



PRESS RELEASE

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(Philadelphia, PA) American DanceWheels Foundation (ADF) will perform for Pope Francis at the World Meeting of Families on Saturday, September 26, 2015, on the Eakins Oval mainstage at 5:27 pm. The ADF formation team, led by Artistic Director Aubree Marchione, will perform an exciting Tango center stage on the Ben Franklin Parkway alongside other artists such as Andrea Bocelli, Aretha Franklin, The Fray, Jackie Evancho, and more.

Donna Crilley, Executive Director for the World Meeting of Families, stated the planning committee wanted to ensure that they brought together performers representing the world. The inclusion of ADF in the field of artists marks a significant achievement.

The World Meeting of Families, co-sponsored by the Holy See's Pontifical Council for the Family and the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, is a triennial global event that seeks to strengthen the sacred bonds of family across the globe and highlight its intrinsic value to the good of society. It is also an international gathering welcoming Pope Francis to the United States for the first time. The official theme for the 2015 World Meeting of Families is "Love is Our Mission: The Family Fully Alive."

ADF is a non-profit organization that uses Ballroom and Latin dance to overcome the social barriers between people with and without disabilities. For over 10 years, ADF has strived to change the public's perception about people with disabilities through dance education and performances. The performance at the World Meeting of Families will help advance the mission of ADF to alter the worldview of people with disabilities.

"ADF is honored to be included in the lineup of world-class performers participating in this historic event. Everyday we reconnect family members and friends through inclusive dance. Our program has the ability to strengthen bonds between people with and without disabilities, symbolizing the joy of partnership and creating an understanding between the dance partners without having to say a word," said ADF Executive Director Melinda Kremer.

The American DanceWheels Formation Team for the September 26th Performance

Alysse Einbender (Glenside, PA)
Aubree Marchione (South Amboy, NJ)
Vlada Martinek (Philadelphia, PA)
Diane Murphy (Erdenheim, PA)
Mike Nichols (Hockessin, DE)
Nick Scott (Ottawa, KS)

About American DanceWheels Foundation

American DanceWheels Foundation (ADF) is a Philadelphia area, non-profit foundation that teaches Wheelchair Ballroom and Latin Dance for one seated and one standing partner. ADF's copyrighted syllabus, Wheel One™, is being taught at dance studios and rehabilitation settings across the United States and abroad. A study conducted at the Palo Alto

Veterans Healthcare Administration in California concluded that the Wheel One™ program provided significant physical and psychological benefits to participants over a six-week period.

ADF breaks down the social and physical barriers between people with and without disabilities, giving them the extraordinary chance of working together in an artistic, social, and inspiring way. ADF has performed at professional dancesport competitions, universities, and hospital systems across the world. The most notable exhibitions include the 2015 Pan American Games, *Dancing with the Stars* National Tour, a Lincoln Center live performance, and the feature film, *Musical Chairs.* www.americandancewheels.org