



PIONEERS OF AMERICAN DANCE

Who has influenced some of today's most compelling performers and international-known dance companies? The answer is a group of ground-breaking 20th century American dance artists.

Connecticut Ballet has assembled a dynamic program designed to educate and stimulate students in grades 3-12 about American dance history as seen through the work of pioneering dance creators. Narrated by Artistic Director Brett Raphael and performed by Connecticut Ballet's distinguished dancers, **Pioneers of American Dance** will introduce the important work of such luminaries as, **Isadora Duncan, Martha Graham, José Limón, Alvin Ailey, Bob Fosse** and **Gene Kelly**, making connections and putting each artist in their historical context.

During this unique 50-minute assembly, students will:

- *View* a dance segment representative of each pioneering artist,
- *Learn* a simple hand gesture or a short movement sequence representative of each artist's distinctive style, and
- *Understand* and be able to *identify* the distinctive style of each pioneering artist, recognizing the expressive qualities within each dance segment.

A curriculum guide for classroom teachers and arts specialists consisting of suggested activities, lesson plans, student reflections and useful dance web links is available on Connecticut Ballet's website, www.connecticutballet.com.

For further information, contact Dana Rodriguez, Director of Education, at 203-964-1211 or 860-293-1039 or email to: ctballet@ix.netcom.com.

Pioneers of American Dance meets the Connecticut State Department of Education Dance Standards and is a useful addition to the social studies, language arts, English and history curriculum for grades 3-12.

