Ballet has been excluding black women since the industry of dance on stage began, therefore to serve as a beacon of strength we turn to Virginia Johnson, Artistic Director of Dance Theatre of Harlem to illuminate what this experience of constantly pushing boundaries, claiming spaces and maintaining momentum looks and feels like.

Featured speakers
Dance Theatre of Harlem Alumni
Christina Johnson
Endalyn Taylor
Stephanie Powell

Discussant
Dr. S. Ama Wray
CHRISTINA JOHNSON
Christina’s 25-year performing career spans both the United States and Europe. Her repertoire includes classical, neo-classical and contemporary works by renowned choreographers. Beyond her performance career she has been a sought after teacher and coach and has held the position of Rehearsal Director for five companies.

ENDALYN TAYLOR
Endalyn is an Assistant Professor of Dance at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Taylor, a former principal dancer with Dance Theatre of Harlem and Director of the Dance Theatre of Harlem School, made her Broadway debut in Carousel followed by original roles in, The Lion King and Aida.

STEPHANIE POWELL
Professor Powell received her MFA in Dance from UC Irvine and is the director of the Long Beach City College Dance Program. She danced professionally with the Oakland Ballet Company, Dance Theatre of Harlem, Donald Byrd the Group, Contemporary West Dance Theatre, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and the Lion King. Ms. Powell is a certified instructor of the New York City Ballet Workout, BASI Pilates and Zumba and stages the choreographic works of Professor Donald McKayle’s globally.

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