

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CORA DANCE PRESENTS THE 5TH ANNUAL RED HOOK PROM - UNITED IN LOVE
BENEFIT PROCEEDS SUPPORT SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENTS**

Councilman Carlos Menchaca crowned as Red Hook Prom King

(BROOKLYN, NY) March 28, 2017 - Shannon Hummel/Cora Dance presents the 5th Annual Red Hook Prom - United in Love - Saturday, May 6 from 7pm-12am at South Brooklyn Community High School. The annual dance party and silent auction for adults benefits the pay-what-you-can programs at Shannon Hummel/Cora Dance. Cora will be honoring Councilman Carlos Menchaca from the 38th District as the 2017 Red Hook Prom King.

Started in 2013 as a community wide spirit lifter following Hurricane Sandy, the Red Hook Prom has brought together more community members, fly moves, sassy outfits and - say it loud - LOVE - than any other Cora event over the past five years. Hosted in a high school gym, the 2017 Red Hook Prom draws inspiration from the greatest of decades (70s, 80s, and 90s) and is extended an hour longer to ensure ample hours for dancing. Throwback tunes will be spun by DJ Robert Lux (recently featured at Lollapalooza and the Super Bowl XLVIII official in-stadium Pre-Party, and at venues such as OUTPUT Brooklyn, Marquee NY, and Brooklyn Bowl).

For the 5th Anniversary of the Red Hook Prom, Cora is honoring Councilman Menchaca. Cora awards the title of Red Hook Prom King to a unifying force in the community. Since elected in 2013, Councilman Menchaca has been an advocate for Cora and the community Cora serves. Councilman Menchaca will be crowned Red Hook Prom King before the final two hours of dancing.

The evening is sponsored by **Elements Hair Studio** and features a beauty station manned by Lasha Keller, performances by Shannon Hummel/Cora Dance students and professional dancers, a silent auction, and a photo booth by **MVS Studios**. Libations and snacks are provided by local Red Hook favorites - spiked punch and wine from **dry dock**, beer from **Sixpoint Brewery**, sweets from **Baked**, and ice cream from **Ample Hills Creamery**.

No one is ever turned away from Cora based on what or if they can pay, and the prom is no different. Admission to the Red Hook Prom is by donation. Tickets are a suggested donation of \$100 (minimum donation of \$5) and are available in advance at www.coradance.org or in person at the door.

Table sponsorship is available for \$600 and includes admission and seating for six people, champagne, and advertisement at the event and on the Cora website. For additional information call 718-858-2520.

It's just like prom, only better. No teen angst, no crying in the bathroom, and no inhibition on the dance floor because hey, the punch is spiked!

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ABOUT CORA. Through its company and school, Shannon Hummel/Cora Dance, led under the Artistic Direction of Shannon Hummel, creates exceptional dance experiences while addressing the impediments that restrict individuals from accessing the art form. Cora fosters common ground amongst diverse people, allowing all involved—artists, students, audiences and community members—to connect more deeply with one another through the arts. All programs and performances at Cora are pay-what-you-can; no one is ever turned away based on what they can afford. More information can be found at www.coradance.org

ABOUT CARLOS MENCHACA. Carlos Menchaca was elected New York City Council Member for District 38 in Brooklyn in 2013, becoming the first Mexican-American elected to public office in the state and Brooklyn's first openly gay elected official. During his time as Council Member, Carlos has authored and passed legislation that created New York's first municipal identification card program. He has secured funding for the largest public defender program in the nation for undocumented immigrants, and led efforts that secured the largest allocation in recent history for adult literacy services in the City. Council Member Menchaca is Chair of the New York City Council Committee on Immigration and a member of the Black, Latino, and Asian Caucus, the LGBT Caucus and the Progressive Caucus. He currently serves as board member of The New American Leaders Project.



Photos by MVS Studio