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**The Phfff! Dance Theatre Company and The Delridge Neighborhood Development Association present a Gala Opening and free performances to the public**

**When:** Free Performances: Thur. & Fri., June 1 & 2 at 8pm and Sun., June 4 at 2pm.  
Gala Opening: Sat. June 3 at 7pm. Dinner and Performance.

**Where:** Youngstown Cultural Arts Center, 4408 Delridge Way SW (In West Seattle: Follow Delridge Exit off WS Bridge, 3 blks on Left)

**Cost:** Free Performances: Any donation accepted but not required.  
Gala: \$75 per ticket (\$135 for two or \$625 table of ten)

**Ticketing:** Free Performances: open seating, no tickets required  
Gala: 206-923-0917 ext 122 or www.dnda.org

**General Information:** (206) 935-2999 (Youngstown)

An unusual collaborative effort between **The Delridge Neighborhood Development Association (DNDA)** and **The Phfff! Dance Theatre Company**, will provide free performances to the public in an effort to enable access to the arts in the underserved Delridge community of West Seattle. On Thursday and Friday June 1st and 2nd at 8pm and Sunday June 4th at 2pm, Phfff! , a Seattle-based multicultural dance company, will present recent choreographed works, *Pendulum*, *Pathology* and *Talk Circle*, and an improvised work *Take it as it Comes* at Youngstown Cultural Arts Center. A Gala Opening takes place on June 3rd at 7pm, with a Pacific Northwest-inspired dinner followed by the same performances by Phfff! . Proceeds from the Gala will help offset the cost of the free performances and will also support a workshop conducted this Fall by Phfff! for teens from DNDA's affordable housing projects to create a dance based on their own lives.

***You might even get paid to watch!***

Among the works being presented are *Pathology*, a quirky piece in which an audience member gets paid to vote on a dancer in a rigged vote and dancers get the rug pulled out from under them...literally. Audiences will also see Phfff!'s rendition of *Pendulum*, first choreographed by Phfff! Company Artistic Director Cyrus Khambatta for Spectrum Dance Theater's Northwest Best Series in March, and *Talk Circle*, a humorous work about being left out and the nasty things people say behind other's backs.

The Phfff! Company dancers include Lauren Ehnebuske, Oscar Gutierrez, Paige Phillips, Chris McAllister, Ying Zhou and Mr. Khambatta. To find out more, see the following page.



## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

### **The Phfff! Dance Theatre Company**

The Phfff! Dance Theatre Company is a multicultural group fusing complex athletic partnering and daring lifts with a keen theatrical sensibility, revealing human nature through the lens of everyday and intimate relationships. The company has toured throughout Europe, in Russia, Latin America and the U.S. As a champion of the live aspect of performance, the company also presents improvisational work alongside choreographed works. An important part of the company's mission is to reach out to audiences that would not otherwise have access to the arts. The company is an advocate of the role the arts play in improving education, community awareness and development.

The Phfff! Company has a talented core of Seattle-based dancers: Lauren Ehnebuske, Oscar Gutierrez, Chris McAllister, Paige Phillips, Ying Zhou and Cyrus Khambatta. In addition to performing, the dancers teach a diverse array of classes in underserved communities as part of The Phfff! Company's outreach program. Through these programs, The Company has developed partnerships with other local organizations including ArtsCorps, Nature Consortium, BAYFEST and Cooper Elementary School to provide these community-relevant programs.

### **The Delridge Neighborhood Development Association**

Delridge Neighborhood Development Association (DNDA) is a private non-profit based in Delridge, West Seattle. DNDA is guided by the Delridge Neighborhood Plan. The projects and programs it chooses to undertake are consistent with this community "road map." Since 1996, DNDA has brought together Delridge neighbors, other non-profits, the business community and local government to build community, preserve housing affordability, creating linkages between Delridge and the Seattle Housing Authority's High Point garden community, fostering and celebrating the cultural diversity of Delridge and reinforcing the environmental quality of the Longfellow Creek watershed and the extensive greenbelts in the area.

### **The Youngstown Cultural Arts Center**

The Youngstown Cultural Arts Center presents innovative arts, education and outreach programs presented in conjunction with Youngstown tenants, program partners, community groups, and individual artists to enrich the quality of life for the surrounding community, especially nearby young people. Cooper Artist Housing at the Youngstown Cultural Arts Center provides 36 affordable live/work studios for rent to artists of all disciplines on the top two floors and in the converted attic of the building.

The Center is located in the heart of the Delridge neighborhood in West Seattle and offers exciting rental spaces suitable for live performances, classes and workshops as well as business, civic and social occasions. Available resources include a recording studio, media lab, 150 seat performance venue, movement studio, workshop, promenade gallery, and convenient conference and classroom spaces.