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**firstworks**  
connecting art with audiences

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**FirstWorks Presents Broadway Tap Phenomenon Savion Glover**

– “STePz” Takes Tap Dance to New Heights –  
– Friday, January 31, 2014 at The Vets, Providence, RI –

**PROVIDENCE, RI** – FirstWorks presents Broadway tap phenomenon Savion Glover in his newest exuberant celebration of dance – “STePz”. Glover and his ensemble take tap dance to new heights with great versatility – fusing traditional music selections of the past with Glover’s self-proclaimed tap style and energy of the future. FirstWorks brings tap master Savion Glover to The Vets in Providence, RI on January 31, 7:30pm. Tickets start at \$28 at [first-works.org](http://first-works.org) or call 401-421-ARTS (2787).

Since Savion Glover first exploded onto the stage with his Broadway smash hit “Bring in ‘da Noise, Bring in ‘da Funk”, he has become one of the precious few artists to radically embody, redefine and expand their art form. “STePz” demonstrates Mr. Glover’s incredible ability to perform the complexities of jazz phrasing—both bass line and melody, as well as wild improvisations, structure, and deconstruction—from departure to return.

“Savion Glover has danced for presidents and been hailed as the ‘greatest tap dancer that ever lived’, but his life’s work goes far beyond his hummingbird fast technique. He has redefined tap to be urban, black and masculine. He is passionate about educating youth and honoring the masters that came before him. He reaches new heights with each creation—whether it’s the spectacle of hip-hop tap or, as with ‘STePz’, the interplay between tap and jazz improvisation,” said Kathleen Pletcher, Executive Artistic Director, FirstWorks. “FirstWorks is thrilled to connect our audiences and the young people in our Arts Learning program with a living legend.”

Glover is a Tony award-winning hooper, choreographer and producer. His numerous credits include the Broadway shows “The Tap Dance Kid”; “Black and Blue”; “Jelly’s Last Jam”; and the films “Tap” with Gregory Hines and Sammy Davis Jr.; “Bamboozled” by Spike Lee; and “Happy Feet”, an Academy Award winning feature film choreographed by Glover.

*This performance is made possible with leading support from National Grid, Carter Family Charitable Trust and Providence Tourism Council.*

## **Notable Upcoming FirstWorks Events**

### **Martha Redbone Roots Project—“The Garden of Love—Songs of William Blake”**

**February 13, 2014**

Hailed as "Americana's next superstar", Redbone soulfully fuses her Cherokee, Choctaw and African-American heritage in a vibrant gumbo of funk and R&B. Thursday, February 13, 7:30pm at Aurora (former Roots Cultural Center), 276 Westminster Street, Downtown Providence. Tickets: \$15 advance /\$20 door at [first-works.org](http://first-works.org) or call 401-421-4281.

### **The Mark Morris Dance Group – March 8, 2014**

The Mark Morris Dance Group, one of the world's leading dance companies, joins FirstWorks for an exhilarating evening of live music and dance. Saturday, March 8, 2014, 8:00pm at The Vets, 1 Avenue of the Arts, Providence. Tickets start at \$38 at [first-works.org](http://first-works.org) or call 401-421-ARTS (2787)

### **About FirstWorks**

FirstWorks is a non-profit arts organization that builds the cultural, educational, and economic vitality of our community through world-class performing arts and education programs. Since 2004, FirstWorks has offered Rhode Islanders access to some of the most exciting artists of our time including Yo-Yo Ma & the Silk Road Ensemble, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Wynton Marsalis, Joffrey Ballet, and the master artists of Pakistan through the Caravanserai project (2011-12). Beginning with an unprecedented collaboration with Providence's Department of Art, Culture + Tourism, FirstWorks has produced 22 groundbreaking arts festivals, attracted more than 155,000 participants, presented over 361 international artists and innovators, engaged more than 100 nonprofit community organizations and schools, and grown into a multidimensional arts organization recognized with 15 National Endowment for the Arts grants. In fall 2012, FirstWorks partnered with the City of Providence to present the inaugural FirstWorks Festival: On the Plaza, leading a consortium of 18 organizations to create an event that drew 40,000 people into downtown Providence. In July 2013, the City of Providence and FirstWorks were named recipients of a second NEA Our Town grant to support a community design effort to create a cultural corridor in downtown Providence along Washington Street, and to establish the FirstWorks Festival: On the Plaza as a biennial signature event in Providence. Visit [www.first-works.org](http://www.first-works.org) to learn more.

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