



CHAGRIN FOUNDATION FOR
ARTS & CULTURE

www.chagrinfoundation.org

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News Release

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GroundWorks DanceTheater to Perform in Chagrin Falls Saturday, March 28 at 7:30 pm Company's first local performance after triumphant New York debut

Cleveland, Ohio (*February 19, 2009*) – Following its triumphant New York debut, GroundWorks DanceTheater will continue its Tenth Anniversary Season celebration with a performance in Chagrin Falls as part of the *Chagrin Arts 2009* Winter Series, presented by the Chagrin Foundation for Arts & Culture. This will be the second annual *Chagrin Arts* appearance for GroundWorks, recently voted “**Best Dance Company**” by *Cleveland Scene*.

The one-night only performance on Saturday, March 28 will be at Philomethian Auditorium at Chagrin Falls Intermediate School, 77 East Washington Street. Free parking is available on Philomethian Street, between East Washington and Bell. The program will include:

- *Unpublished Dialogues* by acclaimed choreographer Lynne Taylor-Corbett, a luminous and dramatic new work based on the life of Virginia Woolf;
- *Major to Minor*, GroundWorks Artistic Director David Shimotakahara's bittersweet yet humorous take on a timeless theme – the pursuit of love – set to the music of legendary female jazz vocalists Ella Fitzgerald, Billie Holiday, Anita O'Day and others;

- *Allow*, a richly kinetic interplay for four dancers by Artistic Associate Amy Miller with an original score by Alex Christie.

Tickets are \$20 for regular admission and \$5 for students and can be purchased through the Chagrin Valley Little Theatre box office at 40 River Street in Chagrin Falls. Box office hours are Monday-Saturday 1 pm – 6 pm. Tickets are also available online at www.chagrinfoundation.org. For more information, call the box office at 440-247-8955, Chagrin Foundation for Arts & Culture at 440-247-9700 or GroundWorks DanceTheater at 216-691-3180.

The Chagrin Foundation for Arts & Culture was created to enrich lives and promote economic well-being in the Chagrin Valley through arts and culture. It presents programs that encourage artistic collaboration and add to the region's cultural enrichment, while also working with area cultural organizations and helping to create and Arts & Entertainment District in Chagrin Falls. Its most visible programs are its summer *Chautauqua-in-Chagrin* evenings and the winter *Chagrin Arts* series. The *Chagrin Arts 2009* Series will conclude on Friday, April 24th, with a 7:30 p.m. performance by Apollo's Fire at the Chagrin Falls High School Performing Arts Center. The 2009 *Chautauqua-in-Chagrin* schedule will be announced in early spring.

GroundWorks was founded by Shimotakahara in 1998 and is dedicated to the development and presentation of new choreography created for the Company, and collaborations, most notably with composers of new music. The six-member Company celebrates the richness of choreography in contemporary dance and performs new works by Shimotakahara and Miller, as well as commissioned work by nationally and internationally acclaimed choreographers including Taylor-Corbett, Gina Gibney, Zvi Gotheiner, David Parker, and others. Shimotakahara has been a member of the Atlanta Ballet, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, and was a dancer and rehearsal assistant with the Ohio Ballet, under the direction of Heinz Poll, from 1983 to 1999. He and GroundWorks have been widely recognized for their contributions. Shimotakahara himself has received numerous awards, including six consecutive individual Artist Fellowships for Choreography from the Ohio Arts Council; a McKnight Foundation

Fellowship; and a 2000 Cleveland Arts Prize for Dance. In 2004 GroundWorks DanceTheater was voted “One of 25 to Watch” by *Dance Magazine*.

The Chagrin Arts concert continues GroundWorks’ Tenth Anniversary Season in memory of its founding Board President Marjorie Talalay. GroundWorks DanceTheater’s annual programs are made possible thanks to the generous support of: The National Endowment for the Arts, The Ohio Arts Council, Cuyahoga County residents through Cuyahoga Arts and Culture, The Cleveland Foundation, The George Gund Foundation, The Akron Community Foundation, The GAR Foundation, The Knight Foundation, Toby Devan Lewis Philanthropic Fund, AHS Foundation, The Murphy Foundation, The Kulas Foundation, The Judith Gerson Fund, Northern Ohio Golf Charities, McMaster Carr Supply Co., Target Stores, Cleveland *Scene*, The University of Akron School of Theater Dance and Arts Administration, Michael Owen/Millworks Gallery, Cleveland City Dance, Individual Contributors, and Members of the GroundWorks Board of Trustees.

For More Information

For more information, or to schedule an interview with the performers, call the Chagrin Foundation for Arts & Culture at 440-247-9700.

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Artists’ biographical information available upon request.

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