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Philanthropist Catherine Reynolds to head Dance Theatre of Harlem's board

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Philanthropist **Catherine B. Reynolds** will become chairwoman of the board of trustees of the struggling Dance Theatre of Harlem and her **Catherine B. Reynolds Foundation** has pledged \$1 million to the dance company, the company announced Wednesday.

"We feel privileged that **Catherine** has agreed to lend her energy, commitment and vision to Dance Theatre of Harlem," artistic director Arthur Mitchell said Wednesday. "Her dedication to both the arts and arts education is long-standing and passionate."

Founded in 1969 by Mitchell and Karel Shook, the Dance Theatre of Harlem was forced to cancel its season and close its school last year because of a \$2.4 million budget shortfall. The school reopened in December with the help of \$1.6 million in donations -- \$500,000 from Mayor Michael Bloomberg.

"We have great hopes of re-establishing our company in the near future," Mitchell said.

Reynolds made her fortune by developing a privately funded student loan program. She was chosen by Business Week last year as one of the 50 most philanthropic living Americans, becoming the first self-made woman ever to make the magazine's list.

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