



For Immediate Release

**“BREAKING GROUND WITH BILL T. JONES—A COMMUNITY
DIALOGUE SERIES” AT HARLEM STAGE GATEHOUSE,
FEBRUARY 26 at 7:30PM
*Second in a Series of Four Harlem Community Dialogues with
Choreographer Bill T. Jones***

For Bill T. Jones, everything is enhanced by performance including “Breaking Ground,” a new series of dialogues concerning issues that touch the Harlem community and beyond. These public talks, which feature discussions among artistic, intellectual, and political leaders of the Harlem community, are moderated by the 2007 Tony Award-winning choreographer. “Harlem—The Scene,” the second of the series, takes place February 26 at Harlem Stage Gatehouse at 7:30pm.

The discussion will be given poetic resonance with a reading by essayist and activist Sharifa Rhodes-Pitts accompanied by musician /composer Craig Harris as well as with a performance by hip-hop artist Swave Sevah. The dialogue itself will touch on, delve into, and expand upon subjects such as where do artists (musicians, poets, dancers, actors, singers) hang out now? Is there a racial and ethnic divide? Have things changed since the encroachment of gentrification? Is there still an innovative jazz scene? Are there restaurants and bars where locals go to hang? What kind of impact has tourism had on the neighborhoods? In addition to Rhodes-Pitts, Harris, and Sevah, panelists will include author and cultural historian Michael Henry Adams and author, restaurateur and former opera singer Alexander Smalls.

Harlem Stage Gatehouse is located at 150 Convent Avenue (at West 135th Street & Convent Avenue). Tickets are \$15 (\$12 Harlem residents) and can be purchased online at www.harlemstage.org or by calling 212-281-9240 x19.

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This series is made possible by CHASE 

CHASE IS THE LEAD SPONSOR OF BREAKING GROUND WITH BILL T. JONES—A COMMUNITY DIALOGUE SERIES

This series is part of the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company’s new initiative, Partners in Education, with lead support provided by CHASE. Major funding is provided by The Rockefeller Foundation NYC Cultural Innovation Fund. Additional support is provided by the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, New York State Council on the Arts, and New York City Department of Cultural Affairs. This series is co-presented by Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company and Harlem Stage. Official Series Videographer: New Heritage Films; Executive Producer, Voza Rivers; Executive Artistic Director, Jamal Joseph.

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