

THE WOODEN FLOOR'S 30TH ANNUAL CONCERT CELEBRATES THREE DECADES OF BREAKING THE CYCLE OF POVERTY THROUGH DANCE

Santa Ana, Calif. (March 25, 2013) – **The Wooden Floor**, an arts-based youth development organization recognized for its progressive and pioneering dance-making, celebrates three decades of changing lives through dance at its 30th Annual Concert, *Sunrise*. The performances run May 30-June 1, 2013, at the **Irvine Barclay Theatre**. Now a staple of Orange County's contemporary dance calendar, the performances are profoundly inspiring and feature three top-of-their-field choreographers, **Ivy Baldwin**, **Mark Haim**, and **Melanie Ríos Glaser**, creating new work in partnership with 175 young dancers from low-income backgrounds.

Unlike any collaboration of its kind, The Wooden Floor's Annual Concert transcends dance on the stage to a movement within our community, resulting in a powerful experience for the audience. Leave your expectations at the door, and experience contemporary dance that breaks down the stereotypes of who can ignite and create great art. It is a performance that promises to be every bit as meaningful for the audience as it is for the dancers.

About the Choreographers

Ivy Baldwin is a NYC-based choreographer, performer, teacher, and founder of Ivy Baldwin Dance. Since its inception in 1999, Ivy Baldwin Dance has also been presented by Lincoln Center Out of Doors, New Museum of Contemporary Art, Danspace Project, among others. The Company has toured nationally and internationally including: Tanz im August in Berlin, Germany, Dans Contemporan International Dance Festival in Bacau, Romania, and Philadelphia Fringe Festival in Philadelphia, PA.

Mark Haim has choreographed over 90 dances for companies and schools around the world, including the Nederlands Dans Theater, Ballett Frankfurt, and the Limón Dance Company. He was Artistic Director of Mark Haim & Dancers and the Companhia de Danca de Lisboa in Lisbon, Portugal. Mark received his BFA from The Juilliard School and his MFA from ADF/Hollins University and was Senior Artist in Residence at the University of Washington from 2002-2008. Among awards and honors he has received are those from the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York Foundation for the Arts, and the Fulbright program.

Melanie Ríos Glaser serves as the Artistic Director & Co-CEO for The Wooden Floor. Born and raised in Guatemala, Melanie is a movement artist, curator and choreographer who received her BFA from the Juilliard School in 1994, was named a Kennedy Center Fellow in 1998, and was a Fulbright Scholar in Europe from 2003-2004. Melanie has created more than 30 pieces for various dance companies, universities, The Wooden Floor and her own Mosquito Dance Company. Her solo and group work has been presented internationally. As a dance educator for over sixteen years, Melanie has a marked interest in dance improvisation, contact improvisation and dance composition. Melanie enjoys volunteering as a consultant for other nonprofits on issues of nonprofit management, governance, and programming.

Event Details

Name: The Wooden Floor's 30th Annual Concert: *Sunrise*

When: May 30 - June 1, 2013 – Performances 8pm nightly, with a 2:30pm matinee performance on June 1

Where: Irvine Barclay Theatre - 4242 Campus Drive in Irvine

Tickets: \$20 General Seating; \$50 Benefit Seating – Available at 949.854.4646 and www.TheWoodenfloor.org/Sunrise

About The Wooden Floor

At The Wooden Floor, we use dance as a vehicle for transformation in the students we serve because there is so much learning involved. Creativity and expression are catalysts for positive change through the process of inventive art-making. When these young artists are applauded by an audience, they know that they are seen, that they matter. Our long-term artistic immersion is integrated with mentoring, comprehensive academic support, college readiness, and family support services to provide a solid platform for advancement and success. Since 2005, 100 percent of The Wooden Floor's young artists have graduated from high school on-time and pursued higher education. This is about three-times the national average for their socioeconomic peers. **Find out more online at www.TheWoodenFloor.org**