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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

<u>GROUNDWORKS DANCETHEATER ANNOUNCES VIRTUAL FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN –</u> <u>IT TAKES TWO 2020!</u>

CLEVELAND, OH (April 15, 2020) – GroundWorks DanceTheater announces their annual *IT TAKES TWO!* Benefit will transition to a completely virtual fundraising campaign. The virtual fundraising campaign will begin on April 15 and continue through April 26 at midnight. Throughout this time, photos, bloopers, and other content featuring your favorite Cleveland Celebrities will be released. On April 24, GroundWorks will release each of the Celebrities' final dance on video, allowing for supporters to continue voting and donating on behalf of their favorite Celebrity Dancers. On April 27, we will announce the winner of *It Takes Two 2020!*

This transition will allow our celebrities and company dancers to continue to rehearse while keeping consistent with the current <u>CDC Guidelines</u>. Each couple will rehearse remotely and create a final duet through video while creating other content pieces throughout the process.

GroundWorks believes in the power of the arts to bring people together. With the uncertainty and isolation that surrounds us, GroundWorks can reconnect in this small way through shared moments of beauty, joy, and even levity. We can help close the distance during this necessary time of being apart through this virtual campaign.

Our 2020 Celebrity Dancers:

- Jeff Epstein Executive Director, Midtown Cleveland
- Suzanne Hamilton VP, Commercial Real Estate, ERIEBANK
- Connie Hill-Johnson Owner/Managing Director, Visiting Angels Senior Homecare
- Charna E. Sherman Board President, Cuyahoga Arts & Culture
- Brian M. Zimmerman Chief Executive Officer, *Cleveland Metroparks*

There are three ways one can support this event:

- 1. **Vote!** *Vote for your favorite Celebrity to help them secure the win. Votes are available in increments of \$10 and can be purchased <u>here</u>.*
- 2. **Donate!** One can make a general donation to the event in any increment. These would not support any single celebrity but would provide support to GroundWorks. One can donate <u>here</u>.
- 3. **Help GroundWorks Spread the Word!** *Join us in helping promote this online campaign. This promotion can include sharing our posts on social media, sending emails with information to your network, or other creative ideas.*

For more information about the event, click <u>here</u>.

About GroundWorks DanceTheater:

Now in its 21st season, GroundWorks DanceTheater is dedicated to the development and presentation of new choreography and collaborations. The Northeast Ohio-based company performs new works by Executive Artistic Director, David Shimotakahara, as well as commissioned work by nationally & internationally acclaimed choreographers including Eric Michael Handman, Rosie Herrera, Kate Weare, Robert Moses, Ronen Koresh, Dianne McIntyre, Lynne Taylor-Corbett, Jill Sigman, Gina Gibney, David Parker, Brian Brooks, James Gregg, & many others. GroundWorks is committed to presenting unique opportunities for engaging the community through work-in-progress showings, master classes, and educational outreach to school children, college students, and senior adults.

GroundWorks DanceTheater's annual programming is made possible with funding from The National Endowment for the Arts, The Ohio Arts Council, Cuyahoga County residents through Cuyahoga Arts & Culture, The Cleveland Foundation, The George Gund Foundation, The Toby Devan Lewis Philanthropic Fund, GAR Foundation, Peg's Foundation, The Char & Chuck Fowler Family Foundation, The John P. Murphy Foundation, The Kulas Foundation, Akron Community Foundation, The Demetros Charitable Trust, The Judith Gerson Fund, Sisler McFawn, Individual Contributors & Members of the GroundWorks Board of Directors.

For more information, please visit <u>www.groundworksdance.org</u> or call 216-751-0088.

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