

AUDITORIUM THEATRE

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The Auditorium Theatre Proudly Presents
Step Afrika!
One Night Only Saturday, January 14, 2023

November 7, 2022 (CHICAGO)- The Auditorium Theatre (Chicago's landmark stage at 50 E. Ida B. Wells Drive) proudly presents **Step Afrika!** in a one-night-only performance, Saturday January 14, 2023 at 7:30 PM. Tickets are \$30-\$76 and are available at auditoriumtheatre.org.

Stepping is a percussive, highly energetic art form first developed through the song and dance rituals performed by African American fraternities and sororities. In stepping, the body becomes an instrument, using footsteps, claps, and spoken-word to produce complex polyrhythms. **Step Afrika!** blends stepping, traditional African dances, and an array of contemporary dance and art forms into a cohesive, compelling artistic experience. Vigorous technique, agility, and pure energy make each Step Afrika! performance unique.

Founded in 1994, as an exchange program with the Soweto Dance Theatre of Johannesburg, **Step Afrika!** is the first professional dance company in the world dedicated to the tradition of stepping. Many of **Step Afrika!**'s full-time dancers learned stepping while in college at a Historically Black College or University or through membership in a Historically Black Greek Fraternity or Sorority. **Step Afrika!** is Washington DC's largest African American-led arts organization and one of the top five African American dance companies in the United States. Every year, **Step Afrika!** reaches tens of thousands of visitors on

national and international tours and thousands more students through numerous educational camps and workshops.

Special Thanks

The Auditorium Theatre is grateful for the support of the 2022-23 Season Global and Chicago Dance Sponsor, The Florian Fund, and the Student Matinee Sponsors of Step Afrika!, Denise Littlefield Sobel and additional support provided by The Robert Thomas Bobins Foundation.

The Auditorium Theatre 2022-23 Season is made possible in part with support from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation and the Illinois Arts Council Agency. The Auditorium's official hotel partner is the Palmer House Hilton.

This Auditorium Theatre's 2022-23 performance season features a dynamic mix of acclaimed global dance companies (**Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo**, **Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan**, **American Ballet Theatre**, and the much anticipated annual engagement by the **Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater**) while closer to home, beloved Chicago dance companies also take the stage (**Deeply Rooted Dance Theater**, **Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Theater**, **South Chicago Dance Theatre**, and an evening with **Trinity Irish Dance Company**, **M.A.D.D. Rhythms**, and special guest, New York-based **Dorrance Dance**. In addition, the critically acclaimed **National Geographic Live** speaker series, offering first-hand accounts and expert voices on cultural and environmental issues, returns with three offerings and a new lower ticket price. The holiday season includes performances of **Too Hot To Handel** and **Celtic Woman: A Christmas Symphony**.

For more information on the Auditorium Theatre and a complete listing of events at the Auditorium Theatre, please visit AuditoriumTheatre.org.

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Photo: Step Afrika! dancers photo by Drago Videmsek

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