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**MEDIA RELEASE**

29 October 2018

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**SAVE THE DATE:****Australian Dance Awards and National Dance Forum, 9 – 11 August 2019**

Ausdance National will partner with Tracks Dance Company (Tracks) to present the 2019 Australian Dance Awards (ADA2019) and National Dance Forum (NDF2019) in Darwin. The two-day forum and awards will provide the national dance community with an opportunity to gather in the unique setting of Darwin.

Led by the dance sector's peak advocacy organisation—Ausdance National—the fifth National Dance Forum will take place in Darwin on 9 and 10 August 2019 and will be followed by the Australian Dance Awards on 11 August 2019.

Ausdance National President, Professor Gene Moyle said 'The opportunity to partner with Tracks and bring these two national events to Darwin is very exciting, and a first for Ausdance in terms of both the partnership and presenting the ADAs and NDF in the Northern Territory. It will provide a wonderful opportunity for the dance sector and broader community to further connect and celebrate all things dance'.

The annual Australian Dance Awards recognise and honour professional dance artists who have made an outstanding contribution to Australian dance. Tracks Dance Company is the Northern Territory's premier contemporary dance company and 2019 will mark the Company's 20th anniversary.

The NDF2019 will be developed in consultation with a curatorial panel made up of industry experts. Forums such as these provide an opportunity to bring the sector together and are vital in ensuring sustainable development and vitality of the Australian dance landscape.

Tracks will present the forum alongside the Australian Dance Awards in August 2019. These events will coincide with the Darwin Festival.

David McKicken, Tracks, Artistic Co Director said 'We are extremely happy to have the Australian dance community turn its eyes to the North. In this part of the world where our neighbours are South East Asia above, and Indigenous desert people to the South, dance takes in a life that is so much about country, place, and community. We would love to share this with you, where dance exists in many different spaces, indoors and outdoors, oldest of the old to newest of the new'.

More information about NDF2019 and nominations for ADA2019 will be released in February 2019. For further details and updates visit the [Ausdance National website](#) and [Ausdance National Facebook](#).

Ends – **Media enquires:** Professor Gene Moyle ARAD MAPS MCSEP GAICD SFHEA, President, Ausdance National, [g.moyle@qut.edu.au](mailto:g.moyle@qut.edu.au), 0411 640 012

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