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Destination KC: A Landmark Study

Owen/Cox Dance's Take the Stage Program presents its third annual Outreach Event of-the-Year on Tuesday, May 10 at 6:00 PM in the J.C Nichols Auditorium at the National World War I Museum and Memorial (100 W 26th St, Kansas City, MO 64108). **Destination KC: A Landmark Study** is presented in partnership with the National World War I Museum and Memorial. The program is free-of-charge and open to the public.

See Excellence in Action when Our Students TAKE THE STAGE!

The performance features live music and showcases over 100 students from seven area schools, including Holy Cross, Our Lady of the Angels, Scuola Vita Nuova Charter, Hartman, Douglass, Frontier and Primitivo Garcia Elementary Schools. Students who have participated in Take the Stage's in-school residency program and its Scholars—Willing And Talented advanced training program have engaged in joyfully rigorous weekly classes led by Artistic Director Rebka Sakati and a dedicated group of professional dancers and musicians. Lending their talents to the Take the Stage Program are some of Kansas City's finest teaching artists--Kim Shope, Katie Schilling, Molly Finnegan, Brad Cox, Mark Lowrey, Sam Wisman, Amado Espinoza, and Patrick Alonzo Conway. Student performers will be joined on stage by special guests from the community in what promises to be a moving journey through Kansas City history.

Take the Stage and Owen/Cox Dance bring high-quality dance education to underserved populations with powerful results:

"It's a great learning initiative....It engaged their brains, forced [students] to think visually, musically and provided physical activity. This was high cognition. You had to be thinking to do this well. You had to watch and listen to do this well.... There was every kind of kid in that group of kids and they were functioning like one. For the principal, that was a home run." --Jean Ferrara, principal Holy Cross Catholic School 2013

Take the Stage is a high-energy, in-school dance residency program designed to uplift and inspire youth to excellence. Through a positive and dynamic experience in the arts, we provide children the opportunity to discover the tools necessary to become successful in academics and in life.

The 2015-16 season is made possible by support from The Black Community Fund, The Breidenthal-Snyder Foundation, The Bright Futures Fund, Country Club Christian Church, H&R Block Foundation, The Estelle S. & Robert A. Long Ellis Foundation, the Missouri Arts Council, the National Endowment for the Arts—Art Works, StoneLion Puppet Theatre, Linda Nottberg, Jan Schoonover, and The Sakati Family.

For more information about this performance and future plans for Take the Stage, please contact Rebka Sakati at 402-216-3736 or email at takethestagekc@gmail.com.