Minneapolis, MN, October 4 – The Cowles Center announced at DECADANCE, its benefit on October 1, a brand-new initiative for the following year: The Fall Forward Festival. This new annual festival will showcase the breadth of talent in Minnesota’s dance community with 10 artists scheduled to perform over four weekends. Companies will perform new and loved works; The Cowles Center is providing three of the performing companies commissioning fees for the creation of a new work to be debuted at the festival. Exact dates for the Fall Forward 2022 are yet to be determined but the festival will open in October 2022.

Jessi Fett, Co-director of The Cowles Center, elaborates on the initiative: “The Fall Forward Festival was created to connect artists and audiences, to be an accessible vehicle for those new to dance to experience a sample, and to bring new artists to the Goodale Stage all within four weekends.”

The artists and companies confirmed for the Fall Forward Festival in 2022 are Aparna Ramaswamy, Atlantis13, Black Label Movement, Crash Dance Productions, Duniya Drum & Dance Company, HIJACK, Rhythmically Speaking, Threads Dance Project Twin Cities Ballet, and Zorongo Flamenco Dance Theatre. Duniya Drum & Dance Company, Threads Dance Project, and Zorongo Flamenco Dance Theatre will create new work commissioned by The Cowles Center for the 2022 Festival.

“We’ve wanted to undertake a project like this for a long time, and especially have looked to create avenues for commissioning new work,” shares fellow Co-Director Joseph Bingham, “The Cowles has always been the right place and, after 10 years in operation, it’s now the right time for a dance festival.”
A different and new roster will be available every weekend of the festival. Each artist/company will perform a 15 – 40-minute piece, depending on the billing.

Fall Forward is planned to be an annual festival, with approximately 10 artists/companies performing each year. The 2022 and future festival bookings prioritize artists who have not yet performed on the Cowles’ main stage (the Goodale Theater).

The Cowles Center is currently seeking corporate sponsorship for the festival. To learn more about sponsoring Fall Forward, please email mary.meyers@artspace.org.

ABOUT THE COWLES CENTER

The Cowles Center is a dance and performing arts hub that promotes movement and growth for artists through supportive programs and spaces; engages audiences through dynamic performances; and educates learners of all ages through robust and inclusive education initiatives. The Cowles Center is owned and operated by Artspace. Learn more: thecowlescenter.org.

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