



## **NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT:** *Oshunbumi Fernandez-West*  
(267)-320-4364

### **ODUNDE, INC. DECIDES TO CANCEL HISTORIC AFRICAN-AMERICAN STREET FESTIVAL THIS YEAR**

*IN RESPONSE TO CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE DIRECTIVES FROM PENNSYLVANIA GOVERNOR  
TOM WOLF, ODUNDE ORGANIZERS CANCEL 2020 FESTIVAL*

**Philadelphia, Pa., April 28, 2020** -The organizers of ODUNDE, Inc. today announced that the internationally-known ODUNDE Festival will be cancelled this year. "The health and well-being of our festival attendees, vendors and performers is paramount! We are excited to see you next year – Sunday, June 13, 2021," stated Oshunbumi Fernandez-West, Board President and CEO. "We welcome you to support ODUNDE's year-round programming including the ODUNDE 365 and I AM B.U.M.I. children programs at [www.odundefestival.org](http://www.odundefestival.org)."

The festival generally takes place on the Second Sunday in June along South Street from 20<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> Streets and in the surrounding area. The free, outdoor festival, whose central ceremonies are rooted in the traditions of the Yoruba people of Nigeria, features a wide variety of vendors, craftspeople, artists and performers. Each year, the ODUNDE Festival draws hundreds of thousands of people from throughout the Philadelphia area, the Mid-Atlantic region, and across the world. Due to the event's substantial positive economic impact for the City of Philadelphia, the ODUNDE Festival has been designated an official City event.

Created in 1975 by Lois Fernandez, the ODUNDE Festival is the largest African American street festival in America. The organization has also spawned ODUNDE365 which provides year-round cultural programs to Philadelphia schools, businesses and organizations. Further information on ODUNDE365's programs, the I AM BUMI children's book and calendar of events may be obtained by contacting us via the ODUNDE office at (267) 320-4364 or via the web at [www.odundefestival.org](http://www.odundefestival.org).

###