

SAN FRANCISCO ETHNIC DANCE FESTIVAL

MEDIA CONTACT:

Terry Conway, Marketing and Communications Director
(415) 474-3914

terry@worldartswest.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival Auditions – open to the public – November 4, 5, and 6, 2016
at the Palace of Fine Arts Theatre**

**More than 50 dance companies and nearly 800 artists from 26 world dance and music traditions
will audition for one of the country's longest-standing and most prestigious Festivals**

San Francisco, CA, October 17, 2016 – Bay Area audiences will have a rare opportunity to experience more than two dozen world dance and music traditions as nearly 650 dancers and 150 musicians from more than 50 dance companies audition for a coveted spot in the 39th annual San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival, to be held in 2017. All auditioning artists will present their best work, in full costume or regalia, and many will have live musical accompaniment.

The auditions will be held Friday, November 4, 6pm to 7:15pm; Saturday, November 5, from 11am to 7pm; and Sunday, November 6, from 11am to 7pm, at the Palace of Fine Arts Theatre. Each company will perform for 10 minutes and will be adjudicated by a panel of dance experts, along with Festival Artistic Directors Carlos Carvajal and CK Ladzekpo.

This year, due to limited time in the theater, soloists and duets are auditioning on video, and the public will be able to view these 16 video auditions on the Festival's YouTube channel – www.youtube.com/SFEthnicDanceFest – beginning November 5. The video auditions will be evaluated by the same panel of experts that is reviewing the live auditions, using the same criteria.

Tickets for the live auditions are just \$10 for adults, paid in cash at the door, and children 12 and under are admitted for free. Audience members may stay as long as they like, and even come and go as they please, providing there are seats available in the theater.

Included in the audition applicants are 51 groups, 13 soloists and 3 duos from around the Bay Area and Central and Northern California, 36 of which are new to the Festival. These artists will be performing dances from Argentina, Bali, Bolivia, Brazil, Central Asia, Central Europe, China, Congo, Egypt and the Middle East, Ghana, India, Iran, Japan, Korea, Lebanon, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Spain, Tahiti, and the US. The full auditions schedule is posted at www.sfethnicdancefestival.org.

The artists selected to perform in the 39th annual San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival will be announced in early 2017. For more information, visit www.sfethnicdancefestival.org.

- WHAT:** **San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival Auditions** - More than 50 Northern California dance companies present their best work at the annual auditions for the 2017 Festival.
- DATE:** Friday, Saturday, and Sunday– November 4, 5, and 6, 2016
- TIME:** 6pm–7:15pm, Friday, November 4
11am-7pm, Saturday, November 5
11am-7pm, Sunday, November 6
- WHERE:** Palace of Fine Arts Theatre, 3301 Lyon Street, San Francisco
- COST:** \$10 per day, includes in and out privileges. Cash only, paid at the door. No advance ticket sales.
Children 12 and under are admitted free of charge
- INFO:** For a complete listing of all companies participating in the auditions and other details, visit www.sfethnicdancefestival.org or call (415) 474-3914.

###