



LANDMARKS ILLINOIS

2008 Legendary Landmark Gerald Arpino

Gerald Arpino co-founded the Joffrey Ballet with Robert Joffrey in 1956 and served as associate director. Upon Mr. Joffrey's death in 1988, Mr. Arpino succeeded him as artistic director and continues to serve as the company's resident choreographer. Mr. Arpino is the first choreographer commissioned to create a ballet to honor the office of the American President and is the only choreographer to have had four ballets performed at the White House. He serves on numerous boards and councils, including the Board of the Chicago Academy for the Arts and the Arts Advisory Committee of the New York International Festival of the Arts, and is an advisor to the Artists Committee for the Kennedy Center honors. In 2005, Mr. Arpino was honored with the first award for visionary leadership from the Arts and Business Council of Chicago and the University Club of Chicago's Cultural Award. In that same year, he was named a "Chicagoan of the Year" by the *Chicago Tribune* for his global contributions to the arts.