



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 8, 2008

Contact: Scott Lewis
(503) 756-1912
info@nwdp.com

NORTHWEST PROFESSIONAL DANCE PROJECT RECEIVES GRANT FROM THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

ONE OF ONLY TWO DANCE COMPANIES IN OREGON TO RECEIVE 2009 FUNDING

The Northwest Professional Dance Project (NWPDP) has been awarded a \$10,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to support the creation and premiere of three dance works, including new ballets from Portland favorites James Canfield and Sarah Slipper, NWPDP's Artistic Director. These new works will be premiered in Portland this summer, along with additional new creations

Only 16 Oregon arts organizations received NEA grants for 2009. NWPDP and Oregon Ballet Theatre were the only two dance companies in the state to be awarded grants; each received \$10,000.

A complete list can be found at:

http://www.nea.gov/grants/recent/09grants/states1/09_states1.php?STATE=OR

“This is a huge stamp of national approval and recognition for us,” Slipper says, “and I’m really proud. We didn’t get NEA funding last year, yet still managed to produce and premiere 16 new works in Portland and meet all our goals. It’s unusual, but I guess the second time was a charm for us, and to be funded at the same level as the state’s largest ballet company really speaks to the importance and caliber of the work NWPDP is creating from leading choreographers from around the world. This funding is a real feather in our cap and a great way to start our busy 2009 season.”

ABOUT NWPDP: Founded in 2004, the Northwest Professional Dance Project is dedicated to the creation and performance of innovative, contemporary new dance works from established and emerging dance makers. In order to produce the next wave of significant dance works, we are also committed to advancing the training and mentoring the next generation of professional dancers through our various Projects, intensives, workshops and classes. Because dance cannot survive without new audiences and a deepened appreciation of the art form, we strive to engage individuals and communities with dance through accessible performances by our Project Company, open studio sessions and special events, as well as bringing the experience of dance to youth in-need through our interactive Dance Moves community outreach program.

PO Box 42488 Portland OR 97242 p/ 503.421.7434 info@nwdp.com www.nwdp.com

NWPDP is a registered 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization