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To Whom It May Concern:

Given the crucial role that Arthur Hall played in the evolution and development of Africanist dance performance and education in his decades of activity; given the impressive archival data that Bruce Williams has amassed over the years documenting Hall's legacy; given the devastating dearth of funds to preserve this collection; given the urgent need to find a home for said collection: and given my role as a member of the Arthur Hall Collection Advisory Council, I am writing to acknowledge and support the importance of properly conserving this aesthetically, socially, and historically significant collection.

Arthur Hall was a major force—and one of the first—in bringing African dance to American concert stages. He inspired and inspirited several generations of youth with the haven provided them by his Ile Ife Village in North Philadelphia and, later, through his work with school children in Maine and Vermont. He was a charismatic educator, choreographer and performer. We are fortunate that Williams has taken on the role of “keeper of the flame.” Nevertheless, without funds for proper archival conservation and a permanent home for the collection, all is in jeopardy. This collection needs to be available for posterity, needs to be saved. Now is the time—while the collection is still intact, before it is dispersed and disappears while awaiting cataloging and funds for preservation. Any help, in the form of referrals and/or contributions, will be greatly appreciated.

Peace,

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Author of

- **Digging the Africanist Presence in American Performance** (1996)
- **Waltzing in the Dark** (2000)
- **The Black Dancing Body** (2003)
- **Joan Myers Brown & the Audacious Hope of the Black Ballerina** (2012)
- (Co-Author: **The History of Dance in Art and Education**, 1991)