

Come Dance at Renaud-Wilson Festival Feb. 2-4

- **January 20, 2007**
- **MEDIA CONTACT: Eric Kupers, Festival Director, (510) 885-3154, 885-3118**

The public is invited to take part in the Third Annual Renaud-Wilson Dance Festival, featuring workshops and performances, to be held Friday through Sunday, Feb. 2-4, on the Hayward campus of California State University, East Bay, 25800 Carlos Bee Blvd.

The event, named after dance advocate and former Cal State East Bay dance instructor Laura Renaud-Wilson, will include workshops and performances each of the three days.

"We have revised the festival this year to include beginning, intermediate and advanced tracks so that all the workshops can fully serve the students participating," said Eric Kupers, festival director and CSUEB assistant professor of theatre and dance. "We will offer training in modern dance, partnering, improvisation, composition, repertory, hip-hop, ballroom dance, and dance for all bodies and abilities. They will be taught by master teachers from throughout the region."

Admission for the entire weekend of activities and performances is \$40 per person. The price per performance is \$12; \$8 for seniors/youth; and \$5 for CSUEB students, faculty and staff. All performances will be in the University Theatre. Teachers who are accompanying students will be admitted free to the festival (up to two teachers per school).

The Friday performance at 8 p.m. will feature professional work by faculty, companies and choreographers, as well as special guest artists teaching in Dancer's Group's 2007 Summer Dance Intensive. They include Jess Curtis/Gravity, AXIS Dance Company, Nina Haft & Company, and Rabble Rouser Physical Theater.

At 8 p.m. on Saturday, performers will present, "Excavating Other Realms: A Tribute to Mel Wong," the late dance visionary and one of the first Chinese-American professional modern dancers. Performers will include former students and company members Sonya Delwaide, Janice Garrett, Kimiko Guthrie, Eric Kupers, Erika Shuch and Lisa Wymore.

The performance at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 4, 2:30 p.m. will feature work by faculty and students that will be formed by students from various dance schools.

"Laura Renaud-Wilson's passion for inclusive, intuitive dance education is reflected in a merging of traditional and unconventional approaches to dance, for all ages, in a non-competitive, yet fiercely dedicated creative environment," Kupers said.

Event directors are still accepting proposals for the student performance. Further information is available by contacting Kupers at (510) 885-3154 or by e-mail at kegan@nerdshack.com. The box office phone number is (510) 885-3261.