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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **7<sup>th</sup> Annual ROCKY AWARDS Celebrate the Philadelphia Dance Community**

On Labor Day Monday Sept. 3, 2007 the Philadelphia dance community will celebrate its 06-07 dance season and pay tribute to ten companies or individuals in the annual peer-to-peer awards event known as the ROCKYS. Unlike other awards that have a panel of judges or votes by the public each 2006 recipient has the honor of bestowing a 2007 ROCKY. The event includes performances and videos and is followed by a dance party with DJ Frosty. The ROCKY AWARDS PARTY 2007 will be at the Philly Fringe Cabaret on 9<sup>th</sup> street between Callowhill & Spring Garden Streets at 8pm on Sept 3, 2007. Doors open at 7:30pm. The recommended minimum donation is \$10 (includes two raffle tickets for door prizes). Additional tickets can be bought at \$5/ each. Cash bar and refreshments available.

All proceeds will benefit Dance/USA Philadelphia, a dance service organization providing advocacy, resources and collaborative opportunities to the Greater Philadelphia professional dance community. Dance/USA Philadelphia is a branch office of Dance/USA, the national service organization for professional dance. Dance/USA Philadelphia is made possible through the generous support of the William Penn Foundation.

“The ROCKYS are a celebration, an awards ceremony, and a fundraiser for the community’s new service organization. It’s an opportunity to demonstrate support for Dance/USA Philadelphia. Bring cash; you’ll want to buy raffle tickets throughout the evening,” remarked Lois Welk, Director of Dance/USA Philadelphia. “This year’s award party is for the first time co-produced by the Live Arts/Philly Fringe Festival and Dance/USA Philadelphia. “

The 2007 awards were created by Philadelphia artist- Isaiah Zagar, famous for over 100 mosaic murals in the city and his Magic Garden at 1020 South Street. A self-described dance lover of the first degree his original awards incorporate line drawings of moving figures with fragments of mirror, glass and ceramic embellishments.

The following 2006 recipients will be presenting ROCKY AWARDS 2007:

**Dance/USA Philadelphia 32 North Front St., Philadelphia PA 19106 215-922-5970  
[www.danceusaphiladelphia.org](http://www.danceusaphiladelphia.org)**

**Shawn-Lamere Williams, Joan Myers Brown, Manfred Fischbeck, Terri Shockley, Gail Lopez-Henriquez, Christine Cox, Roni Koresh and Gayle Isa.** Two additional awards will be presented by **Melanie Stewart**, the host of the 2007 ROCKYS.

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Performances include **Janet Pilla of KunYangLin/Dancers** in a solo excerpt from Lin's "Crossing", a work inspired by the challenges and opportunities presented by Mr. Lin's most recent personal "crossing" -- from New York resident to Philadelphia resident. The work explores the significance of "crossings", not just in the geographic sense but also from the perspective of the cultural, emotional and personal developmental implications that transitions bring with them for all people.

**Latin Nation Dance Company directed by Buster Adams** will close the awards part of the program and lead the transition into the dance party with DJ Frosty.

For more information about this event or about Dance/USA Philadelphia contact Lois Welk, Director at [loiswelk@danceusaphiladelphia.org](mailto:loiswelk@danceusaphiladelphia.org).

