OUR MISSION

Founded in 1984 by choreographer Jawole Willa Jo Zollar, Urban Bush Women (UBW) seeks to bring the untold and under-told histories and stories of disenfranchised people to light through dance. We do this from a woman-centered perspective and as members of the African Diaspora community in order to create a more equitable balance of power in the dance world and beyond.

As UBW celebrates its 35th Anniversary year, we continue to use dance as both the message and the medium to bring together diverse audiences through innovative choreography, community collaboration and artistic leadership development.
UBW HOMECOMING CAMPAIGN: LEGACY + LINEAGE + LIBERATION

is an opportunity for UBW friends, family and fans to show their support of UBW’s legacy and future by donating to strengthen our signature programs:

+ Summer Leadership Institute (SLI)
+ Builders, Organizers and Leaders through Dance (BOLD)
+ UBW Choreographic Center Initiative
+ Creation of Groundbreaking New Work
WHY NOW?
CAMPAIGN TIMING

This is a truly unique moment for UBW, the dance community and our country — it is our responsibility to build on this moment to grow the sustainability of UBW.

UBW’s work on stages and in communities has gained the organization significant national awards and recognition. At the same time, we are seeing the beginning of the impact of many efforts, including the UBW Choreographic Center Initiative, on the dance community as it has experienced increased engagement with women(+) of color choreographers in terms of presenting, funding and residencies.

We are also seeing more people and institutions seeking out ways to leverage the arts and social justice for real change during our current political climate. UBW has spent the last three decades developing the knowledge to meet these needs in the dance community and in our country.

UBW’s work to engage individual and foundation donors has laid the groundwork for us to leverage this moment while celebrating our 35th anniversary:

UrbanBushWomen.org/campaign

Our supporters seek to nurture the art that nurtures them. It is UBW’s aim to bring them together during the campaign around two goals — to recognize the importance of 35 years of UBW and increase the sustainability of the organization for another 35 years and beyond.
The goal of the UBW Homecoming Campaign is to raise over $200,000 in two years to support the programs that can ensure UBW's sustainability: the creation of New Work, the Summer Leadership Institute and BOLD. Increased infrastructure in these areas is a direct investment in UBW's ability to bring together and inspire future artists and art lovers.

Support of New Work — $100,000
Funding UBW's future choreographic work will expand our body of bold, life-affirming dance works that serve as vehicles for self-expression and catalysts for social change. A new work reflective of our unique moment in history will also provide touring, restaging and residency income to UBW for years to come. Funding will also support the UBW Choreographic Center initiative which supports women(+) of color choreographers as they create new work.

Support of SLI and BOLD — $50,000
UBW's largest potential for growth is in our pioneering community work. We envision a future for BOLD workshops where a larger network of specially trained facilitators are working with nonprofit organizations across the country to have a larger impact in their communities. Funding will also support SLI's continued growth and the infrastructure to ensure that the SLI community has opportunities to grow and learn together all year long.

Support of UBW Organizational Capacity — $25,000 and beyond
We are proud of the growth UBW has achieved since its founding in 1984. UBW needs the administrative infrastructure to meet the most pressing needs of UBW for generations. The UBW Legacy Fund will offer major gift donors and planned giving donors the opportunity to provide true sustainability for UBW.

UBW Legacy Fund — $25,000 and beyond
Income from the endowed UBW Legacy Fund will support the most pressing needs of UBW for generations. The UBW Legacy Fund will offer major gift donors and planned giving donors the opportunity to provide true sustainability for UBW.
DONATE TO THE UBW HOMECOMING CAMPAIGN

Over the next two years, we will be asking our UBW friends, fans and family to make a donation to the UBW Homecoming Campaign. Gifts of every size will help us reach our goals to create new work, strengthen the SLI and BOLD, and bolster UBW’s infrastructure. Here is how you can help:

+ Make a Monthly Gift:

You can maximize your gift to UBW by committing to a monthly donation. Your gift of $10, $15, $25 or more every month will provide much needed, consistent support to UBW. Use the DONATE button on our website or text GIVE to 347-767-4408 to make a recurring gift (monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, or annually).

+ Make a Major Gift:

To create transformational work, UBW will need transformational gifts. Please consider a gift or pledge of $2,500 or more over the two-year public phase of the campaign. Your gift can be made in monthly, quarterly, semi-annual or annual installments. Your commitment of a monthly gift of $104 or quarterly gift of $312 over two years will make you key to UBW reaching its goal.

Giving a contribution is a vitally important way to show up for UBW. Your participation is truly key to sustaining UBW’s legacy + lineage + liberation!
From left to right: UBW Co-Associate Artistic Directors: Chanon Judson & Samantha Speis
UBW Company Members: Du'Bois A'Keen, Courtney J. Cook, Tendayi Kuumba, Stephanie Mas | Photos by Hayim Heron
YOUR ROLE IS KEY

Everyone who has engaged with UBW over the past 35 years has played a role in shaping UBW into a world-renowned arts organization. Our interactions with you — as audience, community, company, Summer Leadership Institute, staff or board members — directly influence UBW’s ability to create life-affirming work on stages and in communities.

Just as we boldly step onto the stage, we are boldly asking you to be a part of the UBW Homecoming Campaign. You are key to recognizing the impact of 35 years of UBW and ensuring our work inspires for another 35 years and beyond.

VOLUNTEER

The UBW Homecoming Campaign is activated by UBW’s network of friends and donors across the country. There are many ways to be a part of this activation by volunteering to serve on a committee, hosting a fundraising event, identifying prospective individual and foundation donors or attending an event.

+ Join the National Committee
+ Join a Regional Committee
+ Host an official UBW Fundraising Event online or in person
+ Attend a UBW Fundraising Event
+ Come to a performance and bring a friend
+ Tell your network about UBW

Use the contact form on the UBW Homecoming Campaign page to receive more information on volunteering for the campaign. We will reach out to you to discuss how you can play a role in the campaign’s success.