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Contact: Erin Weller Dalton
404-624-5295 ext 244
erin@movinginthespirit.org

MOVING IN THE SPIRIT CELEBRATES 25TH ANNIVERSARY
WITH INTERNATIONAL TOUR AND PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT

ATLANTA, Georgia – July 20, 2011 – On July 5, 2011, Moving in the Spirit kicked-off its 25th Anniversary Season with an international tour to Panama, connecting its young artists to youth in new cultures through performances and service projects. Moving in the Spirit's dancers will continue to inspire international viewers through a new photography exhibit by renowned Atlanta photographer JD Scott, titled "Believe in Me: Dancing from the Inside Out," at Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport. The exhibit will feature fifteen large-sized panels depicting the dignity, dreams and artistic life of teen dancers from Atlanta-based Moving in the Spirit. Now celebrating its 25th year of service, Moving in the Spirit educates, inspires and unites young people ages 3-18 through the art of dance, helping them become compassionate leaders. The exhibit will be displayed in the airport's Atrium Gallery, located in the heart of the airport's main terminal, from July 22-September 28, 2011.

As an artist, JD Scott's passion is to use imagery to inspire feelings of hope and belief. His photography has taken him to Bosnia and Croatia during the conflict in the early 1990s, as well as to a host of other countries in Europe, Latin America and Africa. "For me, Moving in the Spirit epitomizes the connection between the arts and the greater good," shares Mr. Scott. "I have photographed their dance performances for over 10 years, but my artistry is most alive when I create photographs that tell the 'real' story behind the dancers, how they use art to overcome tremendous obstacles and go on to succeed in their own lives, becoming mentors for those that follow."

"For 25 years, Moving in the Spirit has encouraged students to dig deep and go beyond the surface of merely performing," explains Dana Lupton, Executive & Artistic Director of Moving in the Spirit. "As young leaders, our students must work hard to overcome the challenges they face each day in their neighborhoods and schools, find their voices, and realize the potential for their lives. Through this prominent exhibit and their tour to Panama, they've had the opportunity to engage with and inspire others who face immense challenges, encourage *their* voices to emerge, and learn from those unique perspectives. It's a beautiful reminder of how the arts can reach across cultures and inspire meaningful exchange."

"Believe in Me: Dancing from the Inside Out" will be on display at Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport in the Atrium Gallery through September 28th. The exhibit can also be viewed online at www.jdscottphoto.com under "Exhibitions." Information on Moving in the Spirit and its 25th Anniversary activities can be found at www.movinginthespirit.org.

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Founded by Dana Lupton and Leah Mann in 1986, **Moving in the Spirit** is a nationally recognized youth development program that integrates high quality dance instruction with performance, leadership and mentor opportunities for young people in Atlanta's urban communities. Moving in the Spirit educates, inspires and unites young people through dance, in order to help them become compassionate leaders.

J.D. Scott specializes in imagery that captures the spirit of people, whether they Presidents, children in a daycare center, symphony musicians, or farmers in South Africa. In the U.S. and internationally, J.D. has documented humanitarian and social projects, created evocative photographs for advertising campaigns, and pursued his own projects. Clients include a range of national and international organizations and businesses.