

DALLAS BLACK DANCE THEATRE



RELENTLESS EXCELLENCE

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Target Sponsors Dallas Black Dance Theatre In-School Dance Residency Program

Dallas, TX - **Target** is sponsoring the In-School Dance Residency dance classes led by **Dallas Black Dance Theatre (DBDT)** that run from September 2016 - May 2017. DBDT partners with the Dallas Independent School District to provide 700 students in nine schools, class sessions that integrate dance with K-12 curriculum. The goals of the program include:

- To motivate at-risk students to become active participants in the educational process.
- To enhance creative thinking, problem-solving, risk-taking, teamwork and self-esteem.
- To apply knowledge learned in dance exercises to traditional classroom learning.

Dallas Black Dance Theatre tailors every residency to meet the specific academic challenges faced by each school. DBDT instructors work closely with the teachers to construct a plausible strategy that addresses the requisites and needs of the individual student. Dance sessions integrate math, explore geometry and arithmetic through embodying shapes, angles and equations. Based on the science curriculum, students investigate anatomy and physics by questioning their bodies' movements. Students equally discover new cultures through African dance by learning to identify distinct characteristics of tribal dances, as well as geography of the country or region in social studies.

"The residency not only integrates dance with math, science and social studies, it also offers students an alternative approach to learning that engages students mentally, physically, emotionally and socially" said **Ann Williams, Dallas Black Dance Theatre Founder and Artistic Advisor**. "We thank Target for providing this opportunity for students to discover relatable, engaging and fun ways to learn."

The DBDT sessions run six to eight weeks for one hour each during school periods. Target sponsors the following locations:

In-School Programs (Fall 2016)

- Irma Lerna Rangel Young Women's Leadership School
- Thomas A. Edison Middle Learning Center
- Arturo Salazar Elementary School
- W.T. White High School
- Tom C. Gooch Elementary School
- John J. Pershing Elementary School

In-School Programs (Spring 2017)

- Dan D. Rogers Elementary School
- George W. Truett Elementary School
- Irma Lerner Rangel Young Women's Leadership School
- Woodrow Wilson High School
- W.T. White High School

If your school or school district would like to learn how to get involved in the DBDT In-School Dance Residency Program you can email academy@DBDT.com.

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About Dallas Black Dance Theatre

Founded in 1976 by Ann Williams, Dallas Black Dance Theatre (DBDT) is the 10th largest minority arts organization in America, the fourth largest black dance company in the nation and the oldest continuously operating professional dance company in the City of Dallas. Texas Cultural Trust named Dallas Black Dance Theatre among 15 Texas Medal of Arts Awards Honorees for 2017. The event celebrates amazing Texans who have made powerful contributions to the arts in the state and around the world.

The mission of Dallas Black Dance Theatre is to create and produce contemporary modern dance at its highest level of artistic excellence through performances and educational programs that bridge cultures and reach diverse communities. With an ever-expanding national and global audience, the company employs a diverse, multi-ethnic troupe of dancers performing for audiences of all ages and backgrounds.

Located in a historic facility at the eastern end of the thriving downtown Dallas Arts District, Dallas Black Dance Theatre is a nationally and internationally recognized professional modern dance company. DBDT engages the cross-cultural community through contemporary modern dance presented from the African American experience. Dallas Black Dance Theatre is a resident company member of the AT&T Performing Arts Center - Dee and Charles Wylie Theatre located in Dallas's Art District.

During its 40-year history, Dallas Black Dance Theatre has performed on five continents, in 15 countries and 31 states, including two Olympic Cultural events. Over the years, more than 4 million arts patrons and 2.6 million students, grades K-12, have experienced the dance company's performances and educational outreach programs. DBDT serves more than 100,000 people annually, including more than 20,000 youth in grades K-12 in Dallas-Fort Worth area schools each year. DBDT offers community outreach services through workshops, lecture/demonstrations, master-classes, residences, mini-performances and student matinees that are designed level-specific for elementary, middle, high school and university students. Annually another 20,000 youth and adults are reached through national and international festivals, tours, special performances at universities, social service agencies, professional and corporate organizations, civic events and community venues.

Dallas Black Dance Theatre is comprised of five performing companies and its training Academy. Dallas Black Dance Theatre's professional company, DBDT, consists of 12 full-time salaried dancers performing a mixed repertory of modern, jazz, African and spiritual works by national and international choreographers. DBDT: Encore! (formerly DBDT II) features eight artists of rising excellence from across the nation that support DBDT's growing local and regional educational outreach.

Dallas Black Dance Academy, the official school of Dallas Black Dance Theatre, celebrates 43 years of delivering dance instruction to a community of diverse backgrounds. Over 550 students participate weekly in 50 dance classes of ballet, jazz, tap, modern, and African at DBDT studios for ages four to adult. The academy has three performing ensembles: Allegro, DBDT's premier academy ensemble, Senior Performing Ensemble, and Junior Performing Ensemble.

For more details visit www.DBDT.com and www.dbdt.com/academy.

Right click to save or copy photograph. Contact us if you need a high resolution photograph.



A student creates a symmetry duet with Dallas Black Dance Theatre Outreach Teacher Jenise Anthony.



Students perform a flocking exercise where they symmetrically mimic the leader.



Students create their own symmetry duet exploring levels.

Dallas Black Dance Theatre, 2700 Ann Williams Way, Dallas, TX 75201

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