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## **DALLAS BLACK DANCE ACADEMY CONTINUES ITS**

### **ADOPT-A-SCHOOL DANCE PROGRAM**

#### **WITH THE SUPPORT OF A SECOND GENESIS FOUNDATION GRANT**

Dallas, Texas – The **Genesis Inspiration Foundation** issued **Dallas Black Dance Academy** (DBDA) a \$50,000 grant enabling the dance school to continue its Adopt-A-School Dance Program for a second year. Genesis gave Dallas Black Dance Academy a gift last year, allowing the organization to launch the program. Adopt-A-School will provide dance instructors for at least two schools in the **Dallas Independent School District** during the 2023-2024 school year.

DBD Academy's new expanded arts education initiative offers free training to help elevate students by enriching their in-school dance class instruction. Dallas Black Dance Academy partners with the classroom dance teachers to provide opportunities to develop skills for careers in dance.

"The Genesis Inspiration Foundation is committed to improving educational outcomes for children, specifically through the arts. Research shows that when a child has access to the arts, they can be inspired to be creative thinkers and pursue academic excellence," said **Cameron Wagner**, Sr. Group Manager, Field Operations, for **Genesis Motor America**. "We are dedicated to funding enriching art education programs that inspire youth development beyond the classroom and introduce children to a new world of the possible." The foundation has awarded over \$8 million in grants to promote youth arts education programs since the foundation started in 2018. This year the Academy's grant was funded by **Huffines Hyundai Plano**.

Dallas Black Dance Academy, the official school of **Dallas Black Dance Theatre**, has a history of producing dance professionals for over 50 years. The academy trained one of the first students in the nation to receive the **Presidential Scholar Award** in Dance in 1980. Since 2012, 100% of Dallas Black Dance Academy students have graduated from high school and attended college. Numerous DBDA Alumni have received full scholarships in dance and other careers to prestigious universities across the nation.

# DALLAS BLACK DANCE THEATRE



RELENTLESS EXCELLENCE

For more information on how your school can join the Dallas Black Dance Academy's Adopt-A-School Dance program email, [academy@dbdt.com](mailto:academy@dbdt.com). For more details on Dallas Black Dance Academy, visit [www.dbdt.com/academy](http://www.dbdt.com/academy).

## **2022-2023 | Legacy Sponsor**

Harold Simmons Foundation

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City of Dallas Office of Arts and Culture, NBC 5, *The Dallas Morning News*, *Texas Metro News*, American Airlines, Oversee My IT, Shubert Foundation, Inc., DART, TACA, *Dallas Weekly*, and Texas Commission on the Arts

## **2022- 2023 | DBDT Season Supporters**

The Rea Charitable Trust, Lexus, *fyi50+*, *The Dallas Examiner*, *The Dallas Post Tribune*, *Elite News*, *Trendy Africa*, and *Arts+Culture*

## **2022-2023 | Education Sponsors**

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## **ABOUT DALLAS BLACK DANCE ACADEMY**

The official school of Dallas Black Dance Theatre celebrates 50 years of delivering dance instruction to a community of diverse backgrounds. It was founded by Ann Williams. The academy trained the first student in the nation to receive the Presidential Scholar Award in Dance in 1980. Students participate weekly in 36 dance classes, including ballet, jazz, tap, modern, and African on-site at DBDT's studios. Classes are held at Dallas Black Dance Theatre's studios and are open to students ages four to adult. The academy has three performing ensembles: Allegro Performing Ensemble, Dallas Black Dance Theatre's premier academy ensemble, Senior Performing Ensemble, and Junior Performing Ensemble.

For details on Dallas Black Dance Academy, visit [www.dbdt.com/academy](http://www.dbdt.com/academy).

## **ABOUT DALLAS BLACK DANCE THEATRE**

Founded in 1976 by **Ann Williams**, and currently under the direction of Melissa M. Young, **Dallas Black Dance Theatre's** mission is to create and produce contemporary modern dance at the highest level of artistic excellence through performances and educational programs



that bridge cultures and reach diverse communities. As the largest and oldest professional dance company in Dallas, DBDT is the fourth-largest Black dance company in the nation, the ninth-largest contemporary modern dance company, and ranked 40th among the nation's leading ballet companies. Located in the thriving downtown Dallas Arts District, DBDT has performed worldwide for over 4.6 million arts patrons and 2.8 million students in 33 states and 16 countries on five continents. The performances include two Olympics (1996 & 2012), the nation's most prestigious venues (**Lincoln Center, Kennedy Center, Broadway, Jacob's Pillow**), and for such luminaries as **Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II** and **South African President Nelson Mandela**. Since the pandemic began in 2020, DBDT performances have also been viewed virtually in 34 countries. The Company has been recognized by the **National Endowment for the Arts** as an American Masterpiece Touring Artist (2008) and received the **Texas Medal of the Arts Award** for Arts Education (2017).

For more details about Dallas Black Dance Theatre, visit [www.dbdt.com](http://www.dbdt.com).