Written by Robert ID4365 Sunday, 18 May 2008 23:14 -

One of the most anticipated live events in urban street dance, the Hip Hop Internationals 7th Annual USA and World Hip Hop Dance Championships, are coming to Las Vegas for the first time from July 29-August 3 at the Loews Lake Las Vegas Resort and Planet Hollywood Theater. 1500 Dancers from 30 Nations compete for world supremacy at the live event that inspired the #1 MTV hip hop series Randy Jackson presents America's Best Dance Crew.

Fresh from their success as the producers/creators of Randy Jackson Presents America's Best Dance Crew, now entering its 2nd season on MTV beginning June 7, event producers Howard and Karen Schwartz are taking their USA and World Hip Hop Dance Championships to Las Vegas, where the event has already had a significant impact in the entertainment community. Natasha Jean Bart, who is featured as Lady Madonna in Cirque Du Soleils Love, will return as Head Judge. Muhktar, who was cast in Love after winning the World Hip Hop Championship in 2005 representing the UK, will join her on the 8-person international panel. Also returning to the judging panel is prominent hip-hop choreographer Shane Sparks (Americas Best Dance Crew), one of three judges featured on the MTV series. The public is invited to join Shane and other legendary hip hop dance choreographers for Urban Moves 5, street dance workshops presented on Wednesday, July 30 and Sunday, August 3.

The glitz and glamour of Las Vegas, combined with the popularity of the MTV show, will attract the largest number of hip hop dancers in the events 7-year history. As proof of the growing popularity of hip hop worldwide, crews expected to compete are from more than 35 nations including Australia, Argentina, Brazil, Belgium, Belarus, Canada, China, Colombia, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Philippines, Portugal, Russia, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Trinidad & Tobago, UK, USA and others.

The week will begin with the USA Hip Hop Dance Championship as crews (5 to 8 dancers) from all across America bust their best moves for the chance to represent the United States at the World Hip Hop Dance Championship in preliminary rounds on July 29 and Finals on July 30 conducted within the Loews Lake Las Vegas Resort (101 Montelago Boulevard, Henderson). Americas Best Dance Crew runners up Kaba Modern will be back to defend the USA title they earned in 2007.

Winners of the USA Hip Hop Dance Championship will advance to compete at the World Hip Hop Dance Championship in preliminary heats August 1 at Loews Lake Las Vegas Resort, setting the stage to represent the USA at the World Hip Hop Dance Championship Final on

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Sunday, August 3 at 7:30pm at Planet Hollywood Theater. The top dance crews in Youth (ages 7-12), Varsity (12-18) and Adult (18+) divisions will battle for world titles in a high energy, entertaining evening hosted by Chris Spencer (NBC/Bravos Significant Others, Soul Food and host of former late night talk show Vibe). The event will be further highlighted by the presentation of the 2008 Living Legends of Hip Hop Award to an icon in the hip-hop dance community.

Dedicated fans of authentic street dance wont want to miss the 3rd annual USA & World Bboy Crew Battles at Loews Lake Las Vegas Resort, a challenging and rarely seen in-your-face competition of b-boys and b-girls going head-to-head. The USA BBoy Battle takes place at 12:00noon on Saturday, August 2, with the winners advancing to the World BBoy Battle that night at 7:00pm. The 2nd annual World Popping & Locking Battles are also set for Saturday, August 2 at noon, and will feature a special appearance by icons Boogaloo Sam (creator of Popping and the Electric Boogaloo) and Don Campbellock Campbell (creator of Locking).

The 2007 events attracted a sold out crowd of 5000, prompting a huge demand for tickets to this years Championship. Single tickets and ticket packages may be purchased in advance for most events by calling 1.800.669.5867, online at www.hiphopinternational.com or at the door the day of each event subject to availability.

For more information, please visit <u>www.hiphopinternational.com</u> or call 1.800.669.5867. Tickets for the World Hip Hop Dance Championship Final may be purchased in advance through Ticket Master and in person at the Planet Hollywood Theatre box office.

The Championships are produced and organized by Los Angeles Hip Hop International, a live event and television production company with affiliates in 25 countries.

USA Hip-Hop Dance Championship Schedule

Crew Welcome

Monday, 7/28 @ 6:00 p.m.







