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## REGISTRATION OPEN for FALL SESSION of ADAPTdance: DANCE + DISABILITY Kern County's ONLY Adaptive Dance Program

KERN COUNTY, CA.- September 1, 2020- Kern Dance Alliance (KDA) and the League of Dreams (LoD) are proud to host the 4th annual ADAPTdance: DANCE + DISABILITY program this fall. ADAPTdance is Kern County's ONLY adaptive dance program that serves people with disabilities, ages 5-22 and is produced in collaboration with the LoD, a nonprofit adaptive sports league. ADAPTdance participants learn inclusive and creative dances that are accessible and adaptable for movers with and without disabilities.

As COVID-19 limits opportunities for in-person experiences, KDA and LoD have pivoted to continue to offer adaptive dance classes. While ADAPTdance will be a virtual experience in 2020, the program will continue to offer excellent instruction paired with meaningful mentor experiences. ADAPTdance will run on Saturdays, October 3-31, with three different classes offered based upon age, ability, and experience. ADAPTdance will be led by ADAPTdance Lead Volunteer, Sakina Hansford who was trained by AXIS Dance Company, one of the nation's most acclaimed performance ensembles of disabled and non-disabled dancers. In addition to Ms. Hansford, student dance interns from different Kern County dance studios will assist in teaching the classes, including KDA student interns- Eden Helston, Myka Steele, and Riley Thompson.

Registered ADAPTdancers will be given a dance tool-kit the week prior to the start of the program that will be full of props to assist the dance classes in creating a fun and engaging experience. The five-week program will host weekly classes that are goal-oriented and driven towards success. At the culmination of the program, ADAPTdancers will be invited to a safe, socially-distant final performance featuring the ADAPTdance student interns. The final performance is a chance for the entire ADAPTdance program to come together, in person, while adhering to COVID-19 state and federal guidelines.

*"KDA and LoD have worked really hard to make this year's virtual version of ADAPTdance to be MORE than just another Zoom session. Classes have been meticulously thought out to promote not only dancing, but also social and emotional learning. ADAPTdance student interns are focused on creating meaningful relationships with our ADAPTdancers and cannot wait to see them in weekly classes this October". -Andrea Hansen, KDA President*

*"The League of Dreams is excited to once again partner with Kern Dance Alliance for ADAPTdance. This program has been vital to our athletes over the years because of the uniqueness and the excitement of the program. Although ADAPTdance will look different this year, we know that the outcomes will be great because of the time and efforts that have been thoroughly thought out by the League of Dreams, Kern Dance Alliance and our volunteer instructor and interns. We cannot wait for our dancers to feel the positive social, emotional and physical impacts of the virtual program." - Jessica Mathews, League of Dreams Executive Director*

Registration is open and required for all ADAPTdancers. New dancers must provide a diagnosis confirmation or first page of an IEP and be between the ages of 5 and 22. ADAPTdance 2020 will require students to have access to a computer/laptop and WiFi to connect to the virtual sessions. ADAPTdance is made possible by grants from Chevron, Robert Grimm Family Foundation, Cynthia Lake Charitable Trust, and Valley Strong Credit Union.

**ADAPTdance DATES/TIMES:** Saturdays, October 3 - 31 - Class #1 11:30-12:00, Class #2 3:30-4:00, Class #3 4:00-4:30

**ADAPTdance APPLICATION DEADLINE:** \$15 registration fee by September 15. \$25 registration fee by September 25.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION and to APPLY:** [www.ourleagueofdreams.com](http://www.ourleagueofdreams.com) OR [www.kerndance.org/ADAPTdance](http://www.kerndance.org/ADAPTdance) / CALL : 661-616-9122 /  
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