

PHILADANCO!

**Joan Myers Brown, D.F.A., D.H.L.
Founder/Executive Artistic Director**

Ms. Brown is the founder of the Philadelphia Dance Company (**PHILADANCO**) and The Philadelphia School of Dance Arts. She serves as honorary chairperson for the International Association of Blacks in Dance, an organization she established in 1991. She is also founder of the International Conference of Black Dance Companies in 1988. She is a Distinguished Visiting Professor at the University of the Arts, which bestowed upon her an honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts, and is a member of the dance faculty at Howard University in Washington, DC. Most recently, she was awarded an honorary Doctorate in Humane Letters by Ursinus College. Listed in Who's Who in America and described as an "innovator and communicator," Ms. Brown has made significant contributions to the national and international arts communities. She remains a tireless advocate and spokesperson and is a model of tenacity, hope and discipline. Ms. Brown is the proud mother of three daughters Marlisa, Dannielle and Megan, and grandmother of six. It must be emphasized that Joan Myers Brown's efforts for dance excellence are only part of her contribution to society and Philadelphia in particular. She speaks out, talks back and shows up. She was co-chair of Dance/USA Philadelphia. Most recently she received the prestigious Philadelphia Award and November 7, 2010 was declared Joan Myers Brown Living Legacy Day.

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