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## Press Release 07.25.2012

### LOCAL DANCE, THEATER GROUPS SHOWCASE TALENT IN KST YOUTHMOVES PERFORMANCE

#### MEDIA CONTACT

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Members from four local youth dance and theater programs will showcase their work during the fifth annual youthMoves program on Friday, August 10, 7 pm at Kelly Strayhorn Theater in East Liberty.

#### FEATURED PERFORMERS INCLUDE:

##### >> Alumni Theater Company (ATC)

For students grades six to 12, creates works that represent the ideas, interests and struggles of teens growing up in an urban environment. ATC will perform numbers from the rock musical Rent.

##### >> Elena's Dancers Elite

With studios based in the North Hills, these young dancers will display their creativity and exceptional talent.

##### >> Mid-Atlantic Contemporary Ballet

Under the direction of Gerald Holt, Artistic Director and Miriam Scigliano, Resident Choreographer, the company is residence at the Father Ryan Arts Center in McKees Rocks.

##### >> STAYCEE PEARL dance project 2

Through SPdp 2, young dancers participate in meaningful collaboration with musicians, choreographers, educators and activists to bring powerful messages to movement.

#### GENE KELLY'S BIRTHDAY

In honor of Pittsburgh native dancer/choreographer/director Gene Kelly's 100th birthday (August 23) film clips will be shown of the genius in action and birthday cake will be served.

Janera Solomon, executive director of the Kelly Strayhorn Theater said, "Honoring the 100th birthday of Pittsburgh great Gene Kelly while celebrating the accomplishments of our youth during this showcase is a natural combination of events. We are happy to be able to give these youth groups the opportunity to



perform on the Kelly Strayhorn stage and to encourage them to participate in and appreciate the arts.”

### **TICKETS AND INFORMATION:**

Admission to this energetic, family-friendly program is Pay-What-You-Can. The Kelly Strayhorn Theater is located at 5941 Penn Avenue in East Liberty.

KST is participating in car-free Fridays. Anyone who comes to the theater via bike, foot or public transportation will receive two free passes to a future East Liberty LIVE! performance.

### **ABOUT EAST LIBERTY LIVE!**

A catalyst for the creation of diverse, innovative art in the community, East Liberty LIVE! fills a void in summer arts programming and contributes to the neighborhood’s continued revitalization.

East Liberty LIVE! is Kelly Strayhorn Theater’s summer series of programming for children, families, and general audiences. Through exciting, accessible and low-cost events, East Liberty LIVE! engages those who live and work in the neighborhood, and encourages first-time patrons to visit other areas businesses including restaurants, shops and cultural destinations.

East Liberty LIVE! is sponsored by PNC, PetSmart, The Mosites Company, and 91.3 FM WYEP.

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### **About the Kelly Strayhorn Theater**

As the last of nine theaters from the 1950s heyday of East Liberty, the Kelly Strayhorn Theater uses the arts as a catalyst for continuing community revitalization. The theater, in its 12th season, continues to play a key role in the transformation of Pittsburgh’s East Liberty neighborhood. An intimate, professionally equipped, 349-seat multiple-use performance venue, the theater demonstrates its commitment to Pittsburgh artists and audiences. The KST is a favorite venue of emerging local artists, regional artists and arts organizations who take risks and present new work. Noted Pittsburghers Gene Kelly and Billy Strayhorn, the namesakes, are among the 80 area artists honored on the theater’s Gallery of Stars. The building, opened in 1919, is the former Regent Theatre, which served the East End as a movie house for eight decades.

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