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MUSIC

Christine Kharazian

Appropriate for Grades 6-12



Christine Kharazian is a concert violinist from Armenia. She studied violin with Prof. Edward Dayan and Prof. Hrachia Harutunyan, both pupils of two famous Russian violinists, David Oistrakh and Leonid Kongan respectively. Her early performance experience includes 5 years with the Armenian National Opera's Symphony as a member of the first violins, and with the Sharakan Ensemble of Ancient and Medieval Music of Armenian TV and Radio, as a soloist. She has been an active performer in the area since arriving to Washington DC in 1999. Christine is an experienced educator. Currently she teaches violin at the Duke Ellington School of the Arts and Sidwell Friends. Christine is also the author and presenter of a series of interactive programs in music education. As a versatile and adventurous musician, she loves exploring various styles, from Gypsy Jazz to Brazilian Choro and performs often with various ensembles including Orchester Praževica.

Christine Kharazian enjoys experimenting with the merging of various art forms, such as theater and music. She was cast as the Wind in Quotidian Theatre Company's 2015 production of Anton Chekhov's "A Little Trick" and later in 2016 another production of Chekhov's "The Lady with the Little Dog". The director Stephanie Mumford, in crafting her adaptation of Chekhov's short story, devised a part with Kharazian in mind: the violin-playing wife of Dmitry Gurov. In addition, Christine was a 2nd prize winner of the Unsigned Only competition in 2021 for her original composition Valse Astolfi.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

(Tuned piano and projector screen required)

Music and Painting: Sounds and Colors and What They Unveil

The presenters explore the connection between music and art of different epochs and cultures. Music and paintings of famous composers and artists will be analyzed, from the perspective of what they tell us about the particular time and place. Music of Vivaldi, Debussy, Ravel, Joplin and Duke Ellington will be paired with paintings of Leonardo Da Vinci, Monet, Renoir, Hayden and Edward Hopper.

Imani Gonzalez
Appropriate for Grades PreK-12

Imani Gonzalez is an international and national and professional jazz/world vocalist. Her voice is featured on many of the **National Geographic Television's Explorer Series soundtracks**, including the Emmy-nominated film **Jane Goodall: My Life with Chimpanzees**. Imani has had the honor of performing, touring, and recording with renowned artist, **Wynton Marsalis and the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra** for eight consecutive years. Since 2016, Imani has been a grant recipient of the DC Commission on the Arts & Humanities. Since 1989, Imani has held the distinction of being the first and only American woman who performs, tours, and records with the traditional Ghanaian ensemble **ODADAA**. She has written two children's world music books entitled, **Dhimiki** and **Iyipo Ayé** with sing-a-long compact discs, which have received rave reviews from teachers, students, universities and libraries.



PROGRAM OPTIONS

World and Jazz music are tools for understanding relationships between music and other cultures. Through other cultures, we come to know and appreciate Jazz as America's only original contribution to Western music and the significance of our American culture and its' history.

World Music Program

This performance gives a tremendous new way to bring young people into the living, breathing vitality of other cultures. Students learn about the lifestyles and values of children in these faraway countries and come to appreciate the similarities and differences between these cultures and their own.

Jazz Program

This fun and interactive performance features an introduction to Jazz music. Students learn songs through call & response and feel the richness and importance of this American culture.



Karin Paludan
Appropriate for Grades PreK-12

An “outstanding voice,” according to the Washington Post, soprano, Karin Paludan works in opera, recital, operetta, cabaret and musical theater, and also works extensively in educational and community outreach through Washington Performing Arts, the National Symphony Orchestra and Music For Autism. Performing as a soloist in opera and recital she has performed throughout the United States with such companies as Community Concerts, New York City Opera, the Utah Festival Opera and the Lyric Opera of Kansas City, at The Kennedy Center, The Library of Congress, The National Gallery of Art and the Smithsonian. Karin is also a past regional Metropolitan Opera National Council award winner. An artist committed to connecting communities through the power of music, she believes we all have the potential to raise our voices and change the world. Karin is dedicated to reaching and connecting to audiences of all abilities, and specializes in inclusion and collaboration. She works with teachers to ensure that her performances meet the needs of every student.



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Singing is My Superpower!

A joyous, inspiring and interactive program celebrating the power of the human voice. We all have a voice we can use to change the world! Join soprano, Karin Paludan, as she introduces students to the magical world of classical vocal music and inspires them to discover and celebrate the strength and power of their own voices. Through vocal exercises, storytelling, collaborative singing, guided imagery and audience participation, students will gain tools to explore and celebrate their “super power” within - learning and discovering ways they can strengthen and use their voices to empower themselves and change the world. Singing can be your “super power” too!

Karin is dedicated to reaching and connecting to audiences of all abilities, and specializes in inclusion and collaboration. She works with teachers to ensure that her performances meet the needs of every student.



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QuinTango

Appropriate for Grades PreK-12

QuinTango's musicians (2 violins, bass, piano and bandoneon) are top-notch classical instrumentalists whose distinctive "chamber tango" style blends passion and precision with audience engagement. Equally committed to mainstage performances and working with youth in schools and communities,

QuinTango, with the support of Washington Performing Arts, has introduced the music and dance of tango to hundreds of school children in the D.C. metro area through the Concerts-in-Schools, Capital Arts Partnership, and Embassy Adoption programs. Their combination of virtuoso string playing and stories, based on the history and geography lessons embedded in the turn-of-the-century wave of emigration to Argentina and Uruguay that resulted in the creation of tango, is adjusted to fit the age(s) of the audience. Kindergartners to seniors have all fallen in love with the tango as a result of a WPA-sponsored QuinTango performance.



QuinTango has performed in schools, libraries, halfway houses, community centers, hospitals, and art galleries; partnered with Mayan villages in Guatemala and Mexico, string orchestras in Costa Rica and France, professional symphony musicians and high school students in Campeche, Mexico, as well as hundreds of schools in the DMV and across the USA. With roots in the Philippines, Taiwan, Argentina, and the USA, these adventurous chamber musicians bridge cultures and dismantle stereotypes with their music, stories, and multi-generational, multi-lingual, multi-cultural presence. From the White House to Buenos Aires, from festivals in Europe to classrooms in the DMV and Appalachia, QuinTango's music and personal narratives make lasting impressions with every performance. Powered by passion, they are connecting the world one tango at a time.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

(Tuned piano or keyboard required)

“Long ago - so long ago that your great great-grandmothers were little girls - the Tango was born in an immigrant neighborhood on the banks of the Rio de la Plata, the River of Silver, in faraway Argentina... High society ignored the poor Tango, until one day....” And so begins the Cinderella-like story of Tango’s rise from humble beginnings to international stardom. QuinTango (2 violins, bass, piano and bandoneon) combines immigration, music, history, geography, and student participation with lively tango music and bilingual storytelling. Students learn about the bandoneon (the signature instrument of tango), percussion instruments, and the string family as well as how musicians without a conductor know when to start and stop, what it’s like to play at the White House, and how to start a music group.



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Reverb

Appropriate for Grades PreK-12

Reverb is a Wammie Award-winning a cappella vocal group who sings an uplifting blend of soul, pop and Gospel classics and original songs written and arranged by group members. Reverb has performed along the East Coast and toured East and Southern Africa, the Persian Gulf and the Caribbean. In addition to *Black History in Harmony*, Reverb has taught choral music to K-6 pupils in DC Public Schools through Capital Voices and performed for senior citizens through Enriching Experiences -- both programs sponsored by Washington Performing Arts.



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Black History in Harmony

The five male singers of Reverb take students on an a cappella musical journey through African-American history, focusing on the social issues of 1619, 1866, the 1960s, and today. Students participate by answering and asking questions, singing, and playing hand-held percussion instruments. Reverb's repertoire engages students and provides insight into issues that are still thought provoking today.



Rhythm Wranglers

Appropriate for Grades PreK-12

Since 1969, Steve Bloom has performed and/or recorded in over a dozen countries. His work in Afro-Cuban folklore, Celtic music, and in Persian percussion has taken him to the Lincoln Center, to top-tier folk festivals around the U.S., and in 2006 Bloom performed for the United Nations General Assembly, presented by Ban Ki-Moon. He has been engaged for the last four years as "Resident Creative" at the National Building Museum.



Since receiving his Master's Degree in Percussion Performance from Indiana University, Kevin Mott has toured and performed extensively in Europe, the Middle East, and has also been designing and building Marimbas and Xylophones, and offering master classes at universities and conservatories around the country on Marimba repertory, technique and design.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Rhythm Wranglers duo presents a participatory lecture/demonstration throughout which the artists perform short works on a wide variety of percussion instruments, whose origins and sonic properties are compared and contrasted. The program is adaptable for all audiences, and features segments on mallet percussion, Persian drum rhythms, Cuban conga rhythms, and even a spotlight on the phenomenon of the cajon' in varied styles, including hybrid drum set. Peppered with units of vocal call-and-response, rhythm games, and the like, this rapid-fire program challenges audiences of all ages, and entices them with insights into such musical domains as meter, melody, syncopation and polyrhythm.



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Thalea String Quartet

Appropriate for Grades PreK-12

The Thalea String Quartet brings their signature vibrancy and emotional commitment to dynamic performances that reflect the past, present, and the future of the string quartet repertoire while celebrating diverse musical traditions from around the world. Fueled by the belief that chamber music is a powerful force for building community and human connection, the Thalea String Quartet has performed across North America, Europe, and China, and has appeared at the Kennedy Center, Massey Hall, and Weill Hall at Carnegie Hall.



Winners of the 2021 Ann Divine Educator Award from the Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition, the members of the Thalea String Quartet have been celebrated for their innovative approach to education and community engagement. The members of the TSQ have presented masterclasses and workshops at institutions across North America, including the Berkeley College of Music, the Frost School of Music at the University of Miami, and San Francisco State University.

The Thalea String Quartet is the Doctoral Fellowship String Quartet at the University of Maryland. The quartet has also held fellowship positions at the University of Texas at Austin and the San Francisco Conservatory. They served as Associated Artists at the Queen Elisabeth Music Chapel in Waterloo, Belgium for the 2019-20 season and were the 2019-20 Ernst Stiefel Quartet-in-Residence at the Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts. They were top prize winners at the 2018 Fischhoff Competition and 2018 Chamber Music Yellow Springs Competition.

PROGRAM OPTIONS

Thalea String Quartet Concerts in Schools

The Thalea String Quartet believes that exposing new audiences to the collaborative and creative power of chamber music is one of the most important facets of their work as a group. Thalea offers engaging interactive performances and workshops that explore a diverse range of musical and non-musical subjects, ranging from the history of the string quartet repertoire, to the power of non-verbal communication, to American history.

"Creepy Carrots" (available upon request)

The Thalea String Quartet (TSQ) brings Aaron Reynolds's award-winning children's book "Creepy Carrots" to life through an entertaining and interactive performance that explores how composers tell stories through music. The first part of the presentation explores the emotional power of music and how composers, including Antonin Dvorak, Gabriella Smith, and Tanya Tagaq, use their unique musical languages to evoke character, emotion, and plot. This short presentation is paired with TSQ's musical reenactment of "Creepy Carrots", with members of the ensemble serving as both musicians and actors. The presentation invites students to participate in the story through collaborative sound-making and audience Q&A.

Sensory Friendly Offerings (available upon request)

Over the past decade, Thalea has collaborated with community organizations across North America to develop adaptive and sensory-friendly programming for young people and families from the disability and neurodiversity communities. Adaptive concerts welcome all forms of expressions. Concerts typically last 45-60 minutes and feature short or abridged musical selections, interactive activities, and frequent stretch and movement breaks. Audience members ideally have access to fidget toys and an area where listeners can take a break from the concert environment if desired. Current programming includes specially curated programs for neurodiverse audiences and adapted versions of the quartet's program offerings.



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World Music Collective Appropriate for Grades 6-12

The World Music Collective is a mixed instrumentation ensemble representing diverse musical heritages with improvisation as a common theme. Each member is an internationally recognized performer, composer and improviser based in the Washington DC metropolitan area. Each of our performers has more than 20 years' experience as teaching artists in a variety of settings including programs and residencies in the DC Public Schools, masterclasses, community workshops and clinics, and college teaching.



Deepak Ram, Indian flute player, has been featured on NPR and has performed for Nelson Mandela. **Noah Getz** is a Grammy-nominated artist that has been hailed as a “highly skillful and an even more highly adventurous player” (Washington City Paper). Bassist **Karine Chapdelaine** has led an active performance career that includes international performances in Europe, South America, Mexico, Africa, and Asia. **Cristian Perez** is an Argentine-American guitarist/composer/arranger who has performed internationally (Bulgaria, Canada, South Korea, Bolivia, China, Dominican Republic) and continues to be very active in the local music scene.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The World Music Collective will perform a concert of genre-bending original pieces that explore the diverse cultural connections between improvisation and written musical traditions around the world. This concert will include pieces that pay homage to Afro-Cuban, Indian classical, jazz, and Chilean musical styles. The ensemble consists of internationally known musicians from multiple countries of origin that have settled in the Washington, DC metropolitan area. Each of musicians in the ensemble bring a wealth of musical experience to these compositions.

DANCE

Beat Ya Feet

With Kevin “Noodlez” Davis

Appropriate for Grades PreK-12

Kevin Davis, known as “Noodlez” in the dance community, is the leader of the third generation of Go-Go Music’s Beat Ya Feet Dance Movement. As an artist and educator, Kevin represents dance excellence in the Beat Ya Feet dance style and has opened up doors for the younger generations by teaching them different ways to thrive within the community while empowering them with dance skills, in addition to providing emotional support and realistic advice.

Kevin has been in the movement for about ten years and has earned the title of “fan favorite” through winning dance battles and representing DC in competitions. He has recently invented a new dance move for the Beat Ya Feet style and actively brings innovation to the style as a whole by incorporating retro dance moves stemming from his early interest in dance, which is heavily inspired by the iconic moves of Michael Jackson. Kevin was introduced to the Beat Ya Feet style in middle school and dived more into the Beat Ya Feet culture after meeting the second generation of the movement (including John Pearson, known as “Crazy Legs”) in high school. He has now taught the style for seven years and has mentored young artists during this time, including “Safee,” (a producer of Go-Go music infused with Rap) and Timothy (a Rapper/battle dancer).



Beat Ya Feet dancing is a bridge for the upcoming generations to keep the DC Go-Go music tradition alive. Our Go-Go culture is unique, and we encourage the community to embrace it and help it continue to evolve. As a leader of the third generation, Kevin strives to keep protecting and helping the culture evolve.

PROGRAM OPTIONS

Geometry “Angle Dance”: We use dance movements and poses that give students a visual recollection of basic angles and terms commonly used in basic geometry. This helps youth identify and understand geometric figures, angles and terms.

Life Skills “CHOICES”: We produce and act out skits that show the importance of decision-making, and how daily decisions affect the outcome of various situations in life through dance.

African Heritage “Taking it back”: We share a unique understanding about traditional African culture by relating the “Beat Ya Feet” dance styles with traditional tribal dances. While performing the routines we provide background information on each of the dance styles. (Great for Black History Month.)

Health & Exercise “Beat Ya Feet Cardio”: We offer our fitness program initiative that was formed to tackle the obesity epidemic in youth. We empower the youth to be confident and use different dance styles to target different parts of the body during a workout.



Company | E

Appropriate for Grades PreK-12

Company | E is a Washington, DC-based 501(c)3 nonprofit interdisciplinary dance and performing arts organization centered on contemporary dance, movement education, and arts exchange programming. The company's mission is to foster mutual understanding in diverse cultures, both internationally and in the U.S., creating capacity, developing excellence, providing educational programs, and concertizing with U.S. and international artists in collaborative and interdisciplinary capacities. The company has worked in 45 countries with the U.S. Department of State and through private presenters. Company | E's educational programming includes a studio for dance, the Movement Center, as well as in-school programming in education and performance in DCPS and DC Public Charter Schools.



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

"Gather all four seasons today?? I'll do it, but I have to be home by dinnertime. It's mac and cheese night!" Follow one child's journey around the globe in one day in *To Sail Around the Sun* with D.C. dance company, Company | E, and music ensemble Sound Impact in an enchanting tour of the world. Through dance, live music, and storytelling, *To Sail Around the Sun* travels beneath the springtime waves off the shores of Australia, deep into the summertime rainforests of Argentina, under the autumn leaves of Japan, and through the wintry snows of Kazakhstan in an adventure for children of all ages! Set to Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* and performed live by music group Sound Impact, *To Sail Around the Sun* is "an aural and visual feast" (Jennifer Perry, *Broadway World*). Students are encouraged to react to the performance: clap, gasp, laugh, cheer, etc.

To Sail Around the Sun was originally created by Company | E in 2017 for the Kennedy Center Theater for Young Audiences program. It has been performed in 10 DC Public and Public Charter Schools since February 2022, and has debuted in Richmond, VA at Dogtown Dance Theater and Richmond Public Schools.



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Footworks Percussive Dance Ensemble Appropriate for Grades PreK-12

Celebrating 40 years as a performing arts ensemble, Footworks Percussive Dance Ensemble is an internationally recognized, roots-based music and dance company showcasing the cultural diversity of percussive dance. Footworks maintains a reputation for exceptional performances, bringing the joy and energy of percussive dance and music to audiences all over the world. The ensemble always performs with its own highly accomplished award-winning musicians and is dedicated to teaching and working with youth, recognized for over 39 years in Arts-In-Education. Footworks offers a wide range of services including theater productions, festival performances, workshops, arts-integrated school assemblies and residencies, and youth and community outreach programming. All of Footworks programming is a celebration of the cultural diversity found in the United States. The Washington Post declares, "The eruptive joy of Footworks dancers is as contagious as laughter!"
Website: <http://www.footworks.org>



PROGRAM OPTIONS

Keeping the Beat: Multicultural Influences in American Music and Dance

Footworks conveys the power and joy of percussive dance while illuminating the multicultural roots of American music and dance, including African, European, and Native American traditions. Live music and an exciting array of percussive dances are performed, including step dance, gumboot dance, tap, clogging, and hamboning, along with inspiring audience participation.

Irish Roots and American Branches

Performing live Irish music and dance with their descendant American styles, Footworks illuminates the American story of traditions coming from the Old World and meeting others here, resulting in new traditions. Students learn the powerful role the Irish played in the shaping of the United States, and American culture.

Build A Better World

Footworks Percussive Dance Ensemble presents "Build A Better World", a family-friendly show for all ages that includes live music, dancing, audience participation, and lots of fun that will inspire students and audiences of all ages to do their part to build a better world. Come join world-class artists as they perform an interactive and uplifting show that is sure to get you smiling, toe tapping, singing and clapping!

Kalanidhi Dance

Appropriate for Grades PreK-12

Kalanidhi Dance is committed to the preservation, promotion and education of Kuchipudi, an Indian classical dance style that originated in Andhra Pradesh, India. Since its founding in 1991, the Kalanidhi Dance School has provided high quality dance education to the Washington metropolitan region.

Kalanidhi Dance offers classes, workshops, and performances at schools and community centers led by our professional dancers and teaching artists as a part of the outreach.

Kalanidhi Dance captivates audiences with exquisitely conceptualized performances that push Kuchipudi in new and exciting directions. The New York Times has called Kalanidhi a “combination of bright energy, full-bodied sweetness and rapid precision” and “a rare amalgam of prime dance virtues.” The company presents its work regularly at prestigious venues in the U.S. and around the world. In 2007, the company became the first ensemble based outside India to perform at the Delhi Ananya Festival. According to The Hindu, the company “took the audience by storm.” Kalanidhi Dance’s work is recognized and funded by Maryland State Arts Council and the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County and National Endowment for the Arts.



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Our assembly is based on the South Indian dance style Kuchipudi, which is inherently a dance drama form. We introduce Kuchipudi to the students as comprising three main elements: 1) rhythm and footwork, 2) hand gestures, and 3) facial expressions, all of which combine to tell stories through dance.

Rhythm and footwork: We teach the students how to say a simple 4-beat sequence in traditional Kuchipudi syllables through call and response. They then keep the beat for the dancers as we create patterns and variations within the beats. The dancers then perform a short segment of a dance in which the students can identify these rhythmic patterns. **Hand gestures:** We then introduce them to the vast vocabulary of hand gestures used in Kuchipudi. Students learn between 2-3 gestures and learn a variety of applications for each gesture. **Facial expressions:** Students then learn how Kuchipudi dancers use facial expressions to show emotion. Student volunteers are asked to demonstrate how they can show various emotions by using their faces and bodies like dancers. Students then see how the gestures, when combined with facial expressions, communicate meaning by watching a segment of a dance.

Finally, the dancers talk about how Kuchipudi uses all three elements to enact stories through dance. We then perform the story to original music that has been specially commissioned and composed for Dancing Stories and which is narrated in English. We then bring a few students up to learn how to dance like the characters while the others keep the beat for them like they learned during the call and response section.



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KanKouran West African Dance Company

Appropriate for Grades PreK-12

KanKouran West African Dance Company was founded in Washington, DC, by Artistic Director and Senegalese native, Assane Konte. The Company's success is perhaps best judged by its longevity and the large number of company members who are involved in diverse academic, professional, and entrepreneurial pursuits, who credit KanKouran with instilling within them the discipline, pride, and commitment to self and community which have made their life pursuits meaningful as well as successful. Since 1983, KanKouran has established itself as a premier center for the study and performance of traditional West African dance. Weekly classes for adults and children have been a key component of furthering the Company's mission and establishing an appreciation for African performing arts. The Company has also worked extensively to bring African dance and drum to children of all ages through various in-school and extra-curricular programs. KanKouran performs concerts based on the traditions and rituals of West Africa and has showcased at numerous national and international venues, local and federal government agencies, civic and private organizations, and educational institutions throughout the U.S. www.kankouran.org



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

KanKouran showcases the dances and instruments of Senegal, Guinea, and Mali. Students explore nonverbal means of communication and participation through dance and percussive instruments, and learn African cultural traditions through the arts. Accompanied by the djembe and doundoun drums, the dancers also use such instruments as the balafon and shekere. The program objective is to increase the audiences understanding and appreciation of African culture via the presentation of traditional African dance and music.



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ReVision Dance Company Appropriate for Grades PreK-12

ReVision is a contemporary modern dance company committed to artistic excellence and community building. Through performances, workshops and teaching residencies, ReVision works with diverse populations of professional dancers and novice movers. A unique aspect of our work is our dedication to engaging people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Artistic Director Shannon Quinn has spent her career developing effective ways to introduce students and audiences to modern dance and its relevance to our everyday lives. ReVision dancers share Shannon's personal mission of bringing the joy of dance to everyone.

Website: <http://www.danceplace.org/revision-dance-company/>



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Revision Dance Company's educational and interactive performance focuses on humanitarian themes such as self-development and community awareness, through the lens of modern dance. ReVision dancers engage, entertain and inspire audiences with movement, dialogue, and audience participation. Students will learn how the arts can be a vehicle for self-expression by experiencing a professional dance performance and contributing their own ideas, which enhances comprehension and communication skills.



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Ziva's Spanish Dance Ensemble

Appropriate for Grades PreK-12

Ziva's Spanish Dance Ensemble engages students of all ages with dances that were inspired by the culture of Spain's Andalusia region. A skilled professional dancer and instructor, she blends traditional Spanish and modern dance, resulting in unique neoclassical choreography. Her ability to connect with students through creative expression while educating them about the historical influences of dance, has made Ziva one of the most sought-after teachers in the Washington, D.C., area.



Guest artists have come from a variety of dance and musical fields such as jazz, modern, tap, Indian, African, and Moorish. The Ensemble has appeared in venues throughout the Washington, DC, area including the Kennedy Center's Millennium Stage, Corcoran Gallery of Art, George Washington University's Lisner Auditorium, Alden Theatre, Jack Guidone Theater, Dance Place, and the Atlas Theater. Ziva's Spanish Dance Ensemble provides programs for diverse audiences, including embassies and numerous private engagements throughout the region.

Ziva also teaches Israeli folk dance with a focus on the origin and roots of cultural song and dance movements. A certified yoga instructor, she hosts special sessions for students focused on ways to combat bullying by improving mental and physical health as well as improving a student's body image and increasing self-esteem.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Teaching Artist Ziva Cohen guides students through a historical journey of the roots of flamenco Spanish dance. Using footwork, hand movements and basic choreography, students are led through an authentic flamenco routine. Participants learn about the influences that led to the creation of these unique dances. Through dance and positive energy, Ziva teaches students the importance of leadership, teamwork, and collaboration, helping build students' confidence in many aspects of their lives. Residency activities conclude with the students performing an authentic Spanish dance, including costuming and accessories.

VISUAL AND MEDIA ARTS

Denaise Seals

Videographer, Media Arts Educator

Appropriate for Grades PreK-12



Denaise Seals is a Videographer/Teaching Artist based in Washington, DC. Her company, Slingshot Video has produced programming for numerous DC independent artists, non-profit, community and arts organizations for more than 30 years. Her work has taken her across the United States, to Burkina Faso, France and Kyoto Japan and has received millions of views on social media platforms, national television and international screens. Denaise received an Arts & Humanities Fellowship for artistic excellence for “significant contributions to the District of Columbia as a world class cultural capital.” Her award-winning MEDIA SAVVY workshops have been presented to hundreds of DC youth and families through in-school residencies, festivals, after school and summer programs. View Media Savvy workshop excerpts: https://youtu.be/a5_0YgFEdp8.

45 minute or 90-minute sessions offered.

PROGRAM OPTIONS

Animation Unplugged: Flip Books and Optical Toys (Grades K-12)

Animation Unplugged invites animators of all ages and artistic levels to create flip books, thaumatropes, and other optical toys. This introduction to animation is designed to stimulate recognition, discussion, and comprehension of animated cinematic releases, cartooning and video game technology.

The take-home constructed works are photo-captured and compiled for animated on-screen playback.

What’s Your Message to the World? (Grades 4-12)

Students are introduced to popular persuasive techniques common in media content and delivery through examination, development and production of commercials and Public Service Announcements (PSA’s). Participants develop skills essential in the recognition and creation of precise and effective messaging through critical discussion, group projects and a personal on-screen proclamation.

Lesson plans can be modified to site needs and course curriculum.



Karen O. Brown
Appropriate for Grades PreK-5



Karen is a professional artist with extensive experience as an arts educator. She draws students and teachers into the creative process as they discover the joys of artistic expression. She conducts workshops, residencies and professional development for organizations including The Kennedy Center, Washington Performing Arts (WPA), The National Museum of the American Indian, Teaching for Change, Howard University, Inspired Child and numerous public libraries. Karen recently led professional development workshops for 20 Native American Elementary Education Teachers in North Dakota for the Smithsonian Education Outreach Program.

She has permanent art installations at the DC Commission for the Arts, Children's National Medical Center and the DC Convention Center. She designed and completed a 23' mural based on the painted house designs of the Ndebele women of South Africa with help from 1st through 5th graders at Ideal Academy Public Charter School. Karen also created artwork for six annual meetings of The Washington Area Grantmakers Association. Each year she made hundreds of individual pieces of artwork for attendees including flying birds, articulated puppets and hand-painted houses and chairs! Her international travels in Asia, Europe, Central and South America and South Africa inform and enrich her creative and imaginative approach to teaching and creating public art. Ms. Brown's education includes graduate studies in textiles, ceramics, sculpture, 3-D and surface design, bookmaking and photography.

PROGRAM OPTIONS

Bookmaking for Every Subject: Infuse art into your classroom with books made from simple, inexpensive materials. Book structures taught can be used for all ages, curricula and learning modalities. Curriculum content comes alive with each book structure - as we cut and fold paper and recycled materials into 3-Dimensional structures, and 'Think Outside the Book' to create fun, age appropriate projects inspiring students with the subject matter of your choice. Workshops address all learning modalities as we learn Maze books, the Japanese Accordion, Pop-Ups, the French Fold, and lots more. Teachers learn new ways to teach any curriculum.

Going Green for the Environment and Our Future: Colorful birds and fish are just a few examples of meaningful projects created by students of all ages from simple and often recycled materials. Karen, widely recognized "Green" artist, emphasizes not only creativity, but, how to be an "Artist Activist"! We learn details of specific animals, including habitat and how they exist within their ecosystem and the varying levels of endangered species. We can all help make our environment healthier for everyone.

Puppet Play!: Puppets have been made and used for entertainment and education for thousands of years and children and adults have enjoyed their magic and continue to use them as teaching tools for a wide variety of subjects. During our hand-on workshop, students learn to make lively puppets using simple, recycled materials. Fine motor skills are strengthened through cutting, gluing, tearing, braiding, coloring, twisting, and threading. More importantly, puppets can be used to act out feelings. This workshop is a way to expand your creativity, provide new art activities for your students and help children strengthen social and emotional learning.

Exploring the World Through Children's Literature: These workshops explore the best of children's literature with a focus on East and West Africa, India and Mexico. Karen O. Brown's workshops begin with an accurate and culturally sensitive children's book, highlighting a person's life and accomplishments, or a part of life from a specific culture. Students read the book and create related artwork with simple materials during hands-on workshops.

THEATRE AND STORYTELLING

Story Tapestries: Arianna Ross and The Ensemble

Appropriate for Grades PreK-12

Story Tapestries: Arianna Ross and The Ensemble executes performances and residencies that uses the arts as a means to bridge barriers and help individuals foster a deeper connection to what they are learning and teaching. Story Tapestries creates international, dynamic programs that weave the power of dance, music, theatre, hip-hop, rap, written word, visual art and spoken word with any school subject. For over 20 years, Arianna Ross and her ensemble of artists have performed across the United States in festivals, concert halls, colleges, libraries, and schools. They believe in the power of the arts to Empower, Educate and Engage.



Main Artists Available, offering customized arts integration programming:

- Arianna Ross (Storyteller, Dancer, Writer, and Theatre Artist)
- Valerie Baugh-Schlossberg (Director, Devising and Movement Artist, and Musical Theatre)
- Regie Cabico (Slam Poet, Spoken Word Artist, Writer, Theatre Artist)
- Bomani Armah (Hip-hop Artist, Poet, Songwriter, Producer, and Performer)
- Ashlee McKinnon (Hip Hop Dancer, Choreographer, Jazz Dance, Musical Theater, Modern Dance)
- Drew Anderson (Hip Hop Artist, Parody, Spoken Word, Poet, Songwriter, Producer, and Performer)
- Noa Baum (Storyteller and Theatre Artist)
- Jamaal Collier (Hip Hop, Poet, Writer, and Performer)
- Praneetha Akula (Dancer)
- Emma G (Musician, Songwriter)
- Suzanne Richard (Theatre Director, Writer)

Artist Art Forms Available:

- All Theatre Topics: Acting Technique, Voice, Movement, Puppetry, Devised Theatre, Playwriting
- Dance Topics: All Forms, Technique, Choreography
- Music: Melody and Song Creation, Parody, Rhyme
- Storytelling: Building a Story, Voice, Reflective
- Poetry: (Spoken Word, Slam, Written)
- Hip Hop: Music, History, Dance, Spoken Word, Beat Boxing
- Visual Art: All mediums
- Media Arts
- Creative Writing
- Arts integrated lessons: Discovering the Power of the Written Word, Empowered Math Understanding, Stories in Motion, Math plus Dance=Learning, Explaining Science Through Story, Spoken Word, Slam Poetry, Hip Hop and Shakespeare, to just name a few.

PROGRAM OPTIONS

[CLICK HERE](#) to view a sample of Story Tapestries programs.