and "Down and Out in New York City". Choreography from Ronald K.Brown, Thang Dao, Abdel Salaam and more!

What the Critics Say

"A company that can do more than just anything. It can represent the possibilities of the human spirit through dance."
- Dance Magazine

"Philadanco is this brilliant melting pot of modern, contemporary, jazz, ballet and lyrical dance, and we're lucky Joan Myers Brown's company is [ours], too." - PhillyNow

For Tickets and Information

Tickets start at \$33, up to \$38 for the best seats. Box seats are additional upon request.

Online: CenterTickets.net

By Phone: 708.235.2222

In Person at the Box Office: 1 University Parkway, University Park, IL

Box Office Hours: Monday- Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (open to 6p.m. on Thursdays) & 2 hours prior to all performances

Groups of 10 or more, students, seniors and patrons who purchase a flex package of four or more shows are eligible for discounts.

The Center for Performing Arts is honored to be supported by generous foundations, agencies, sponsors and individual supporters. This program is generously funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts and support from The Arts Midwest Touring Fund. A portion of GSU's arts programming is made possible by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency. If you would like to donate to the Center for Performing Arts please visit CenterTickets.net for details.

Governors State University is located at 1 University Parkway, University Park, IL 60484. Conveniently located off of I57 (Sauk Trail exit), the Center for Performing Arts is easily accessible from all neighboring south suburban communities. Parking is free. For best GPS directions always use the location search term "Governors State University" only.