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NEW YORK CITY TO HOST THE FIRST DANCE PARADE IN THE UNITED STATES

Fifth Avenue Route Permission Granted by New York City Police Department

The NYC Police Department recently gave the green light to an historic first: The first annual Dance Parade will take place on Saturday May 19th 2007, using the highly coveted Fifth Avenue parade route. Dance Parade will be the first new parade granted permission to use Fifth Avenue since July 2001. Dance Parade will run along Fifth Avenue, from 32nd Street south to Washington Square Park. Produced by Dance Parade Inc., a volunteer-staffed nonprofit organization, the event aims to increase awareness of the benefits of dance as well as the need to have more venues where dancing is legal.

This first ever event of its scope and scale invites dancers of all forms – ballet to breakdance, tango to tap, and contemporary to club. Each dance style will be showcased on a parade float with a variety of musical genres including live bands and DJs. To date, over 40 dance groups representing thousands of dancers have registered.

Unlike music, film, theater or painting, social dance is not deemed an expressive form of art according to a New York State Supreme Court ruling on cabaret laws. People around the world dance as a celebration of art, life, and freedom at over 400 dance and music events annually. In the spirit of other dance parades worldwide and in an effort to bring together the many different dance cultures and ethnicities of New York City, Dance Parade celebrates the history of social dance and strives to show the creativity, vibrancy and grace inherent in its many diverse forms.

“Dance has historically served to identify and celebrate vital communities in New York City and around the world,” said Greg Miller, Director of Dance Parade Inc. “Dance Parade follows this great tradition. It will celebrate the City’s diverse dance communities and demonstrate social dance as an expressive art.”

Float line-up will begin at 10am between Broadway and Fifth Avenue on 32nd Street. The event begins at 1pm with a welcome address, followed by a float procession and dance performances starting at 2pm. The jubilant dancers will head south on Fifth Avenue to Washington Square Park. There will be dancers, rollers, floats, DJs, live music and celebrities – everyone sharing in the universal rhythm of dance!

For more information about Dance Parade Inc, participants or volunteering, please visit
www.danceparade.org

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