

Cue Sheet

Guides for
Teachers

Ailey II

Monday • February 3, 2025

Questions to ask students **BEFORE** the performance

- Where have you seen dance performed? Describe or demonstrate the style of dance you're most familiar with.
- Do you think a dance can tell a story? Why or why not?

Questions to ask students **AFTER** the performance

- Share one thing you learned about dance during the performance.
- What does the word "legacy" mean? What would you want to be your legacy?



Ailey II. Photo by Nir Arieli.

About the Performance

Founded by Alvin Ailey in 1974, Ailey II serves as a bridge between the studio and the stage for its early career dancers, offering unique opportunities to refine their technique while gaining invaluable performing and teaching experience during their two-year tenure. Mr. Ailey believed in making dance accessible and Ailey II is part of his legacy as a dancer, choreographer, and leader. Today, under the leadership of Artistic Director Francesca Harper, she brings fresh perspective to Mr. Ailey's legacy, while nurturing new creative voices and propelling the next generation of dance forward.

Ailey II will perform an excerpt from Houston Thomas' *Down the Rabbit Hole* and Alvin Ailey's beloved masterpiece *Revelations*. Students will experience a dynamic performance with dancers in full costume, accompanied by artistic stage lighting and sound.



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Vocabulary

balance [*bal-uhns*]: the ability to maintain stability and control of body position while moving or remaining still

choreography [*kawr-ee-og-ruh-fee*]: the art of creating, arranging, and designing dance sequences or movements

dynamics [*dahy-nam-iks*]: qualities of movement that deal with the force, energy, and intensity of the dance, such as sharpness, fluidity, or suddenness

generation [*jen-uh-rey-shuhn*]: a group of people or artists living and working at the same time, often contributing new ideas or styles to a field like dance

locomotion [*loh-kuh-moh-shuhn*]: movement that travels through space from one place to another, such as walking, running, leaping, or skipping

modern dance [*mod-ern dans*]: a style of dance that emerged in the early 20th century as a rebellion against classical ballet, focusing on natural movement and personal expression

rhythm [*rith-uhm*]: a regular pattern of movement or sound, particularly the beat that guides the timing of dance movements

tempo [*tem-poh*]: the speed at which a piece of music or dance moves, which affects the pace of the choreography and the energy of the performance

time [*tahym*]: a fundamental element of dance that refers to the duration of movements, including rhythms, speed, and pauses in the performance

Theater Etiquette

- Stay with your chaperone at all times.
- Remove hats or caps when inside.
- Put away mobile phones and other electronic devices. Use of photographic, video recording, audio recording, phones, and gaming devices is prohibited during performances.
- Allow everyone to enjoy the performance by remaining quiet, except when a response is requested by performers. Some shows are interactive, while others are not.
- Stay seated and do not kick or hit the seat in front of you.
- Request to leave the hall with an adult chaperone if you need to use the restroom or cool down. If you are being disruptive, an adult chaperone may escort you out of the theater. You may view the show on screens in the lobby or lower lounge until you are ready to return with your chaperone.
- Clap after the end of a song during a musical or other music performance. During a ballet or dance performance, clap at the end of the number.
- Remain in your seats after the applause at the end of the show until our House Manager dismisses you.

Click here!
To learn more
about Ailey II.

Facts about Popejoy Hall

- Popejoy Hall officially opened on October 1, 1966.
- The hall can seat up to 1985 people.
- Most walls inside the hall are not parallel or perpendicular to the stage. Curves, angles, and soft or textured surfaces scatter the sound throughout the hall so that audiences can hear performances better.
- Popejoy Hall has an orchestra pit which raises and lowers. It is the largest elevator in the building.
- The ceiling over the stage is three times the height of the curtain opening. Sets can be lowered into place by pulleys and raised high enough to be stored completely out of sight when not in use.