**GIORDANO DANCE CHICAGO HONORS JAZZ DANCE AT THE AUDITORIUM THEATRE**

**Celebrating Nan Giordano’s 25th Year as Artistic Director**

**Chicago, IL (JUNE 9, 2018)** – Giordano Dance Chicago (GDC) closes out its 55th Anniversary season on the historic Auditorium Theatre stage June 9 at 7:30pm with an exhilarating mixed repertory program that honors the stylistic heart of American jazz dance.

“We are so looking forward to ending our fantastic season with a high-energy, thrilling performance from Giordano Dance Chicago, a company that has defined jazz and contemporary dance in the city,” says Auditorium Theatre CEO Tania Castroverde Moskalenko. “We will kick off the summer months in style with this fiery evening that features jazz dance in all forms.”

Two works featuring choreography by GDC founder, Gus Giordano, showcase the classic Giordano Technique: *Giordano Moves* (2005), a work for 14 dancers and recently restaged by Nan Giordano, pays homage to classic Giordano choreographic output. *Wings* (1978), performed by GDC Artistic Programs Manager, **Cesar G. Salinas**, features a soulful live performance of “Swing Low, Sweet Chariot” by the acclaimed family singers, **The Bournés**.

The evening also features **Ray Leeper’s** *Feelin’ Good Sweet* (2014), a work called “flat out fun [and] over-the-top sexy, stylishly cool” by the Chicago Tribune, set to music by Michael Bublé, Aretha Franklin, and Michael Brennan; *Grusin Suite* (1993), choreographed by River North Dance Chicago’s **Frank Chaves**; *Take A Gambol* (2018) by former GDC dancer and current Operations Manager, Joshua Blake Carter; and former Ailey American Dance Theater dancer Christopher Huggins’ electrifying *Pyrokinesis* (2007), which “more than lives up to its title with its ‘can you top this?’ vibe” (Chicago Tonight).

 “How fitting to conclude our 55th season at the Auditorium,” says Nan Giordano, “It was always my father’s [Gus Giordano’s] dream to have his company perform on the stage of this landmark theater, and we are excited to return for our fourth full-length performance on the historic stage.”

This “Made in Chicago” Dance Series performance also commemorates Nan Giordano’s 33 years of GDC leadership and 25 years as artistic director. Under Nan’s direction, GDC has developed a large, diverse repertoire and a high-profile reputation for excellence in the international dance community.

“Nan Giordano has established Giordano Dance Chicago as a strong force in Chicago’s dance scene,” says Castroverde Moskalenko. “It will be an honor to celebrate her at the theatre.”

Nan Giordano has been at the helm of GDC since 1985, when she was appointed Associate Director after performing with the company for many years; in 1993, she then became the company’s Artistic Director. Today, she is the preeminent authority on the Giordano Technique, a style pioneered by her father and developed with a strong focus on core control, regal lines and powerful spacial resistance. Please join us in celebrating the influence of Nan Giordano’s tenure in the world of dance and in the Chicago community.