

Young Dancers in Repertory (YDR) Alumni Reunite

This January, former YDR members returned to the Center for Dance Studies to celebrate and reminisce, at YDR 2010 Alumni Reunion. It was wonderful for everyone to have a chance to catch up on what our alumni have been doing, and where they are now. Our current Teenage Touring Ensemble and apprentices performed a special series of dances for the alumni, featuring familiar dances, along with some newer choreography. After performing for their VIP audience, the ensemble members joined the party to hear about the alumni's experiences, and get a better understanding of the company's more personal history. Our guests enjoyed photos and videos from YDR's past, discussed future plans and goals, and gave words of encouragement and advice to the latest generation of young dancers. The event was a great experience for all attendees, and we look forward to making our alumni a bigger, more influential part of YDR's activities, keeping them more connected. Thanks to all of our attendees for making this event so special and meaningful: *Anastasia Baldomar, Carrie Wasserman, Nicole Madera-Frontera, Vanessa Joseph, Nonye Gilliard-Sullivan and Jennifer LaManna. Special thanks to Lauren Donato, Tara Regan, Maralin Springer, Mary Johnna DiClementi,* and the Touring Ensemble and apprentices for their hard work in organizing and preparing for the event.

Young Dancers in Repertory Extends a Special Thank You for its Dedicated Volunteers!

Ali Weheda for his continued support in branding, photography and design services

Maggie Grantner and Walter Rojowsky of the NYU Stern Consulting Corps for YDR's Center for Dance Studies and Touring Ensemble Enrollment Building and Marketing Plan

Desmond Roach for Computer and Technology Needs

Naysa Goldberg, Linsdey Allen, Trisha Bombardo and Sanwari Gupta for planning and designing the Carol Mezzacappa Scholarship Fund

Tara Regan and Lauren Donato for heading our first Alumni Event

Wyndy Sloan, Noureen Faizulla and Dardi Harrison for planning and design of YDR's strategic communications plan

YDR would like to acknowledge those who made our programs possible in 2009.

We simply could not do the work we do without your support.

The New York City Department of Cultural Affairs for continuing its support of our Teenage Touring Ensemble, Center for Dance Studies and Dancing Through Brooklyn Parks programs

The J.P. Morgan Chase Foundation for technology advancements

The New York State Council on the Arts for generously supporting our arts-in-education program Learning Through Dance at P.S. 149

The John and Wendy Neu Foundation for youth dance scholarships

Brooklyn Community Foundation in support of our arts-in-education program Learning Through Dance at P.S. 149

Carol Jacob-DeGroff and Friends at Youth, I.N.C. (Improving Nonprofits for Children). We are deeply grateful for the organization's gift and yearlong dedication of Youth, I.N.C.'s staff in helping us build our capacity and reach our goals.

New York City Councilmembers Sara Gonzalez and Vincent Gentile in support of our Center for Dance Studies program

New York State Assemblyman Felix Ortiz for supporting our free multicultural dance workshops, Celebrating Diversity Through Dance

New York State Senator Velmanette Montgomery for supporting Dancing Through Brooklyn Parks.

Health Plus

Robert Cohen and Marian Gerwitz

George Dougherty of Forest Financial Group

Stewart and Robin Mann of Dealer Storage

Raju Patel

Nona Schurman

Kathy Spinner

Duncan Webb of Webb Management Services

Mary Ann DiClementi

Naysa Goldberg and Friends at Gerstein, Fisher and Associates

Lara Oyetunde-Baer

Tara Regan

Robert Silvestri of Frank Silvestri Insurance

Michael Spinner of Spinner Industries

Ali and Judy Weheda

Thank you to our loyal individual donors:

Flushing Savings Bank

Marie Artesi

Marilyn Riley Bell

Graceanne and Mark Bramante

Rika Burnham

Melanie and Roderick Bush

Donna Carrera

Phyllis Clemente

Greg and Norma Donato

Carol Anne Elsner

Embers Restaurant Jo and Jay Fagan

Eric and Susie Gabrian

Renee Giordano of the

Fifth Avenue Sunset Park BID

Susan Goldbetter of Circuit Productions

Bernard Gross

Mary Hartmann

David and Jennie Hickin

Mike and Sally Hipscher

Robert Kehley

Tracy Kelly

Suzanne and David Kerpius

David Kiefer and Andrea Freshman

Kingsway Exterminating Company



YDR is Honored

This past May, the Southwest Brooklyn Industrial Development Corporation (SBIDC) honored Craig Gabrian and Young Dancers in Repertory with the Frank C. Spinner, Jr. Award for Public Service. The SBIDC grants the award to honor people who show a deep commitment to caring and contributing to the enrichment of society – an ideal embodied by the late Frank Spinner.

NYSICA and YDR Bring School-wide Arts Programming to PS 149

After a 15-year partnership, Young Dancers in Repertory (YDR) and P.S. 149 are catapulting its dance education program for students to new levels. The partnership is working to provide dance education residencies for every student in the school. YDR received a grant from the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSICA) to plan for this exciting endeavor. P.S. 149, the Danny Kaye School, is an elementary school, located in East New York, Brooklyn that serves 779 children in grades K-5. NYSICA's grant will encourage P.S. 149's students to experience life-long curiosity and learning in the arts.



Young Dancers In Repertory

Sharing, Educating, Impacting... Since 1985

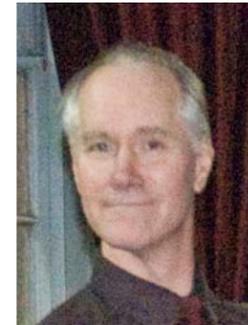
Dear Dancers, Parents, Staff and Friends:

As we enter into a new decade, and move closer to our 25th year of serving the Brooklyn community, I am truly inspired by the continued support from our Board of Directors, staff, students, volunteers, funders and community partners. Together, you keep Young Dancers in Repertory a vital and constant source for dance and community arts education.

In 2009, we confidently faced many new challenges brought on by current economic changes

by strengthening our staff, revitalizing our leadership and seeking new resources for future growth.

As you read about our various programs in this newsletter, I hope you become a frequent visitor to our new website, support and participate in our programs, and talk with us about volunteer opportunities.



Young Dancers in Repertory's dedicated team:

Executive Director

Craig Gabrian

Staff

June December, Office Manager, Registrar

Amanda Gee, Development Manager

Doreen Miranda, Program Director & Teaching Artist

Maralin Springer, Marketing & Administrative Assistant

Teaching Artists

Alaine Handa

Sarah Milosevich

Zoe Schieber

Anne Versluis

Kelly Williams

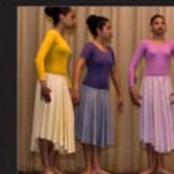
Board of Directors.

Michael Spinner, Board Chair, Yvette Rosado, Vice Board Chair, Robert Silvestri, Secretary, Tara Regan, Treasurer.

Lara Oyetunde-Baer, Pierre Salameh, Ali Weheda

Transforming Youth Through Dance

WITH YOUNG DANCERS IN REPERTORY



Visit our website and join our mailing list for a chance to win a FREE dance class or a Young Dancers in Repertory t-shirt!

Your generous contributions keep dreams alive.

www.youngdancersinrep.org



NYU Nasha Welcomes Young Dancer's in Repertory

For the past 10 years, NYU Nasha has performed as New York University's premier, all-female, South Asian Dance Performance Team. Among other performances, for several years now Nasha has held an annual charity event to benefit influential organizations that serve the community. Nasha team member, Sanwari Gupta – who also volunteers her time with Young Dancers in Repertory (YDR) – has given us an even greater gift. This year, YDR was invited to perform at Nasha's 6th Annual Dance Benefit Showcase. *NYU Nasha's* performance redefines passion, movement and eloquence with its fusion of music and dance styles, including Indian, Ballet and more, and they are an exciting group to watch. As the featured organization, YDR not only performed at Nasha's wonderful event, but also was granted a portion of the proceeds, to assist us in continuing to do what we do best – sharing the joy of dance with those who want and need it the most. YDR was grateful to have been given this opportunity, and we thank all of our friends who came out to support us at this amazing event.

The Carol Mezzacappa Scholarship Fund

Carol Mezzacappa was one of the founding directors of YDR. Through its professional wing, Dance Consort, Carol sought to foster the works of Doris Humphrey and Charles Weidman, and to "help audiences connect to the works--either through historical context and/or through movement." Carol was often honored for her achievements and commitment to carrying on the legacy and traditions of Charles Weidman and the Humphrey-Weidman movement principles. Even today, YDR is one of few dance schools actively studying and performing this historic dance form. The Carol Mezzacappa Scholarship Fund has been created to honor Carol's legacy, and to provide deserving dancers with a chance to experience the same love of dance and movement that Carol lived to share with others. The Carol Mezzacappa Scholarship is awarded to the serious dancer who is fully participating in the Teenage Touring Ensemble, including required classes at the Center for Dance Studies. We seek your assistance in helping us to support these two programs. Through classes at the Center for Dance Studies, we aim to help dancers reach a professional level of technique and ability. Through YDR's Teenage Touring Ensemble, dancers are able to share their talents with a diverse audience, continuing YDR's legacy of sharing the beauty and importance of the Humphrey-Weidman technique with others in our community. Here are some ways you can help us to help our young dancers:



DONATION OPTIONS:		
	One Semester	Two Semesters
Petite Battement Patron (small kick)	\$120 or \$20 per month for 6 months	\$240 or \$20 per month for 12 months
Battement Booster (high kick)	\$240 or \$40 per month for 6 months	\$480 or \$40 per month for 12 months
Assemblé Angel (bring legs together in the air)	\$420 or \$70 per month for 6 months	\$840 or \$70 per month for 12 months
Grand Jeté Guardian (large leap in the air)	\$1020 or \$170 per month for 6 months	\$2040 or \$170 per month for 12 months

Transforming Youth Through Dance

Our Mission: Young Dancers In Repertory (YDR) is a non-profit Brooklyn-based arts organization which provides professional training and fosters growth and communication through dance via creative educational arts programming and performances for children, youth and the general public.

Introducing the Carol Mezzacappa Scholarship Fund:

In order to help realize the dreams of many young dancers in the Brooklyn community, YDR has established the Carol Mezzacappa Scholarship fund to provide opportunities for eager youth to learn the art of dance. Your generous contributions allow our youth to **dream, discover and dance!**

Upcoming Events:

MARCH 20, 2010
Open House and Parent Observation Week Begins

APRIL 17, 2010
Immigrant Heritage Week: FREE Celebrating Diversity Through Dance events in Sunset Park

MAY 15, 2010
Teenage Touring Ensemble Auditions, ages 9-14

JUNE 10, 2010
Dancing Away on Brooklyn Day

Visit our web site at www.youngdancersinrep.org and join our mailing list by **April 30th**. You will automatically be entered to win **one FREE semester of class and a t-shirt**. Choose one class at our Center for Dance Studies for the Fall 2010 season, or enter to win one of 5 FREE YDR t-shirts.



Young Dancers in Repertory
PO Box 205037
Sunset Station
Brooklyn, NY 11220

YDR Gets Fundraising Boost from Youth I.N.C.

Last year, Young Dancers in Repertory (YDR) participated in Youth, I.N.C.'s Celebration, a year-long training program for non-profit organizations. YDR board members participated in the program to gain hands-on experience in cultivating donors, improving fundraising and marketing efforts, and seeking out new sources of support for the organization. As part of the program, Youth, I.N.C. provides organizations with a wealth of training and information, as well as one-on-one consultation, at no charge to the nonprofits. At the end of the training program, each non-profit is able to take the fundraising techniques they have gained, and apply them to the program's culminating event "A Celebration to Benefit New York Kids," an annual gala held at Youth, I.N.C.'s expense. The event took place in November 2009, at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York City, and was an opportunity for our board members, donors and other partners to meet and spread the word about our organization. The Celebration honored several youth who have benefitted from each of their respective organization's efforts in the community. YDR's Teenage Touring Ensemble member, Francesca Teora, 17, was one of those being honored that night for their personal achievements. The honorees' inspirational stories of determination and triumph served as a reminder of the importance of contributions from areas such as the arts, dance, technology, and community affairs.



Celebrating Diversity Workshops Continue

Young Dancers in Repertory's acclaimed Celebrating Diversity Through Dance workshop series returned this year with more free, multicultural dance workshops for the community. For six weeks, YDR's guest teaching artists Aliksandra Bayeva, Trayer Run-Kowzun, and Chrisafo Madimenos taught workshops at the Center for Dance Studies, sharing traditional dances and customs from Russia, China and Greece, respectively. The series brings together people of different cultural backgrounds to share in the joy of dance and increase cross-cultural relations in the community. YDR's Celebrating Diversity Through Dance workshops also serve as an opportunity for both children and adults to participate in free, high-quality, ethnic dance activities. Visit our website for information and updates on this free workshop series.

Do you love to dance?

Spring classes are in session
at the Center for Dance Studies. Want to perform?
Audition for YDR's Teenage Touring Ensemble.
Spring auditions are coming soon...
Stay tuned to our website for more information
or join us on Facebook and be the first to know
about upcoming events!
www.youngdancersinrep.org

YDR's Out of School Time (OST) program at PS 127 Still Going Strong

YDR's OST program at P.S. 127 in Dyker Heights, Brooklyn continues to bring dance and arts education to the families in our Brooklyn communities. In November, the program held its Second Annual Thanksgiving Multicultural Potluck Feast. OST families came together to enjoy a spread of international cuisine, as each family contributed a dish to the dinner. The feast allowed participants to experience the rich diversity found in our communities, and learn more about the cultures and traditions of their peers. In December, the students put their talents on display, with their presentation of "The Gingerbread Girl," written and produced by YDR drama teacher, Phil Newsom. The show was a collaboration of all OST program students, with their contributions of dance, acting, music and art skills making for an exciting and creative production. Program Manager Doreen Miranda explained that the OST program is not only a great performing arts program, but also, for parents, "it's a safe, productive place for your kids to be afterschool."

YDR will begin accepting applications for our OST Summer Program in April. The program runs for eight weeks from July through August, and is open to children ages 5 – 11.

For registration information, website: www.youngdancersinrep.org or call: (347) 702-7155.



Senator Montgomery Contributes to 'Brooklyn Parks' Program

This past summer, Senator Velmanette Montgomery generously contributed \$10,000 towards YDR's arts in parks program, Dancing Through Brooklyn Parks. The program is now in its 14th year, providing free dance programming to children as young as 2-years-old, in South Brooklyn parks like Sunset Park and Owls Head Park. Programs like this are vital to at-risk and underserved youth.

YDR's Summer in the Sunset Park

In August, YDR joined the Friends of Sunset Park in hosting the Puerto Rican Traveling Theatre's production of "La Cenicienta" (Cinderella). YDR also brought to the park their Review of American Popular Dance: From Swing to Rock'n Roll to Disco to Free Style, an event that showcased the history of various dance styles and techniques, and their influences on society.



ABT at the MET

This summer, YDR's Touring Ensemble Members and friends visited the Metropolitan Opera House for a performance by the American Ballet Theater (ABT).