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**IU AFRICAN AMERICAN ARTS INSTITUTE PRESENTS ITS ANNUAL *POTPOURRI OF THE ARTS IN THE AFRICAN AMERICAN TRADITION* AT IU AUDITORIUM NOVEMBER 11**

**WHAT:** Potpourri of the Arts in the African American Tradition

**WHEN:** November 11, 8 p.m.

**WHERE:** IU Auditorium

**TICKETS:** \$15 for IU students, non-IU students, and children, and \$30 for the general public, on sale now. Individual tickets may be purchased online at [IUauditorium.com](http://IUauditorium.com), in person at the IU Auditorium Box Office, as well as through [Ticketmaster.com](http://Ticketmaster.com) or charge by phone at (800) 745-3000. The IU Auditorium Box Office is open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**October 18, 2017**

**BLOOMINGTON, Ind.** – The Indiana University African American Arts Institute will present a celebration of African American song, dance, and soul in their annual event, *A Potpourri of the Arts in the African American Tradition*, on November 11 at 8 p.m.

Founded in 1993, *Potpourri of the Arts* embodies the spirit of African American performance through collaboration between the Institute's three ensembles—IU African American Dance Company directed by Stafford C. Berry, Jr., IU African American Choral Ensemble directed by Raymond Wise, and IU Soul Revue directed by James Strong. The three ensembles combine to create an exhilarating and engaging performance of three unique shows in one.

The African American Dance Company will present a broad range of movement and dance traditions from America and the African Diaspora, including African, contemporary, hip-hop, jazz, and other cultural forms. Then, the African American Choral Ensemble will delight audiences with the traditional song styles of African American spirituals, folk songs, and gospel. IU Soul Revue will round out the lineup with music from post-WWII genres such as rhythm and blues, soul, funk, and contemporary.

The three ensembles will finish the night with an energetic finale, a number that highlights each of the ensembles' specialties and captures the essence of the African American tradition.

This event is presented in support of the mission of the African American Arts Institute—a unit within IU's Office of the Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Multicultural Affairs (OVPDEMA)—to preserve and promote African American culture by means of performance, creative activity, education, research, and outreach.

"We are glad to have *Potpourri of the Arts* back to bring us another brilliant sampling of these ensembles," IU Auditorium Executive Director Doug Booher said. "Their combined efforts create a truly spectacular presentation of the powerful spirit and tradition of African American performance. This show is unique in the fact that the energy is almost infectious—so much so that the audience can't help but join in the celebration."

"The Potpourri features an incredibly broad range of music and dance, representing hundreds of years of the African American experience, performed by some of the most talented students on

the Bloomington campus,” said Charles Sykes, Executive Director of the IU African American Arts Institute. “There will be something on this program for everyone in our audience.”

The public is also invited to attend a “Preview to Potpourri” on campus at Briscoe Quadrangle Student Activity Room on October 24 at 8 p.m. This mini-performance is free and open to the public and will feature each of the ensembles as well as the chance to win tickets to the *Potpourri* performance.

For more information on *Potpourri of the Arts*, visit [IUauditorium.com](http://IUauditorium.com). The website features video clips and a selection of songs from this season's performances, in addition to a direct link to the IU Auditorium Facebook and Twitter pages, whose members receive exclusive benefits throughout the year.

*Potpourri of the Arts in the African American Tradition* is presented in partnership with the Indiana University Office of the Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Multicultural Affairs and the African American Arts Institute.

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