



2009 Philadelphia
Live Arts Festival
Philly Fringe
September 4 – 19
livearts-fringe.org



Press Contact

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MEDIA ADVISORY PHOTO / TV OPPORTUNITY

**Final Night of The A.W.A.R.D. Show! 2009: Philadelphia
Choreographers Jenn Rose, Nichole Canuso & Braham Logan Crane
Dance for \$10,000 @ the Live Arts Festival, Saturday, Sept 19, 8pm
In association with The Joyce Theater
Artists With Audiences Responding to Dance**

WHEN: Saturday, September 19 at 8pm

WHERE: Arts Bank at the University of the Arts (601 S. Broad Street, Philadelphia)

INFO: Tickets are \$30; discounts are available for multiple ticket buyers. Tickets are available for purchase at livearts-fringe.org or by calling (215) 413-1318.

WHAT: The [Philadelphia Live Arts Festival](http://livearts-fringe.org), in association with the [The Joyce Theater Foundation](http://www.joyce-theater.org) (New York), is pleased to announce the finalists for [The A.W.A.R.D. Show! 2009: Philadelphia](http://www.joyce-theater.org). Choreographers **Jenn Rose, Nichole Canuso, and Braham Logan Crane** were selected by Philadelphia audiences to move on to the last round of the program. Now, they will face each other in the final installment of *The A.W.A.R.D. Show!*, competing for a chance to take home the top prize – a \$10,000 award to use toward the creation of a new dance work. The two runners-up will also be awarded \$1,000 each. *[Bios for the finalists are included below.]*

The Live Arts Festival held the first three evening performances from September 15 – 17. Each night featured the work of four different choreographers followed by an audience vote to select a finalist to perform again on the fourth night of the series. Immediately following each vote, artists and audience engaged in a moderated discussion. Jenn Rose, Nichole Canuso, and Braham Logan Crane emerged as the winners for the first three preliminary evenings of the competition, advancing to the final round.

On **September 19 at 8pm**, the closing night of the **Philadelphia Live Arts Festival and Philly Fringe**, a panel of experts in dance and other cultural arts fields, along with the audience, will choose the winner of the award in Philadelphia. As part of the finale, the three choreographers will perform 15 minutes or less of a completed work, excerpt or work-in-progress. The performance will be held at the **Arts Bank at the University of the Arts** (601 S. Broad Street, Philadelphia). Tickets are \$25 - \$30; discounts are available for multiple ticket buyers. Tickets are available for purchase at livearts-fringe.org or by calling (215) 413-1318.

“By declaring out loud and upfront that audiences for *The A.W.A.R.D. Show!* are charged with the rights

and the responsibility to make qualitative choices about what they see, the selection process becomes transparent and hopefully encourages honesty,” said **Neta Pulvermacher**, founder of *The A.W.A.R.D. Show!* “Then the audience and artists can get on with the task of really looking at the work before them for what it is and to try and see it deeply.”

The A.W.A.R.D. Show! was founded in 2006 by choreographer Neta Pulvermacher/The Neta Dance Company and producer Marisa König Beatty in response to a need for a lab-like space in which working dance artists can engage in an open dialogue with the audience about the work presented. *The A.W.A.R.D. Show!* is now administered and produced by The Joyce Theater Foundation and has been expanded from an annual series held in New York City at Joyce SoHo to a multi-city format in 2009. This year, The Joyce Theater Foundation has partnered with The Dance Center of Columbia College Chicago, Philadelphia Live Arts Festival and On the Boards (Seattle) with additional series taking place in New York City June 18–21, in Philadelphia September 15–19 and in Seattle December 10–13.

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The A.W.A.R.D. Show! 2009 is administered by The Joyce Theater Foundation. The Philadelphia award has been generously underwritten by The Boeing Company.

The A.W.A.R.D. Show! 2009 Philadelphia Finalists

Jenn Rose is the founder/artistic director/choreographer of Loose Screws, a contemporary tap dance company in the Philadelphia area. Founded in 2007, the company has performed at the Chester County Cultural Center and the Philly Fringe. Jenn has served as choreographer in residence for the Summer Performing Arts Project at West Chester University and a guest artist for the University Dance Company. She received a National Commendation for Choreography from the American College Theater Festival for her work on the production of *Hair!* Regional theater choreography credits include: *Avenue X* (11th Hour Theatre Company), *The Irish . . . And How They Got That Way* (Walnut Street Theatre), *42nd Street* (Ocean City Theatre Company), *The Who's Tommy* (Academy Theatre), and *Aida* (Media Theatre). www.loosescrewstap.com

Nichole Canuso, is the artistic director of Nichole Canuso Dance Company. She has been a company member of Headlong Dance Theater since 1997, and has also performed and collaborated with Pig Iron Theatre Company, Theatre Exile, and co-directed Moxie Dance Collective from 1999–2004. Recently, Canuso performed with Bill Irwin in *The Happiness Lecture* at the Philadelphia Theatre Company. She has received fellowship support from the Bessie Shoenberg First Light Commission, the Leeway Foundation, the Independence Foundation, Dance Advance, and the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts. She will be a choreographic resident at Maggie Allesee National Center for Choreography (MANCC) in the summer of 2009, working on her next project, *TAKES*. *TAKES* will premiere at the Philadelphia Live Arts Festival in September 2010. www.nicholecanusodance.com

Braham Logan Crane creates fresh, innovative work that encompasses intense emotion and passion, blending modern, jazz, hip hop, and contemporary movement. Braham has set works on dancers from the American Ballet Theatre, Bolshoi Ballet, and Pennsylvania Ballet, and collaborated with recording artist Angela Ai. Braham choreographed and performed at the Sziget Festival in Budapest, Hungary, along with the band The Killers. He recently set original versions of *Altar Boyz* and *Cats* at the Roxy Regional Theatre in Tennessee. Braham served as founder, artistic director, and choreographer for ASH Contemporary Dance pieces alongside Mia Michaels, touring the East Coast, Canada, and Europe.

Braham was the youngest choreographer to win a Gold Leo Award for excellence in jazz choreography at the Jazz Dance World Congress in Buffalo, NY. www.BrahamCrane.com

Organizational Information



The Philadelphia Live Arts Festival is an annual 16-day performing arts Festival now in its 13th year. The Live Arts Festival features curated local, national and international experimental and contemporary performing arts events. It also plays host to the Philly Fringe, a platform which provides the opportunity for artists from any discipline, independent of a selection process, to self-produce their work. Each year, hundreds of performances take place in diverse venues: traditional theaters, private homes, warehouses and moving vehicles. The Festival maintains a commitment to Philadelphia-based artists, regularly presenting world premieres from local artists such as Headlong Dance Theater and Pig Iron Theatre Company.

The Festival has also grown into a leading presenter of contemporary international performance. In the past six years, the Live Arts Festival has presented work from 40 internationally-based artists, including *The show must go on* (Jérôme Bel, France, 2008), *The Convent*, 2006 and *The European Lesson*, 2008 (Jo Strømgren, Norway); *Drought and Rain Vol. 2* (Ea Sola, Vietnam, 2007), and *HELL* (Emio Greco | PC, Spain/The Netherlands, 2006).



The Joyce Theater Foundation, a non-profit organization, has proudly served the dance community and its audiences since 1982. The founders, Cora Cahan and Eliot Feld, acquired and renovated the Elgin Theater in Chelsea, which opened as The Joyce Theater in 1982. The Joyce is named in honor of Joyce Mertz, beloved daughter of LuEsther T. Mertz. It was LuEsther's clear, undaunted vision and abundant generosity that made it imaginable and ultimately possible to establish the theater. One of the only theaters built by dancers for dance, The Joyce Theater has provided an intimate and elegant New York home for more than 290 domestic and international companies. The Joyce has also commissioned more than 130 new dances since 1992. In 1996, The Joyce created Joyce SoHo, a dance center providing highly subsidized rehearsal and performance space to hundreds of dance artists. The Joyce Theater now features an annual season of approximately 48 weeks with over 340 performances for audiences in excess of 135,000. Additionally, for the last five years The Joyce has co-produced Evening Stars as part of the River To River Festival in Battery Park.

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To request photos, interviews, and more information please contact:

Canary Promotion + Design

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