



## PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
**DANCE**

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### **DONNA STERNBERG & DANCERS PRESENTS *Ancestors' Voices***

LOS ANGELES, CA – Donna Sternberg & Dancers presents *Ancestors' Voices*, a performance examining intergenerational trauma.

Tracing our ancestral roots, *Ancestor's Voices* brings to life the trauma that is passed down through generations. With emotional vibrancy, we tell the stories of the bodily and emotional effects this trauma has on our present lives and how it is manifested through behavior. *Ancestor's Voices* began with participatory community workshops where participants explored inherited ancestral trauma and how it manifests in their body. These workshops became the starting point for the creation of a dance/theatre work that is infused with lived experiences.

Working with epigeneticist Kathy Sanders-Phillips and immunologist Devavani Chatterjea, the work explores the passing of generational trauma as well as issues about identity and belonging. The evocative poetry of renowned poet Carol V. Davis is threaded through the dance, adding tonal shadings and emotional resonance. Musicians Carisa Bianca Mellado and Andrew Dalziell join the company in a live performance. The performance is followed by a post-performance discussion.

*Ancestor's Voices* will be presented April 29 and May 1 at 8:00 PM at the Skirball Cultural Center, 2701 N Sepulveda Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90049. Free parking is available. Tickets are \$20 for general admission and \$15 for students, seniors, and Skirball members and can be purchased at <https://www.skirball.org/programs/ancestors-voices-2025>.

This performance is made possible in part by grants from the Cultural Affairs Department, Los Angeles, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors through the Los Angeles County Arts Commission and the National Performance Network (NPN) Artist Engagement Fund, with funding from the Doris Duke Foundation, and the Mellon Foundation. For photos, interviews or more information, please contact Donna Sternberg at 310-804-8687, contact@dsdancers.com or visit [www.dsdancers.com](http://www.dsdancers.com).

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Note: Biographies of participating artists comprise Page 2 of this release.

## **BIOGRAPHICAL BACKGROUND ON THE ARTISTS**

Founded in 1985, Donna Sternberg & Dancers (DS&D) is a non-profit dance company whose mission is to discover, transform, and connect. DS&D uses contemporary dance to discover connections between dance, science, and humankind. We connect scientific inquiry and discovery to human life, opening new areas of awareness and plumbing the emotional and psychological aspects of STEM. We work collaboratively with scientists, artists, organizations, and other key stakeholders to enrich arts ecosystems and expand community engagement, guided by the belief that learning is a life-long pursuit.

The company performs in site-specific locations such as parks, galleries, libraries, and on the beach as well as in traditional theaters. DS&D has performed throughout California, in Mexico, and in Europe, where it was invited to perform at the Venice Biennale. The company was chosen for an artist residency at the prestigious Djerassi Artist Center in 2018, and its film **Earth Body** was selected for the Toronto International Dance Festival. It has been featured in publications such as **Dance Magazine**, **Dance Spirit**, **Los Angeles Times**, radio, and television (PBS, City TV). The company has received funding from federal, state, and local governmental agencies, businesses, and foundations. Jessica Abrams of [exploredance.com](http://exploredance.com) states: “Donna Sternberg's talent (is) a maker of dances as technically stunning as they are dramatically resonant. Sternberg’s dancers are incredible technicians, but it is their dramatic presence that (makes) them stellar performers.”

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