



"We are looking at what our folks CAN do;
not focused on what they cannot do."



**DANCING
CLASSROOMS
PHILLY**

2020-21 Annual Report

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INNOVATION

Dancing Classrooms Philly is thankful to all of our supporters who helped us weather the COVID-19 pandemic. Not only were we able to adapt and pivot to virtual learning through Homeroom Edition, the virtual adaption of our flagship program, but also by expanding our social dance offerings to different genres beyond ballroom and to additional age groups. Now, in addition to the 5th and 8th grade students that participate in the DCP Ballroom Dance Residency, students in 3rd through 12th grade can also learn Latin, Salsa, Hip Hop, and K-Pop, in school assemblies or classroom-based residencies. We also added after-school dance clubs, which give students and their families the opportunity to share the joy of movement beyond the classroom (sometimes outdoors), and enjoy the benefits of physical daily activity.

By the end of the 2020-21 school year, we brought 706 Ballroom, Hip-Hop, Latin, and K-Pop residency and assembly sessions to 39 locations serving 3,408 students, despite NO Fall programming. Thirty classrooms participated in the Homeroom Edition virtual ballroom residency. Of the total students served, 82 were special needs students via 69 sessions at 4 locations. Six additional students participated in 23 virtual and in-person DCP Academy sessions.

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ABOUT DANCING CLASSROOMS PHILLY

The Dancing Classrooms Philly (DCP) mission is to foster self-esteem, social awareness and joy in children by providing the opportunity to learn and perform social dance. DCP envisions transformative arts programs in all school communities, building confidence, nurturing creativity, and promoting a culture of mutual respect and well-being.

Dancing Classrooms Philly is committed to teaching the whole student and believes that every child deserves to find joy, respect, and a safe space at school. Dancing Classrooms' methodology focuses on using rigorous and joyful social dance as a vehicle to enhance students' mental and emotional well-being through opportunities for improved decision-making, goal-setting, communication, relationship-building, identifying and managing emotions, self-motivation and reflection.

Through our social dance instruction, we help to improve the climate of school communities across the Philadelphia region by building confidence in students, breaking down social barriers, and inspiring respect for all individuals.



Catherine Charlton (right) with Denise Kinney

A Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

It is an honor and privilege to begin my service as Executive Director of Dancing Classrooms Philly (DCP) and partner organization Musicopia. While it has been a challenging year for all, I am thankful for the strong organizational foundation that allows us to confidently reemerge, poised for growth.

Jane Brooks, Joyce Burd, and Harvey Kimmel brought Dancing Classrooms to Philadelphia in 2007, and under Denise Kinney's leadership as Executive Director from 2012-2020, the organization has truly blossomed. Denise created a clear vision for partnership with Musicopia, led the formation and cultivation of a shared Board of Directors, and built solid relationships with supporters and school partners. Along the way, Denise discovered a deep appreciation for dance! Under her leadership we offered collaborative opportunities between DCP student dancers and Musicopia student musicians; the DCP Academy grew to three sites; and we welcomed the inaugural DCP Academy Festival that brought students and communities together from around the region. Denise was also a champion for inclusion in the classroom, piloting ballroom residencies with gender neutral circles.

This has been an extraordinary year. I am amazed by the resiliency of our Teaching Artists, school partners, and staff who worked tirelessly to meet the varying needs of our schools and students. After a pause in programming from March-October 2020, we came back in full (virtual) force, broadening school-based dance offerings to include not only a wider range of social dance

styles including Salsa and Hip-hop among others, but also a wider range of students from 3rd to 12th graders! Knowing the importance of our community as a whole, we also piloted professional development workshops for classroom teachers and administrators. As we return focus in 2021 to in-person lessons and our flagship ballroom residencies, we will carry forward much of this innovation into the future.

An accomplishment this year that makes me especially proud was the creation of our Board of Directors' Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee. The DEI Committee is tasked with the focused integration of formal DEI policies and initiatives into all areas of our organizations and programming, deepening our commitment to equitable access to arts education.

I am eternally grateful for the Board of Directors' belief in my vision for the future of DCP. My avid pursuit of ballroom dance and Argentine tango as a young adult not only shaped my personal future, but also my passion for DCP. I am also thankful for you – our supporters, community members, and friends – for your continued engagement and support throughout this virtual year. We have seen again and again that dance brings children together and transforms lives. Your partnership in this journey makes all the difference in shaping the youth of our collective future. Thank you.

Warmly,

Catherine M. Charlton



LEADERSHIP TRANSITION

In September 2020, the shared Dancing Classrooms Philly/Musicopia Board of Directors appointed Catherine Charlton as the new Executive Director. The appointment took place after a thoughtful and rigorous transition process upon the retirement of Denise Kinney. Catherine served as DCP's and Musicopia's Grants & Corporate Development Director from 2017-2020. Earlier in her career, she served as Assistant Vice President in Market Research and technology management for a global credit card company. She holds a B.S. in Engineering with Distinction and a minor in Music, and an Executive Certificate in Financial Success for NonProfits, from Cornell University. A recording artist on the prestigious roster of Steinway Artists, Catherine currently serves on the Board of Governors of the Philadelphia Chapter of the Recording Academy. She is also an avid enthusiast of ballroom and Argentine tango and taught ballroom dance to youth in West Philadelphia.

SCHOOL Programming

From March-October 2020, DCP paused classes due to COVID-19 school shutdowns. This sabbatical from programming allowed for time to re-invent curriculum for virtual delivery, in collaboration with Dancing Classrooms Global, as well as to bolster the long-term financial stability of the organization. Furloughed teaching artists received support from staff in finding available financial resources, and also received grants from the Board of Directors' established Emergency Response Fund. Staff from partner organization Musicopia assisted with administrative tasks during this transition.



“The virtual program has been great for our 5th graders. It has given the students an outlet to express themselves through movement and dance during a time when we all are unfortunately very sedentary, and opportunity for activities outside of school is low. So to provide them that opportunity during school has been a blessing.”

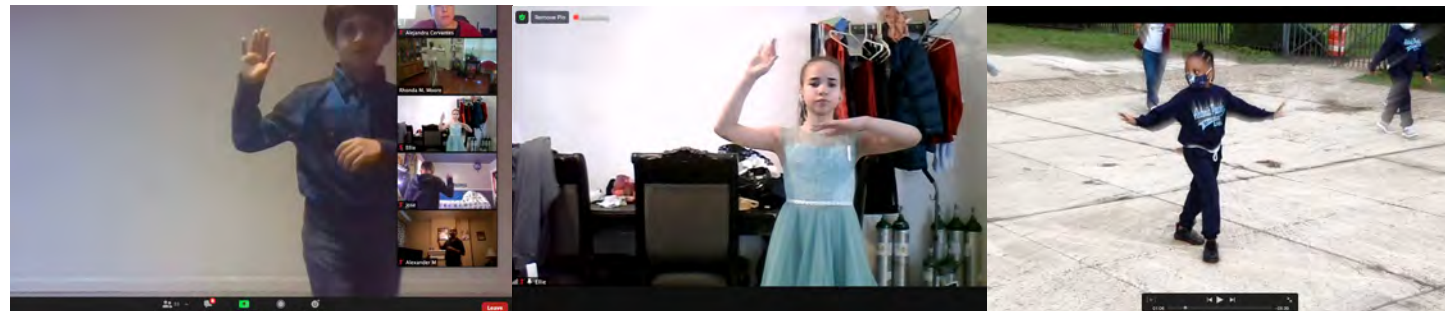
– Classroom teacher

In-school Residency

In November 2020, DCP began offering the Homeroom Edition virtual residency. Delivered via video conferencing, live instructional sessions alternate with video sessions, in which the entire class watches original videos with DCP teaching artists offering verbal instruction and check-ins in real-time on a variety of ballroom dances including foxtrot, rumba, swing, tango, waltz, and merengue. Follow-up assignments, opportunities for teacher input and feedback, and curricular connections allow for multiple touch points. Throughout the residency, students are asked to journal, write poems, draw, and reflect about the specific dances. These reflections encourage self-expression and promote creative and imaginative ways for the students to enter the spirit and cultural history of the dances. The Homeroom Edition residency reinforces the DCP core curriculum components: respect and compassion, being present, creating a safe space, command and control, language, and humor and joy.

Our first virtual program was a game-changer for our students and organization. It was proof that, **yes, we can teach dance virtually!** It enabled us to engage our students to move, think, feel, and connect during a very confusing, isolating, unpredictable time in their young lives.

In the 2020-21 school year, DCP also broadened its school-based dance offerings to include not only a wider range of dance styles, but also a wider range of students. Now, students in 3rd through 12th grades can participate in a Latin dance (Merengue, Rumba, Salsa, ChaCha), Hip-Hop, or K-Pop assembly, classroom residency, or after school dance clubs.



Programming for Students with Special Needs

DCP works with several special needs schools to serve students with cognitive, sensory, mobility, psychological, and developmental disabilities. Teaching artists use descriptive language to convey movements, which is especially useful for blind and visually impaired students, as well as for virtual instruction where students see a mirror image of the instructor. Individual adaptations are created for each student's range of motion. If students are confined to stationary positions due to mobility issues, rhythm and spatial pattern exercises are reconfigured to highlight and activate "small body geographies," working

the rhythm of each dance through movements of the eyes, head, shoulders, ribs and chest, hips, knees, and feet.

DCP staff, teaching artists, and school staff, students, student personal aides, and parents of students learning from home worked collaboratively to figure out how to best teach and learn social dance virtually. At one school, the DCP teaching artist taught live virtual sessions from home to students and aides, some of whom were located at the school building, and others who learned from home. Our special needs programming reaches school-age students as well as adult students.



"I am so excited to have the DCP dance and movement program (virtually) for my students with special needs, especially in this unprecedented year with all of its scheduling challenges. I'm looking forward to our residency!"
-Music teacher



IN-SCHOOL INNOVATIONS!

Our new Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) Workshops allow teachers to experience a variety of techniques and tools in their classrooms that support mindfulness, create a safe space, use humor and joy, and instill respect and compassion. In March and May, 45 teachers from Aldan Elementary School and Colwyn Elementary School participated in three DCP-led SEL workshops. Some of the comments we heard were "great energy," "great stretching exercise, I will continue to use this method," and "best meeting everrrrrrrrrrrrr!"

Virtual Culminating Events

Virtual peer-to-peer sharing in celebration of student work and live family-friendly dance parties enable school communities to lift up students and connect families over long distances. At the conclusion of in-school residencies, students invited their families, friends, and caretakers into the virtual ballroom to reflect on their experiences, share their artwork and poetry, and demonstrate their new dance moves! In 2020-21, 17 schools, including three special needs schools,

held live virtual culminating events, sharing performances with school communities through videos, broadcast of performances from classrooms, and live video conferencing.

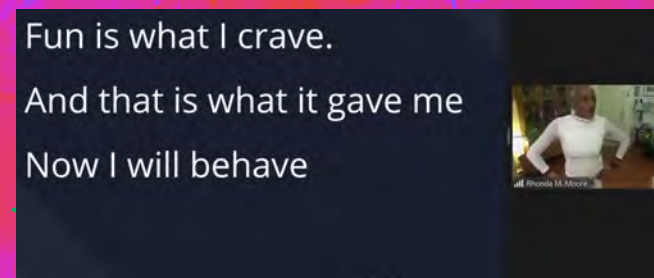
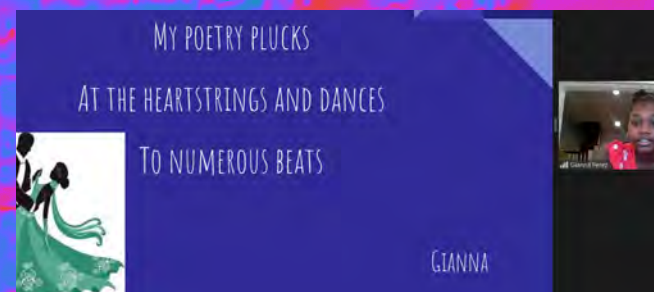
Colors of the Rainbow Team Match Events

The Colors of the Rainbow Team Match Events are joyful occasions that bring together DCP school communities to celebrate student learning, effort, and resilience and help children from different backgrounds realize that

they are all part of a larger family, united in their love of ballroom dance. Relationships are built and strengthened, and adults and children cheer each other on with elegance and good sportsmanship. Due to state and school health and safety guidelines and protocols to mediate the COVID-19 pandemic, Dancing Classrooms Philly was unable to hold Team Match Events in the 2020-21 school year; however, we look forward to cheering on our students as they perform in these events in the future.

"It was exciting to hear the students discuss ways that they can dance without being in-person. How will they have a partner? How will they create the space? And how will they connect with the music? The [virtual] Ballroom dance residency is opening up their minds on how they can continue to dance and connect with others in the virtual learning world."

- Classroom teacher



OPPORTUNITIES

Beyond the Classroom

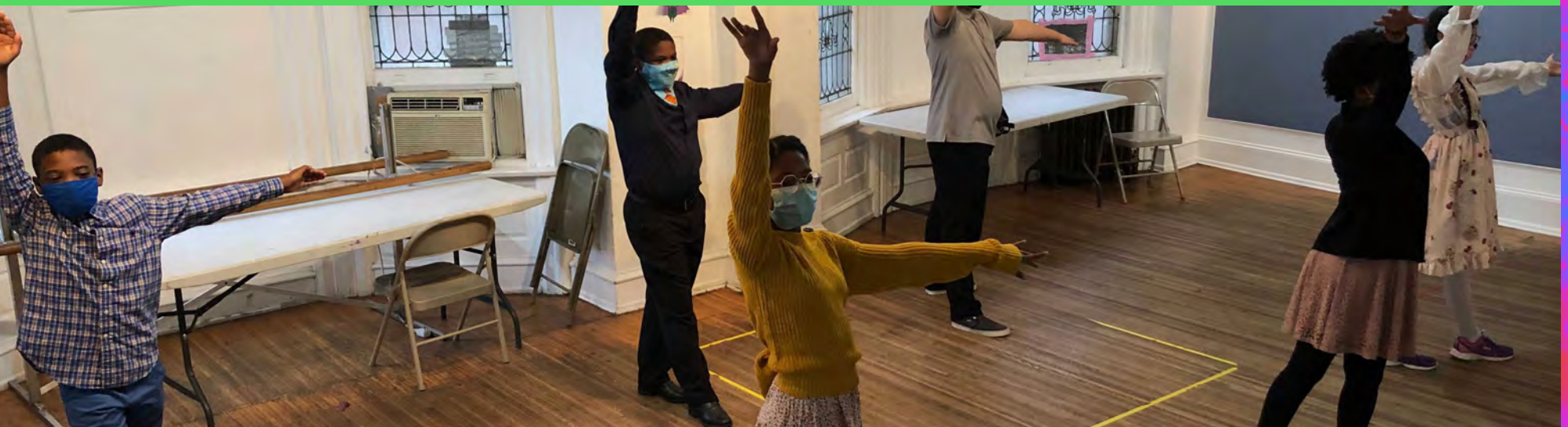
The DCP Academy and DCP Allstars, open to in-school residency graduates, provide an outlet for our students to become more engaged in dance and to share their love of dance with others.

DCP Academy

The DCP Academy is a weekly program during the school year, open to all in-school residency graduates. Academy students receive more advanced training through a curriculum designed to challenge them with a focus on refined techniques to boost them to the next level, while nurturing confidence, motivation, discipline, and performance quality. While having the opportunity to meet peers from other schools and develop lifelong friendships, students also receive introduction to new dances from different cultures, and exposure to the civility, social manners, and elegance expected in adult life.

In 2020-21, 6 Academy students danced in-person together on Saturday mornings, following COVID-19 mediation protocols at the University City Arts League in West Philadelphia, and virtually in December and January. In December, Academy dancers were featured in a highlights video during our annual High Note High Step Event, and in March, the dancers performed live outdoors at Smith Memorial Playground's Play-A-Palooza. The dancers also made a video dancing the Swing to be used in partnership with a video performance by the University of Pennsylvania Honor Band.

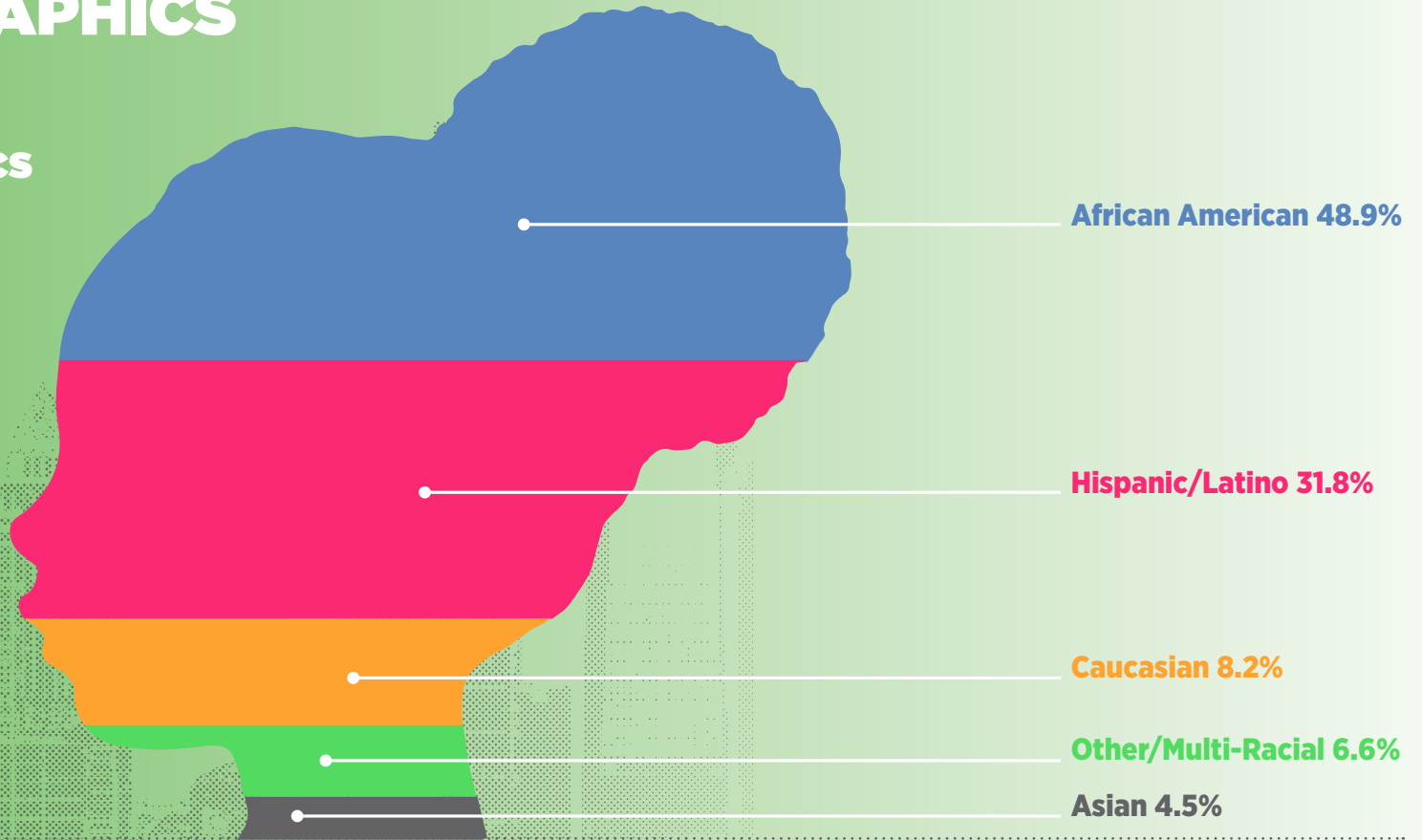
ACADEMY INNOVATIONS! Thanks to a Penn Medicine CAREs grant, we were able to purchase new speakers, microphones, and practice shoes for our Academy students. These tools enabled the students to train and rehearse outside while adhering to COVID-19 protocols.



DEMOGRAPHICS

STUDENT Demographics

Many students served by Dancing Classrooms Philly have more than one encounter with our programming throughout the year, including multi-week long residencies. The chart to the right shows the student demographic we served based on the number of times students came into contact with our programming.

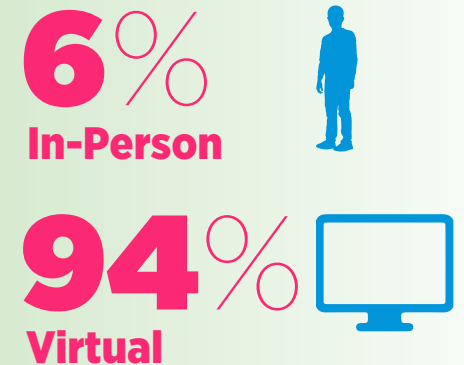


SCHOOLS & Organizations

These are the types of schools and organizations we served during 2020-21.



PROGRAMMING Session Types

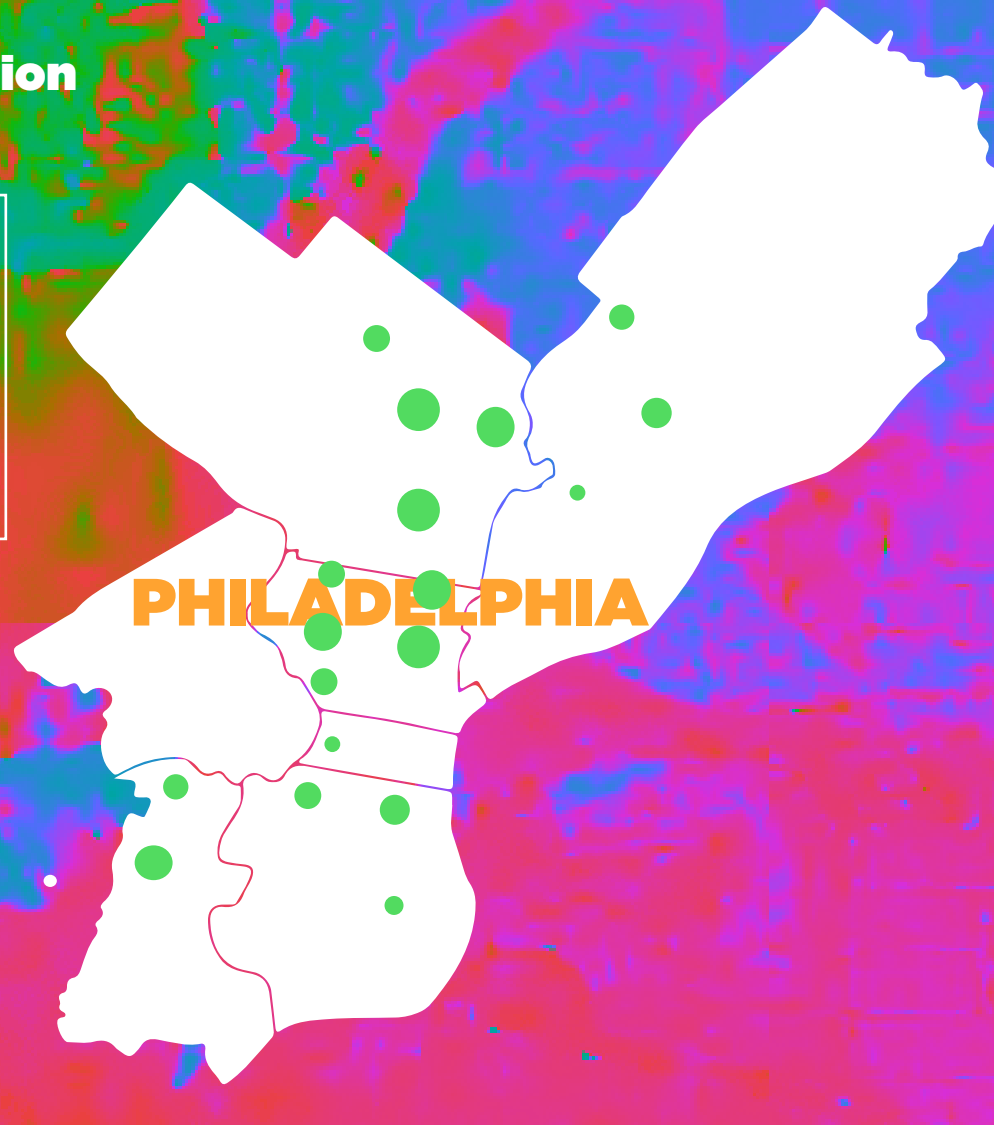


PROGRAMMING Volume By Location

Total # of Sessions

- 5
- 20
- 40
- 69

**More than 70%
of DCP students
served are
identified as
low-income.**



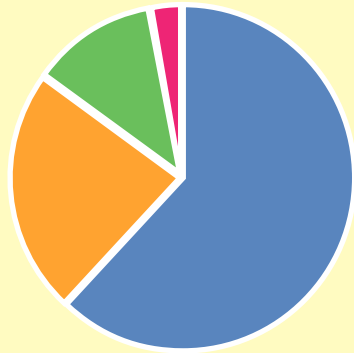
INSTITUTIONAL GROWTH

Under Catherine Charlton's leadership as Board President, the Dancing Classroom Philly and Musicopia shared Board of Directors created the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee, led by Co-Chairs Scott Fast and Dr. Dennis W. Creedon. This committee includes Board representatives from Programming (including active school Principals and Teaching Artists), Finance, Development and Marketing, and Governance. Having begun with a DEI pulse survey of the Board in June 2021, the committee will survey stakeholders to assess all aspects of Musicopia's and DCP's programming, Board recruitment, HR policies, messaging, and more, with the intent to integrate a DEI lens into formal policies and strategic goals throughout the organizations. The April 2021 Board and Staff Retreat featured keynote facilitator Mauricio Velásquez of the Diversity Training Group, and staff participated in a June 2021 workshop on internal bias, with David Dylan Thomas.

The pause in programming due to COVID-19, in addition to ensuring long-term financial stability of the organization by preserving cash reserves, allowed space for additional internal focus and process improvements. As a result, DCP started holding monthly teaching artists meetings to allow time for community building, professional development, and creating curriculum for the new dance offerings. We also converted our accounting and payroll systems, completed a Human Resources manual overhaul, and began further leveraging Salesforce for customer relationship & data management.

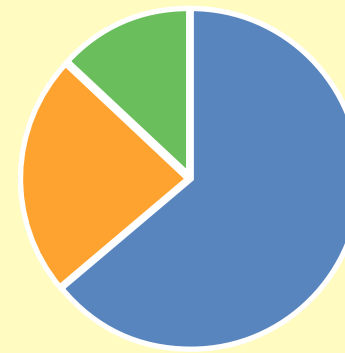
FINANCIAL Information

FY2020-21 REVENUE



62% Grants
23% Other Revenue
12% Individuals and Fundraising
3% COVID-19 Relief (Emergency response fund and grants)

FY2020-21 EXPENSES



64% Programming
23% Management and General
13% Fundraising

Revenue	FY Ending 2019	FY Ending 2020	FY Ending 2021*
Grants	\$179,788	\$108,509	\$129,381
Other Revenue	\$199,777	\$107,132	\$47,773
Individuals and Fundraising	\$52,998	\$63,401	\$24,689
COVID-19 Relief (Emergency Response Fund and Grants)	N/A	\$38,164	\$6,930
Total Revenue	\$432,563	\$317,206	\$208,773

Expenses	FY Ending 2019	FY Ending 2020	FY Ending 2021*
Programming	\$338,564	\$247,147	\$139,478
Management and General	\$70,508	\$61,303	\$49,401
Fundraising	\$36,652	\$41,809	\$29,697
Total Operating Expenses	\$445,724	\$350,259	\$218,576
Net Operating Results**	(\$13,161)	(\$33,053)	(\$9,803)

* Financials Prior to Financial Review

** Net operating results do not include revenue from multi-year grants received and recorded in prior years

Dancing Classrooms Philly and Musicopia

HIGH NOTE HIGH STEP SOCIETY

Members

These dedicated supporters have generously pledged \$1,000 or more per year for five years to Dancing Classrooms Philly, or both Dancing Classrooms Philly and partner organization Musicopia.

Anonymous (3)
Noelle and Seth Allen
Kelley Arredondo
Susan Bernini and Denise Kinney
Catherine and Jonathan Broh
Joyce and Ron Burd
Brian and Dawn Camfield
James Cauley
Catherine Marie Charlton
Margery Covello and Paul Marone
Steve and Cathei Davis
Jack H. Dembow
David and Larissa DiStefano
Robbie and Steve Eisenberg
Jake and Elizabeth Elich
Tamsin and Scott Fast
Welthie and Walter Fitzgerald
Razelle and William Frankl
Karen and Jeffrey Freedman
Jayne Garrison
Danielle Kalish

Sara Kimmel and Virginia Kimmel
Lynne Kornblatt
Carole and Lou Lauzar
Ebony Lee
William A. Loeb
Kate Lombardi
Lynne Millard
Frank Murphy
Barb Murray
Zoe Pappas
Charles Shupe
Janet Ries Stern and Matthew Stern
Lauren and Alex Vaccaro
Gui and Katryn Valladares
Douglas Umbehauer, Sr. and Jr.
Margaret Wales
Len Weiser and Dave Bronstein
Staci Wilhelm and Derek Loranca
Dennis and Donna Woody
Bill and Linda Zarrilli



HIGH NOTE HIGH STEP EVENT
In December, approximately 200 online guests heard inspirational remarks from Grammy-nominated duo **Black Violin** about the power and importance of the arts at our annual High Note High Step Event with partner organization Musicopia. The event raised over \$40,000 in donations, sponsorships, and pledges, and was featured on NBC10 and in *Dosage Magazine*, *Scoop USA Media*, *Philadelphia Weekly*, *Philly Life & Culture*, and *Broadway World*.



DONOR LIST

We thank and recognize these donors who contributed to Dancing Classrooms Philly's work between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021. We are truly grateful for your support.

\$50,000 to \$99,999

Dreams R Us Foundation

\$20,000 to \$49,999

Virginia and Harvey Kimmel Arts Education Fund

\$10,000 to \$19,999

Pennsylvania Council on the Arts
The Philadelphia Foundation

\$5,000 to \$9,999

Stockton Rush Bartol Foundation
COVID-19 Arts Aid PHL
Albert B. Millet Memorial Fund
Philadelphia Cultural Fund
Rosenlund Family Foundation

\$1,000 to \$2,499

Joseph and Joan Batory
Manish Gorawala
Tim and Regina Kardish
Penn Medicine CAREs
Patricia and Stephen Segal
Ethel Sergeant Clark Smith Memorial Fund
Christine Frost Red and Michael Wax

\$500 to \$999

Arthur Chiu
Dennis W. Creedon
Carly Keeny
Mary and Justin Klein
Marylou McLaughlin
Gregory Offner, Jr.
Paulette Steffa
Deborah Zateeny

\$250 to \$499

Christine DiSanto
Kushol Gupta
Taia Harlos
Danielle Mccoy
Allyson Schwartz
Sandy and Clifford Shettler
Fred and Carrie Volkman

\$100 to \$249

Anonymous (5)
George and Ellen Aman
Melissa Baker
Peter and Sally Brodie
Jane Brooks
Rosemary C. Brooks
Zachary and Rachel Burd
Christine Carter

Melissa Chiasson
Patrick Colgan
Debra Copit
Jennifer Czifrik
Sarah DeFrancia
Daniel Dehner
Joy and Keith Dengler
Elizabeth G. Donohoe
Diane Esposito
Mickey Fineberg
Brian A. Frankl
Patricia and Stephen Gluckman
Christa Groeller
Neil K. Haimm and Laura Bell Haimm
Holger and Anne Hansen
Denise Horan
Mini Kil
Mizmun Kusairi
Irene Lee
Penny Nixon
Gwendolyn Bye Schulman
Charles G. Sheely
Brian Slagle
Tom and Kay Stretton
Ellen and Frank Svitek
Lisa Williams
Tiwana Wright

Matching Gift and Corporate and Employee Giving Organizations

Amazon Smile
Ameriprise Financial, Inc.
Benevity Community Impact Fund
Charities Aid Foundation of America
CoinUp
Comcast
Exelon Corporation
Target Corporation

Gifts made in honor of:

Jane Brooks
Joyce Burd
Brian Camfield
Catherine Charlton
Jeffrey Freedman
Andy Hurwitz
Phyllis Hurwitz
Danielle Kalish
Denise Kinney
Andrew Polunin

Some listings reflect split giving between Dancing Classrooms Philly and Musicopia.

High Note High Step Society Members are listed separately on page 11.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT INNOVATIONS!

In March and April, Radnor-area residents participated in a six-week intergenerational dance residency at Radnor Memorial Library to learn American, Latin and European social dance. The program brought multiple generations together in a fun activity and helped them to connect socially and emotionally.

A NOTE of Appreciation

Many individuals and community partners made valuable and significant contributions to Dancing Classrooms Philly that helped support our transformational work with students. We are deeply grateful for their dedication, time, support and enthusiasm.

Paul J. Abraham, NAXION
Noelle Allen, Wine LaLa
Black Violin (Wil Baptiste and Kev Marcus)
Jane Brooks
Joyce and Ronald Burd
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
Louis De Angelo, Diocese of Wilmington
Blake Epstein
Joe Esposito
Jeffrey Freedman
Janet Fries, Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP
Jeffrey Grossman
Kushol Gupta, University of Pennsylvania
William Horrocks
Karl "Dice Raw" Jenkins
Linda Jennings
Tim Jones, Rothman Orthopaedics
Harvey and Virginia Kimmel
Nancy Kleaver, Dancing Classrooms Global
Aaron Krauss, Cozen O'Connor
Rodney Lopez
Frank Machos and Deborah Klose, The School District of Philadelphia
Jim Mari
Kiley McCormick
Annette Monnier, University City Arts League
Dan Moskowitz
Connie Sadusky
Tracey Santilli, Tierney
Christopher Schuch
Steve E Love Sound
Douglas Umbehauer Sr. & Jr., Painting & Wallcovering Co.
Jerrod Wilkins
Eve Wolff, Dancing Classrooms Global
Grace Woo
Deborah Zateeny

Vino Bliss
Wawa Welcome America

Dance On Philly, a virtual dance party benefitting Dancing Classrooms Philly and partner organization Musicopia:

Producers: Andy Hurwitz, Esq. and the team from 30Amp Circuit and Our People Entertainment
Lauren Hart, host
Cosmo Baker, DJ
The Fillmore, livestream location

Allstars

Thank you to all of our Allstars and their families for sharing their love of ballroom dance with the community.

Allstars Hosts

Smith Memorial Playground and Playhouse
University of Pennsylvania Honor Band Extravaganza

High Note High Step Event Sponsors

Rothman Orthopaedics
Stradley Ronon
Cozen O'Connor
NAXION
Tierney
Tri-Force Consulting Services, Inc.
Painting & Wallcovering Co.
Morgan, Lewis and Bockius



DANCE ON PHILLY

In November, Philadelphians came together for Dance On Philly, a virtual dance party to benefit Dancing Classrooms Philly and partner organization Musicopia. Broadcast live from The Fillmore, the six-hour event featured some of Philly's finest DJs, dancers, and TV personalities and was highlighted on Philly Live and WHYY, and in *New Jersey Stage*, *Broadway World*, *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, *The Philadelphia Globe*, *Jambands*, and *Dosage Magazine*. In conjunction with Dance On Philly, the School District of Philadelphia's Office of The Arts & Creative Learning declared that week to be Dance Week!

Schools across the district had the opportunity to invite a DCP Teaching Artist into their (virtual) classrooms to learn a special dance for Dance On Philly. In total, 174 students participated in Dance Week!

WAWA WELCOME AMERICA

In June, DCP Teaching Artists led six 20-minute dance workshops in the Philadelphia City Hall Courtyard as part of the Wawa Welcome America Festival. These workshops encouraged mental, emotional, and physical wellness among Philadelphia residents and visitors.

BOARD of Directors

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ebony Lee, Chair
Managing Director, Graduate Programs at 2U

David DiStefano, Chair-Elect; Co-Chair, Governance Committee
Chief Revenue Officer, AIR Consulting

Catherine Broh, Co-Chair, Governance Committee
Partner, MGA Partners Architects

Brian Camfield, Co-Chair, Development & Marketing Committee
Manager of Customer Care, PECO Energy

James E. Cauley, Jr., Co-Chair, Programming Committee
Music Specialist (Retired), William Mann Elementary, School District of Philadelphia

Dr. Dennis W. Creedon, Co-Chair, DEI Committee
Retired School District Superintendent

Scott Fast, Co-Chair, DEI Committee
General Counsel, Day & Zimmermann Maintenance and Construction

Danielle Kalish, Co-Chair, Development and Marketing Committee
Assistant Deputy General Counsel, Comcast

Lynne Millard, Secretary
Leadership Coach, Office of Leadership Development School District of Philadelphia

Charles Shupe, Co-Chair, Programming Committee
Principal, Radnor Elementary School (Retired), Radnor School District

Gui Valladares, Co-Treasurer; Co-Chair, Finance Committee
Senior Vice President & Chief Financial Officer, Princeton HealthCare System

Staci Wilhelm, Co-Treasurer; Co-Chair, Finance Committee
Chief Accounting Officer, J. G. Wentworth

MEMBERS

Kelley Arredondo
Director, Human Resources at Erickson Living

Joseph Batory
Superintendent, Upper Darby School District (Retired)

Jack Carr, Ph.D.
Director of Arts and Culture, String Theory Charter School;
Founder, Girard Academic Music Program

Joshua Cruz
Teaching Artist, Musicopia

Leslie Donnell

Jacob Elich
Associate Consultant, ZS Associates

Razelle Frankl, Ph.D.
Professor Emerita, Rowan University

Jeffrey Freedman, Esq
Jeffrey M. Freedman, Esquire, LLC

Manish Gorawala
President and CEO, Tri-Force Consulting Services

Remi Jardel
Senior Audit Manager, Mazars USA

Tim Kardish
CEO, Gerard Daniel Worldwide

Carly Keeny
Director, Communications, TPX at Comcast

Rhonda Moore
Teaching Artist, Dancing Classrooms Philly

Frank J. Murphy
Principal, General G. Meade School, School District of Philadelphia (Retired)

Gregory Offner, Jr.
Entrepreneur from Philadelphia

Tracey Santilli
Chief Growth Officer, Tierney, Philadelphia

Debbie Singer
Former Musicopia String Orchestra Manager

Brian Slagle
Analyst, Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia

Shytasia Shirley*
Senior Year Student, String Theory School, Vine Street

Len Weiser
President and Chief Executive Officer, White Horse Village

*Student Representative to the Board (non-voting)

STAFF

Catherine Charlton, Executive Director
(from September 2020)
*Grants and Corporate Development Director
(through August 2020)*

Denise Kinney, Executive Director (through August 2020)
Director of Strategic Projects (through March 2021)

Swati Chaturvedi, Program Director

Alecia Burke, Grants Manager
Caitlyn Coleman, Director of Community Engagement and Digital Marketing
Donna Boyle, Education Liaison
Sandra Davis, Education Liaison
Talia Fisher, Director of Communications and PR
Juliette Hyson, Director of Strategic Projects
Jessa Kinney, Bookkeeper
Kate Lombardi, Philanthropy Manager
Mark McLeod, Education Liaison
Rhonda Moore, Education Liaison
Andrew Polunin, Academy Coordinator and Education Liaison
Jennifer Ruiz, Director of Finance and Business Operations

TEACHING Artists

Donna Boyle
Sandra Davis
Clyde Evans
Gail Gaines
Caitlin Green
Gregory Holmes
Debbie Lynch
Mark McLeod
Rhonda Moore
Stevie Neale
Andrew Polunin
Melissa Talley-Palmer

In September 2020, Swati Chaturvedi started as DCP's new Program Director. In this role, Swati oversees DCP's day-to-day programming operations, guides the talented roster of teaching artists, and creates and deepens relationships with schools and partner organizations. Swati is the founder and director of the Community Bollywood Dance Project, and since 2014, has served as a Teaching Artist for partner organization Musicopia. In that role, she brings a successful Bollywood Dance Assembly and Residency program to schools and communities across the Delaware Valley. Swati also has a degree in Engineering and a successful earlier career in client services and corporate sales.

The abundance of innovation throughout the year, such as the expansion of dance offerings and grade levels, curriculum adaptations for remote learning, community partnerships, and after school dance clubs, led to a significant growth of booked programming in the Spring. This ultimately allowed for Swati, originally hired as a part-time Program Director in the Fall, to become full-time in the Spring. Her expanded role also directly resulted in increased programming in Summer 2021.



To get involved, donate, or learn more about Dancing Classrooms Philly, visit dancingclassroomsp Philly.org.



To make a financial donation, text "GIVEDCP to 443-21 or scan the QR code to the left.

Dancing Classrooms Philly is a partner organization of Musicopia, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide opportunities for children to experience, learn, perform, and appreciate music.



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