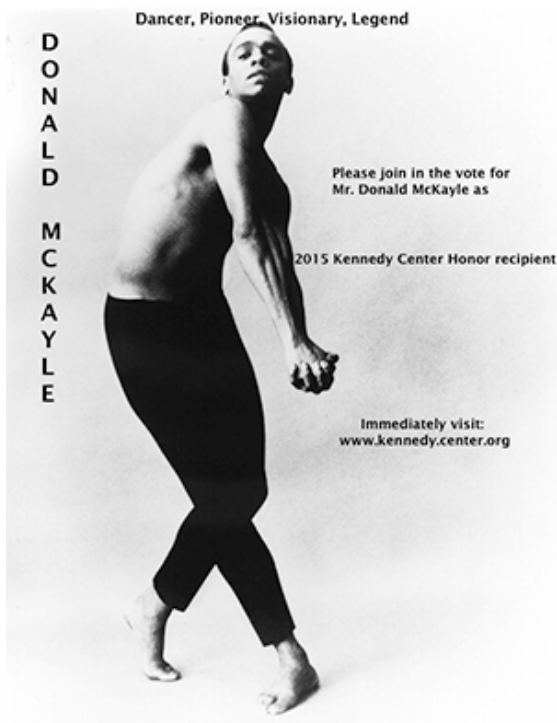


Artist & Educator

Dear Directors, Artists, Educators and Patrons:

This correspondence is to ask your support in the campaign to nominate Mr. Donald McKayle for the 2015 Kennedy Centers Honors. As we all know, Mr. McKayle has been a major contributor to American modern dance for over 60 years and is well deserving of this recognition:



*"Donald McKayle, recipient of honors and awards in every aspect of his illustrious career, has been named by the Dance Heritage Coalition as "one of America's Irreplaceable Dance Treasures: the First 100." His choreographic masterworks, considered modern dance classics, Games, Rainbow Round My Shoulder, District Storyville, and Songs of the Disinherited are performed around the world. He has choreographed over ninety works for dance companies in the United States, Canada, Israel, Europe and South America. The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, the Cleo Parker Robinson Dance Ensemble, Ballet San Jose Silicon Valley, the Dayton Contemporary Dance Company, and the Lula Washington Dance Theatre serve as repositories for his works. He is the Artistic Mentor for the Limón Dance Company. Ten retrospectives have honored his choreography. In April 2005, Donald McKayle was honored at the John F. Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. and presented with a medal as a Master of African American Choreography" ([donaldmckayle.com](http://donaldmckayle.com)).*

The Kennedy Center award mentioned above is not the same as the Kenney Center Honors (the highest award), which is televised and attended by the President of the United States of America. Receiving this recognition is a monumental display of excellence and appreciation for his contributions to the global arts community. Mr. McKayle, now in his 80's, has had several health issues. However, he is still teaching and choreographing at UC Irvine and presenting his dance company Etudes. He is invincible!

If you could please have your company members, staff/faculty, students and patrons, friends help make this a reality by following this link and clicking on "Recommend an Honor."

<http://www.kennedy-center.org/programs/specialevents/honors/>

If you have any inquiries, please contact me, C. Anthony Cole, assistant to Sandra Foster-King (the presenter of 2001 International Association of Blacks in Dance conference held in San Diego) – or you may contact Dennis Nahat at [dnahat@TheatreVenturesIntl.org](mailto:dnahat@TheatreVenturesIntl.org) at Theatre Ventures International for more information.

Sincerely,

Sandra Foster-King

C. Anthony Cole, MFA  
Executive Artistic Director  
Dance Theatre

Foster-King Dance Collection  
IABD Board Member  
CAC Repertory  
UC San Diego Dance Lecturer