

**“A Celebration of Movement Inspired by Ernie Barnes”**  
**January 25, 2019**  
**Open Call to North Carolina Dance Companies**



Ryhmmin' and Timin'



Fashion Show



Class Reunion



The Drum Major

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**Saturday, December 1**, is the deadline to for dance companies to submit choreography to be considered for the North Carolina Museum of History’s upcoming **“Celebration of Movement Inspired by Ernie Barnes.”**

In June 2018, the museum opened [The North Carolina Roots of Artist Ernie Barnes](#). A native of Durham and an alumnus of Hillside High School and North Carolina Central University, Ernie Barnes played professional football before retiring at 28 to pursue art. Known for his unique style of elongation, energy, and movement, Ernie Barnes is the first American professional athlete to become a noted painter.

On the football field and in his art, Ernie Barnes demonstrated that movement is part of life—whether to the sounds of a crowd cheering, music playing, or an internal rhythm—we all experience time and space in ways that reflect our sense of self and our shared community. Ernie Barnes continues to inspire movement.

**To honor Ernie Barnes, we invite dance companies to celebrate his work by creating choreography inspired by his life and art.** Selected dance companies will perform at the opening Event for the 18th annual African American Cultural Celebration at the North Carolina Museum of History on **Friday evening, January 25, 2019.** **Each selected dance company receives a \$150 honorarium.**

Additional information [here](#). Entry form is found [here](#).