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NEWS RELEASE MAY 28, 2015

Summer Heats Up in East Liberty at Kelly Strayhorn Theater's Full Bloom Benefit Bash

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KST brings a world of fun to East Liberty at its seventh annual summer dance party

The seventh annual **Full Bloom Summer Dance Party** is your passport to summer fun. From Cuba to Morocco, India to Japan, Kelly Strayhorn Theater brings amazing artists from around the world to ignite the stage in East Liberty. Full Bloom is our signature summer fundraiser and dance party, and it's back with tasty treats and global beats that pay homage to the amazing international artists who have graced our World Stage. Join us on **Saturday, June 6** and dance the night away in support of the arts in East Liberty.

Full Bloom kicks off **East Liberty LIVE!**, KST's affordable summer series for children and families, providing audiences with accessible and affordable arts programming in East Liberty. Over 300 guests come together to support the theater at Full Bloom with a dance party that spills into the streets. East Liberty LIVE! encourages first time patrons and residents to discover KST and the unique cultural destinations in the neighborhood.

"Our neighbors and members of this vibrant community are the heart and soul of our audience," says executive director janera solomon. "Full Bloom is our way of thanking friends of KST for their continuous support of the arts in East Liberty. Proceeds from this signature benefit bash support accessible and quality programming over the summer, which served over 800 youth and residents last year."

Full Bloom Host Committee

Ayana Ledford *co-chair*
Lara Shipkovitz *co-chair*

Francine & Jim Abraham
Elizabeth Bush
Betty Cruz
Caitlin Green and Upendo Tookas
Anna Hollis & Gregg Kander
Abass B. Kamara
Anne & Vincent Lackner
Mrs. Olivia Payne & Dr. Kirill Kiselyov
Lori Moran
Dr. Allan and Frances Philp
Caryn Rubinoff & Craig Dunham
Courtenay Sashin
Helene Weinraub & Geoff Clauss
Maria & Ivan Yotov
Ciera Marie Young

VIP guests arrive at 7 p.m. to enjoy live performances, music by **DJ Lovelife**, delicious local fare, specialty cocktails, and a beer garden sponsored by Homestead's **Rock Bottom Brewery**. A dance performance by **Steel Dragon** will lead VIP guests from their on-stage reception to the dance floor, where DJs **J. Malls** and **Pandemic** keep partygoers moving and grooving from 9 p.m. until midnight. The celebration continues with more delicious local fare, activities including henna tattoos and a fabulous photo booth, cash bar, more live performances, and a dazzling dance party.

We are excited to welcome **Ayana Ledford** and **Lara Shipkovitz** as our **Host Committee co-chairs**, as well as the rest of our 2015 Host Committee: Francine and Jim Abraham, Elizabeth Bush, Betty Cruz, Caitlin Green and Upendo Tookas, Anna Hollis and Gregg Kander, Abass B. Kamara, Anne and Vincent Lackner, Mrs. Olivia Payne and Dr. Kirill Kiselyov, Lori Moran, Dr. Allan and Frances Philp, Caryn Rubinoff and Craig Dunham, Courtenay Sashin, Helene Weinraub and Geoff Clauss, Maria and Ivan Yotov, and Ciera Marie Young. Kelly Strayhorn Theater also thanks lead sponsors PNC and Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield for their continued support of Full Bloom.

When & Where: Saturday, June 6, 2015
Kelly Strayhorn Theater, 5941 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15206
VIP Reception 7–9 PM | Dance Party 9 PM–Midnight

Tickets: VIP Ticket: $125 | Dance Party: $50

To purchase tickets and learn about sponsorship opportunities, please visit our website, email us at fullbloom@kelly-strayhorn.org or call 412.363.3000.

East Liberty LIVE!

East Liberty LIVE! is KST's summer arts series for audiences who live, work, and play in the East End. All proceeds from Full Bloom support East Liberty LIVE!'s 20-plus fun-filled summer programs. From pop-up happenings and daytime dance parties that will spice up your lunch break, to lively main stage performances with local and international artists, East Liberty LIVE! brings engaging opportunities to East End families, youth, and neighborhood residents.

About the Kelly Strayhorn Theater

Kelly Strayhorn Theater (KST) uses the arts as a catalyst for community revitalization, and plays a key role in the transformation of East Liberty and nearby neighborhoods. In its 13th year as an organization, and seventh season of original programming, KST continues to demonstrate its commitment to Pittsburgh artists and audiences, supporting the presentation of risk-taking new work by emerging artists and arts organizations. KST operates two professionally-equipped venues along the Penn Avenue arts corridor. The historic Kelly Strayhorn Theater (formerly the Regent Theatre, 1914) is a 350-seat multi-arts venue, and the last survivor of East Liberty's nine original theaters. Noted Pittsburghers and KST namesakes Gene Kelly and Billy Strayhorn are among the 80 area artists honored in the theater's Gallery of Stars. Just blocks away, KST's Alloy Studios play host to intimate performance events and provide creative space for artist residencies, Alloy School dance classes, and performance rehearsals, as well as community art and music programs.

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