



For Immediate Release
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**SOUTH MILWAUKEE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER PRESENTS
STEP AFRIKA!
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18 7:30 PM**

(South Milwaukee, WI) – South Milwaukee Performing Arts Center is proud to present Step Afrika!, one of the top African American dance companies in the United States, on Friday, November 18. Often referred to as cultural ambassadors, Step Afrika! performances integrate songs, storytelling, humor, and audience participation, making each performance special for people of all ages and cultures.

"We chose Step Afrika! for our 2016-17 Performing Arts Series because of the high regard audiences have for their performances and for their expertise using stepping as an educational tool that helps students focus on teamwork, academic achievement and cross-cultural understanding," said Rachel Sorce, Executive Director. The dance company will hold a mini-residency for South Milwaukee High School students in addition to their public performance.

Founded in 1994 as an exchange program with Soweto Dance Theatre of Johannesburg, South Africa, Step Afrika! became the first professional dance company dedicated to the tradition of stepping. Today, the company tours internationally and believes that the values of teamwork, discipline and commitment that are essential in stepping are also essential throughout life. Performances connect intimately with audiences creating a harmony of positive influences. This group is one of the top 10 African American Dance Companies in the US and the largest African American led arts organization in Washington, DC. Step Afrika! gets people moving – towards education, a greater appreciation for the arts and a better understanding of each other.

Ticketing Information

Ticket prices for adults: \$20-40, seniors (ages 60+):\$15-35, and students (ages 4 thru college): \$10-20. Groups of 10 or more receive a 10% discount. **For tickets, visit www.southmilwaukeepac.org or call (414) 766-5049.**



About SMPAC

South Milwaukee Performing Arts Center (SMPAC) provides the greater Milwaukee and southeastern Wisconsin communities with creative, innovative and diverse performing arts. In addition to hosting an annual Performing Arts Series, SMPAC also serves the students of South Milwaukee and is a professionally-managed rental facility for other presenters, organizations and groups. More than 500 performances, rehearsals, classes and other events take place at SMPAC each year.

The 2016-2017 Performing Arts Series performances are tailored to include a myriad of options for patrons whether it is music, dance, theatre, or anything in between. We swung into September with southeastern Wisconsin's Chris Mariani, a bona fide crooner, along with The Radio Rosies and Swing Explosion orchestra. In October, Aquila Theatre, one of the foremost producers of classical, yet modernly hip theatre, performed Agatha Christie's *Murder on the Nile*. In November, you won't want to miss high-energy "cultural ambassadors" Step Afrika! performing the art of stepping. "We'll All Be Together" in December for Cantus, the premier men's vocal ensemble, singing warm, familiar holiday tunes. In January, celebrate the artistic momentum of contemporary dancers in an annual showcase of Milwaukee Ballet II. In February, laugh with your sweetheart at Broadway's *Next H!t Musical*, where *The Tony Awards* meets *Whose Line is it Anyway?* March features a remarkable collaboration of some of the world's top roots musicians (Jayme Stone, Margaret Glaspy, Sumaia Jackson, Joe Phillips or Andrew Downing) performing songs from the archived field recordings of Alan Lomax. *Post Comedy Theatre* is where you'll want to be with loved ones of all ages in April.

The Performing Arts Series is sponsored in part by Courtyard Marriott Milwaukee Airport, Classic Cargo International Inc., Emerald City Catering, TASC Services LLC., and Ken Cook Co. Performances are supported in part by a grant from the Wisconsin Arts Board with funds from the State of WI and the National Endowment for the Arts. South Milwaukee Performing Arts Center is located inside of the South Milwaukee 6-12 campus, at 901 15th Avenue in South Milwaukee between College and Rawson Avenues. It is easily accessible from I-94 and 794. Free parking is located in the northwest parking lot. Patrons should enter door #9. For tickets or directions, call 414-766-5049. For more information, visit [southmilwaukeepac.org](http://www.southmilwaukeepac.org).

