

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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***PARSONS DANCE TO PERFORM AT OMAHA'S ORPHEUM THEATER
IN JANUARY***

Parsons Dance Brings Fresh, Contemporary Dance to Omaha on Friday, January 27

OMAHA, NEBRASKA –December 29, 2011 – [Parsons Dance](#), an internationally renowned contemporary dance company, brings its extraordinary artistry to Omaha's Orpheum Theater on Friday, January 27, 2012 at 8:00 p.m. The innovative dance company's performance is part of Omaha Performing Arts' 2011-2012 Dance Series.

Tickets for Parsons Dance start at just \$19 and can be purchased at the Ticket Omaha office in the Holland Performing Arts Center, 13th and Douglas streets; online at TicketOmaha.com; or by calling 402.345.0606.

Artistic director and founder David Parsons has enjoyed a remarkable career as a performer, choreographer, teacher, director and producer of dance. Born in Chicago and raised in Kansas City, he has received commissions over the years from The American Ballet Theatre, New York City Ballet, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, the American Dance Festival, Jacob's Pillow and the Spoleto Festival, to name a few. In 2007, David Parsons was honored to be the very first contemporary choreographer ever to stage work at the centuries-old Arena di Verona in Verona, Italy, where he choreographed Verdi's *Aida*.

Parsons Dance creates and performs contemporary American dance that is entertaining and enriching to diverse audiences. The company consists of ten full-time dancers and maintains a repertory of more than 70 works choreographed by David Parsons, 20 of which feature originally commissioned scores by leading composers and musicians. Parsons Dance has collaborated with many leading artists, including Dave Matthews, Julie Taymor, Annie Leibovitz, Donna Karan and Alex Katz.

The New York City-based dance company averages 32 weeks per year on tour, performing pieces that are entertaining, good-humored and uplifting. In Parsons Dance's

signature piece, *Caught*, a lone dancer moves among strobe lights in a series of leaps to create the illusion of flight. The piece features more than 100 leaps in six minutes, and after thousands of performances, *Caught* continues to thrill audiences at every performance. The whimsical *Swing Shift* features four couples performing moves popularized by mid-20th century sock hops and swing dancing and requires the dancers to maintain close proximity in order to move intricately about one another. The complex *Slow Dance* is performed by three couples in 12x12 inches of light, where each dancer employs geometric shapes in a manipulation of bodies from the sky to the floor.

Parsons Dance has appeared on PBS, Bravo, A&E Network and the Discovery Channel. Millions have watched Parsons Dance perform live in Times Square as part of the internationally broadcast, 24-hour Millennium New Year's Eve celebration. In partnership with Marymount Manhattan College and Broadway Dance Center, Parsons Dance offers year-round training opportunities in New York for professional and pre-professional dancers from throughout the world.

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About Omaha Performing Arts

Omaha Performing Arts is a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing world-class performances to the Omaha metropolitan area. Omaha Performing Arts' commitment to the arts extends into its own series, Omaha Performing Arts *Presents*, as well as education and community involvement programs that help ensure the arts have a far-reaching impact. In partnership with Broadway Across America, Omaha Performing Arts also brings the finest in touring Broadway productions to Omaha,

Core to its mission, Omaha Performing Arts manages two landmark venues, the Holland Performing Arts Center and the Orpheum Theater – the former, which includes the acoustically acclaimed Kiewit Concert Hall and Scott Recital Hall and the latter, which includes Slosburg Hall, a proscenium theater. Omaha Performing Arts also provides comprehensive ticketing services for cultural and performing arts within the region through Ticket Omaha (www.TicketOmaha.com).

Omaha Performing Arts' performances are supported in part by the Nebraska Arts Council, Nebraska Cultural Endowment, the Mid-America Arts Alliance, National Endowment for the Arts, the City of Omaha and the Douglas County Visitor Improvement Fund. For more information on Omaha Performing Arts visit www.OmahaPerformingArts.org.