



**GLOBAL EDUCATION CENTER**  
presents



**Exploring What the American Dance Scene Would Look Like without the Contributions, Influences, and Aesthetics of Mother Africa and Her Descendants**

**April 28 - May 1, 2022**

[www.globaleducationcenter.org](http://www.globaleducationcenter.org)

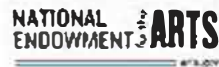


**ABAHAC. INC.**

**The Carolyn Smith Foundation**



**SOUTH ARTS**





**GLOBAL EDUCATION CENTER**  
presents Black Dance in America as part of

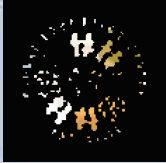


Black Arts in America is a public humanities project that explores the many ways that Black arts traditions, from Mother Africa to The Americas, have influenced the overall arts scene in America, examining artistic traditions that might be nonexistent without this influence. This exploration spans the arts, including literary, visual and performing arts as well as documentary films and ongoing Black History lessons, tracing the important role these diverse arts play in survival, resilience, and overcoming social constructs and in the arts ecosystem of our nation. As we lead community participants through this survey of Black arts, we have pondered together what life would be like without these important traditions and their influence on literature, poetry, music, dance, and other creative forces in the U.S. and in Latin America. We have explored the way struggles and life experiences affect the manner in which values, beliefs and traditions of individuals and entire societies evolved in their efforts to survive, thrive and express themselves, using the arts as a vehicle for that expression. Over a period of 10 months, the project continues to present a range of discussions, readings, workshops, films, performances, and exhibitions, exploring topics such as Black Dance in America, Music of Oppression and Survival, Stories of Our Ancestors, and Poetry and the African American Experience.

**This Black Dance Festival is the culminating event, along with a curriculum guide that will be accessible to schools in conjunction with related workshops, residencies, and performances. We invite you to join us in our journey to show the commonalities we all share through our stories and our artistic expression while paying homage to the roots of many artistic and cultural traditions in our country and across The Americas. The following pages showcase workshops and socials that are available throughout our four-day Black Dance Festival.**

**Registration opens on February 15, 2022, for full conference passes  
\$175 until March 15, 2022 when price increases to \$200  
Individual workshops will be available for registration on April 15 if space remains.**

**[www.globaleducationcenter.org](http://www.globaleducationcenter.org)**



# BLACK DANCE FESTIVAL - April 28 - May 1, 2022

**Dance Dialogues**

**Workshops**

**Performances**

**Dance Parties**



## Concert: **BLACK DANCE IN AMERICA**

A theatrical production showing the journey from Africa to The Americas and the evolution of dance from traditional West African to early dances like Cakewalk, Blackbottom, etc, to the clubs of the 1920's-30s in Harlem, to the fusion that created styles like tap, jazz, and even disco, to the street dancing of the 80s, popular line dances, and the hip hop culture that exists today juxtaposed with the evolution of dance in Latin America that rose to popularity as the Latin dance scene in America.



The Harlem Swing Dance Society  
"Come back to where it all began"



**BLACK DANCE FESTIVAL – DAY 1 – THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2022**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Studio</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Teacher</b>
5:30 – 6:30 PM	A	<b>Caribbean</b>	Cindi Malone
5:30 – 6:30 PM	B	<b>Dance Dialogue-From Capoeira to Breakin'</b>	Spidey Cannon
6:45 – 7:45 PM	A	<b>Raq the Barre®</b>	Tirra Hargrow
6:45 – 7:45 PM	B	<b>Jookin</b>	Memphis Jookin
8 – 9:00 pm	A	<b>Capoeira</b>	Grupo Balança Capoeira
8 – 10:00 pm	B	<b>Vogue: From Harlem to House</b>	Sunni & The Iconic House of Ebony

**BLACK DANCE FESTIVAL – DAY 2 – FRIDAY, APRIL 29, 2022**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Studio</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Teacher</b>
5:30 – 6:30 PM	A	<b>Nashville Ballet DanceFix®</b>	Thea Jones and Shabaz Ujima
5:30 – 6:30 PM	B	<b>Salsa</b>	Nicole Ahima
6:45 – 8:00 PM	B	<b>Mambo Rumba Intensive</b>	Elena Garcia
6:45 – 8:00 PM	A	<b>Afro Brazilian Dance</b>	Quenia Ribeiro & Everton Isidoro Santos Silva
8:30 – 11:00 PM	A	<b>Old School Night</b>	Chicago Steppers & more
8:30 – 11:00 PM	B	<b>Afro Latin World Dance Party</b>	Various teachers offer mini-classes

**BLACK DANCE FESTIVAL – DAY 3 – SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 2022**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Studio</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Teacher</b>
9:00 – 10:00 AM	A	<b>Afrobeats</b>	Rita Addico Cohen
9:00 – 10:00 AM	B & C	<b>Rehearsal block for concert</b>	Rehearsal block for concert
10:15 – 11:30 AM	A	<b>Afro Cuban Dance</b>	Elena Garcia
10:15 – 11:30 AM	B	<b>Capoeira</b>	Grupo Balança Capoeira w Mstre Gildo Valu
11:45 AM – 1:00 PM	A	<b>Samba</b>	Quenia Ribeiro & Everton Isidoro Santos Silva
11:45 AM – 1:00 PM	B	<b>Bomba</b>	Redobles de Cultura NYC
1:00 – 1:30 PM	BREAK	<b>BREAK</b>	BREAK
1:30 – 2:45 PM	A	<b>West African Dance</b>	Sylvia Soumah
1:30 – 2:45 PM	B	<b>Afro Colombian Dance</b>	Julio César & Danzas Genericas de Colombia
3:00 - 4:15 PM	A	<b>Set up for Savoy Program</b>	
3:00 – 4:15 PM	B	<b>Afro Colombian Dance</b>	Julio César & Danzas Genericas de Colombia
4:30 – 9:00 PM	B	<b>Rehearsal block for concert</b>	Rehearsal block for concert
6:00 – 9:00 PM	A	<b>Saturday at the Savoy</b>	Harlem Swing Dance Society

**BLACK DANCE FESTIVAL SCHOOL DAY – FRIDAY, APRIL 29, 2022**

**TRACK 1 SCHOOL SCHEDULE – FEE \$20 PER STUDENT**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Studio</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Teacher</b>
8 – 8:45 AM	A	West African	Sylvia Soumah
9 – 9:45 AM	A	Haitian	Karen Robert
10 – 10:45 AM	A	Dunham	Thea Jones
10:45 – 11:15	LUNCH		
11:15 AM – 12 PM	A	Afrobeats	Rita Addico Cohen
12:15 – 1:00 PM	A	Jookin	Memphis Jookin

**TRACK 1 SCHOOL SCHEDULE – FEE \$20 PER STUDENT**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Studio</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Teacher</b>
10 – 10:45 AM	B	West African	Sylvia Soumah
11:00 – 11:45 AM	B	Haitian	Karen Robert
12 – 12:45 PM	B	Dunham	Thea Jones
12:45 – 1:15 PM	LUNCH		
1:15 – 2:00 PM	B	Afrobeats	Rita Addico Cohen
2:15 – 3:00 PM	B	Jookin	Memphis Jookin

**BLACK DANCE IN AMERICA CONCERT**

SUNDAY, MAY 1, 2022 – 1:00 PM

FATHER RYAN HIGH SCHOOL

700 NORWOOD DRIVE

NASHVILLE, TN 37204

TICKETS: \$20 ADULTS; \$10 FOR STUDENTS 10+; \$5 FOR CHILDREN UNDER 10

**CONFERENCE FEES**

\$175 EARLY BIRD FULL CONFERENCE PASS AVAILABLE FEBRUARY 15 – MARCH 15, 2022

\$200 FULL CONFERENCE PASS AVAILABLE MARCH 15 – APRIL 15, 2022

INDIVIDUAL WORKSHOP FEES - \$20 OPEN AFTER APRIL 15 IF SPACE ALLOWS

REGISTER @ [WWW.GLOBALEDUCATIONCENTER.ORG](http://WWW.GLOBALEDUCATIONCENTER.ORG)

## BIOS OF TEACHING ARTISTS



### **Nicole Ahima – Salsa**

Nicole, affectionately known as Nicole la Bailarina, is a popular Salsa dance instructor in Nashville, one who helps organize the entire local Salsa Scene. While many in the area know her for her great instruction in the art of Salsa, for her women’s dance team Music City Mambo, for her song-spinning and social planning skills, Nicole has a much deeper connection to dance and to the Global Education Center. She comes from a family of traditional dancers from Ghana who were in residence at the Center as early as 1997, and Nicole and her two sisters were involved in youth programs at the Center in addition to dancing with their parents’ company, Sankofa. We are especially thrilled to have Nicole return “home” to share her Salsa skills at our Black Dance Festival.



### **Irvin Spidey Cannon**

Spidey is a beloved resident teacher of the Global Education Center, sharing his knowledge and skills in both Breakin’ and Capoeira. His thirst for the historical and cultural importance and evolution of dance enables him to teach with authenticity and depth, coupled with his amazing dance, acrobatic, and musical skills. We hear that Spidey is a popular DJ around town as well, sharing his love for music and for community. A native of Detroit where a love of dance and all things cultural sparked his curious nature, Spidey rooted himself in Nashville via Tennessee State University, and we have all been blessed by his decision to call Nashville HOME!



### **Julio César Londono**

Julio is director, choreographer, and founder, along with Mary Castrillon, of Ballet Folklorico Colombia Danzas Genericas, a nonprofit organization chartered in the state of Georgia. The dance group was established with the main objective of showcasing, perpetuating and displaying the unparalleled beauty and variety of the authentic regional dances that are such a large part of the rich culture of Colombia. Although the group is comprised mainly of Colombian members, they have welcomed others with open arms over the past thirty years. The company has grown to include twenty-five members, all volunteers who donate their personal time and energy to showcase the diversity of Colombia. Each member spends time to learn the history and cultural significance behind the dances that they perform, in addition to studying and rehearsing the choreography.



### **Rita Addico Cohen – Afrobeats**

Rita is a native of Accra, Ghana who loves infusing rhythms, music, movement, and aesthetics from different cultures as a way to stay healthy, fit, and culturally aware. Whether in her popular Zumba classes or her culturally unique Afrobeats dance classes, she is an unstoppable bundle of energy and enthusiasm. She began dancing in her hometown as a traditional Ghanaian dancer and singer, followed years later as a professional musical theatre/opera singer. Rita loves applying her performing arts background in her cultural and fitness activities, weaving in her linguistic abilities (she speaks over ten languages) as well, leading her to found Tidewater African Cultural Alliance. She holds a BA in Classical Music from the University of Virginia and a Master of Music in Classical Voice Performance from the Manhattan School of Music; these professional credentials coupled with her international dance background and her linguistic talents enables her to bring a special cultural and artistic spin to every class with authenticity and respect.



### **Elena Garcia – Afro Cuban**

Elena, founder of one of Miami’s leading Afro Cuban dance companies, holds a degree in Modern Dance and Cuban Folklore from the National School of the Arts of Cuba. She was a company member of the prestigious Conjunto Folklórico Nacional de Cuba. Her style is unique - a Latin twist combined with both ethnic and contemporary forms of movement. Her international credits include working as an instructor, dancer and choreographer in Spain, Germany, Argentina and the Dominican Republic. After relocating to South Florida, she founded the Iroko Afro-Cuban Dance Theater, presenting full seasons of performances and outreach programs in South Florida for seven years. Elena has choreographed for numerous artists and companies, and she served as Adjunct Faculty of African Diaspora, Caribbean and Modern Dance at Florida International University and New World School of the Arts. She is currently a teacher in a local public school, creating authentic and engaging performances through dance and theater. Elena combines her knowledge of traditional Afro Cuban dance and folklore with more contemporary Latin dance and modern dance traditions to teach an exciting, engaging class in popular dances of Cuba, such as Mambo and Rumba. During her Afro Cuban dance workshops, she includes full historical information about the various Orishas retained in the religion of Santería brought there by the Yoruba people of Nigeria, giving students a full cultural experience.



### **Tirra Olufemi Hargrow**

Tirra is best known as Global Education Center’s enthusiastic, high energy, and welcoming West African, Afro Latin, and Zumba® instructor. She is also trained in Little Flower Yoga® and holds a Master of Public Health degree. During these challenging pandemic times, Tirra has expanded her knowledge and training to become the “Voice of Global” for its social media presence; a proponent and teacher of Mindfulness; and a certified trainer in RAQ THE BARRE.® Tirra currently trains in belly dance with RAQISA,® directed by Soraya Doherty, and SharQui,® directed by Oreet Schwartz. RAQ THE BARRE® by RAQISA® is a nationally accredited barre fitness belly dance technique through which participants can experience essential belly dance fundamentals seamlessly merged into a fierce full body barre workout! Come experience this fun fitness dance form that bridges the best in exercise safety and science with ancient movements.



### **The Harlem Swing Dance Society – Lindy Hop and Saturday at the Savoy**

The Harlem Swing Dance Society (THSDS) is a nonprofit organization promoting, preserving, propagating and protecting Harlem’s rich Lindy Hop and Swing Dance culture in its Harlem home. The Society has worked with various Harlem organizations, partnering and bringing awareness to this rich culture that was perfected at Harlem’s famed Savoy Ballroom, including the Studio Museum in Harlem, Harlem Week, the Apollo Theater, Museum of the City of New York, Morris Jumel Mansion, and NYC Parks and Recreation to name a few. By this diligent outreach over the years, The Harlem Swing Dance Society is recognized as a leader that has ignited a movement and more appreciation of this rich Harlem culture. From Seniors to Teens to Tots, the Society has Harlem abuzz with its creative dance and music history by taking folks “back to where it all began!”



### **Michael EmeEme Irvin and Grupo Balança Capoeira**

Michael is director of Grupo Balança Capoeira, the resident capoeira school of the Global Education Center. Known in the capoeira world as Professor Eme Eme, Michael began learning Capoeira with his family in 1999 in Lexington, KY. He finds the acrobatics movements to be very freeing and the history is something in which he takes great pride. The vast majority of his training has been with Mestre Gildo Valu who is in Bahia, Brazil. This Capoeira education has taken Michael to many places, including Brazil, where he learned how the art form is practiced in the traditional academies, the modern/contemporary classes, and even in the streets. For over ten years, Michael has been in residence at the Global Education Center, sharing his love of this Afro Brazilian art form for schools, community organizations and teacher in-services, teaching all aspects of Capoeira - its dance and fighting movements, games, music, ritual, history and role in political resistance and survival.



**Thea Jones Brown – Dunham and DANCEFIX®**

Thea, a native of Nashville, is a professionally trained concert dancer, educator and international cultural curator. She earned a BFA in Dance from Howard University in 2005 where she was granted opportunities to study with acclaimed professionals such as Hope Boykin of Alvin Ailey Dance Company; Louis Johnson, choreographer of the Wiz; Debbie Blunden-Diggs, artistic director of Dayton Contemporary Dance Company; and Kevin Iega Jeff, Artistic Director of Deeply Rooted in Chicago. Thea enjoyed a successful contemporary dance career in New York City from 2005-2014 dancing with Rod Rodgers Dance Company, Mirashayama Traditional Lindy Hop/Aerial Swing Company, Def Dance Jam Workshop, Kayoko Sakoh Dance Company in Kagashima, Japan, and Nommo Contemporary Dance Company in partnership with the American Dance Guild's 50th Anniversary Celebration. In 2019, she established Skylark Creative Alliance, a collaborative artist association with the goal of creating an international alliance of creatives who inspire, connect, empower and influence positive community change through meaningful multi-disciplinary collaborations. She initiated an international women's empowerment program utilizing concert dance and multi-disciplinary collaborations to effect positive social change, successfully pushing women to the front of the contemporary concert stage for the first time in documented history in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania. Locally, she has performed in several theater productions and is a member of shackled feet DANCE.



**Cindi Malone Lindsay**

Cindi is founder and director of one of the area's largest and oldest African American owned and operated dance schools, Malone Studios. Trained at the Sammy Dyer School in Chicago under Shirley Hall Bass and through extensive study in the Bahamas where she has served as choreographer, artistic director, and teacher, she is a specialist in the ethnic dances of the Caribbean as well as tap, jazz, modern, ballet and hip hop. Celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2022 and settled into a new space in Southeast Nashville, Malone Studios has many firsts under their belts, i.e. introducing the art of aerial silks to Middle Tennessee years before it became the fad of the dance world. Training dancers from toddlers to teens, many of whom stay with the studio into adulthood, Cindi has made an impactful mark on the dance scene in Nashville. Whether winning competitions throughout the U. S. or performing at the annual African Street Festival, Malone Studios presents highly trained dancers who show their love for dance, for themselves, for their peers, and for their esteemed leader, engaging audiences with a spirit of fun and celebration. Their annual cultural exchange with dance academies in the Bahamas enables Cindi's dancers to infuse a bit of the Caribbean in their various dance styles.



**Spidey Cannon**

**Memphis Jookin** is a dance style from Memphis, TN. It was originally called "Gangsta Walking" when it first started in the mid 80's and remained underground throughout the 90-2000s. But around 2004 when a group of young Memphis dancers teamed with Young Jai of Jai Productions, the name "Memphis Jookin" was established and adopted by the world. When "Gangsta Walking" first started, it was born from the streets and clubs of Memphis as a very simple "walk with a bounce" to be done to the "gangsta rap" music that was being created by local producers, DJs and rappers in Memphis. Over the years it has evolved from a simple walk/strut to a beautiful, elegant, art form that's respected and taught worldwide on the same level as ballet. Visually and fundamentally, Memphis Jookin is steps, tied together with slides, glides, toes spins and intricate footwork, all while in tennis shoes. This very unique style has grown and evolved through decades of an ever-changing hip hop world, and it has made its permanent mark in the world of dance and entertainment.



**Quenia Ribeiro – Afro Brazilian Dance (accompanied by Brazilian percussionist Everton Isidoro Santos Silva)**

Quenia is a dancer, choreographer and dance instructor from Rio de Janeiro with over 25 years of experience in the field. She has performed Samba and Afro Brazilian Dance in Greece, Martinique, Portugal, Brazil and throughout the United States. Her studies and experience in dance extend from Classical Ballet to the street Samba of Rio De Janeiro and back to the roots of Samba through Afro-Brazilian Folkloric Dance and Orixá movements rooted in Africa. She has been featured in interviews and performances broadcast on PBS, ABC, WPIX, Telemundo and CBS Television. As a dance instructor she has been teaching and conducting workshops for Samba and Afro Brazilian Dance in NYC since 1997. Quenia has worked extensively in the public and private school system with children and teens teaching Brazilian Dance and Creative Movement (in both NYC and Brazil). Classes with Quenia Ribeiro feature the various forms of Samba from Rio De Janeiro and Bahia. (Samba No Pé, Miudinho, Samba Reggae, Samba Afro, Samba De Roda). In addition to Samba, Quenia introduces the Afro Brazilian dances and movements originating from Angola, Congo, Benin and Nigeria (Orixá Dance, Jongo, Samba De Caboclo, Maculelê, Afoxé). These dances and rhythms are found in Candomblé and along with Indigenous and Portuguese elements are the roots of many of the forms of Samba that we find in Brazil today. Brazilian percussionist Everton Isidoro Santos Silva will play accompaniment.



**Redobles de Culbura NYC (RDCNYC) - Bomba**

RDCNYC is a collective of three New York City-based Afro-Puerto Rican Bomba practitioners: Julia Gutiérrez-Rivera, Nicky “Caja Dura” Laboy and Nelson Matthew González. They are proud members of today’s “new” and younger generation of Bomberos, cultural workers and educators. Collectively, the RDCNYC ensemble has 50 years of teaching and performing experience, as part of several notable Bomba and Plena ensembles, including Los Pleneros de la 21, Alma Moyo, Legacy Women, Ilu Aye, Yerba Buena and more. Each member—born into the culture and traditional practices of Puerto Rico and the Afro-Caribbean—embodies the ancestral knowledge of their elders. Throughout the years, they have toured internationally to Canada, Cuba, Mexico, Germany, Thailand, Singapore, France, Africa, the Dominican Republic and more. Working alongside each other for more than 15 years with other groups, the trio officially came together as RDCNYC in 2016 with a mission to engage audiences of all ages and backgrounds...this time through the eyes of new generation “DiaspoRicans,” who can pair the foundational knowledge of their elders with the aesthetics, styles and realities of urban and diaspora perspectives. RDCNYC is coming back to Global Education center to lead a dance workshop on Afro-Puerto Rican Bomba! Their goal is to preserve the rich music of Puerto Rico through education, collaboration, and performances in schools and throughout the community.



**Karen Roberts – Haitian Dance**

Karen, a mental health practitioner and dance artist, has served the Nashville Community for over 30 years. She is the founder of KBR Serenity Haven Mind Body Practice which integrates various dimensions of the expressive arts including dance, poetry, storytelling, and creative writing into individual and group psychotherapy. Prior to beginning her career in mental health she is most known for her dedication to working with children in Nashville and the surrounding community as the founder and artistic director of Uhuru Dance Company, Nashville’s introduction to West African dance. Karen’s dance vita includes studying with noted artists such as Jean Leon Destine, (Haitian), Theo Jamison (Dunham Technique), Chuck Davis (West African) and a host of other prominent modern and jazz dance legends. Throughout her life journey the common thread that she has held sacred and close to her heart is that dance opens the door into places that words cannot enter.



**Sylvia Soumah – West African Dance**

Sylvia is the founder and Artistic Director of Coyaba Dance Theater, a stalwart of the DC area dance scene celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2022. She has studied, performed, and taught throughout the D. C. Metro area and abroad. She has studied in Conakry, Guinea with Les Ballets Africaines and in Senegal under the direction of Bouly Sonko, Artistic Director of the National Ballet of Senegal. She also performs with Erika Thimey Dance Theater and Carla & Company, and she is an important part of Dance Place in D.C. Sylvia’s mission through all of her dance work is to present traditional and contemporary West African dance and music focusing on the diverse ethnic groups and various humanitarian themes of West African culture. We are pleased to welcome Mama Sylvia, as she is affectionately known, back to Global Education Center with her uncanny ability to welcome everyone into African dance, regardless of their age or ability level.



**Shabaz Ujima - DANCEFIX®**

Shabaz is from Nashville where he began his dance training at Nashville School of the Arts and Nashville Ballet. He also studied at New World School of the Arts (Miami, FL), Martha Graham School of Contemporary Dance (New York, NY) and Practice Yoga (Dayton, OH). In his professional career, he has danced with Dayton Contemporary Dance Company; Cleo Parker Robinson Dance Ensemble; Martha Graham Ensemble; and Jeanne Ruddy Dance. His teaching experience includes classes while at Dayton Contemporary Dance Company, at South Dayton Dance Theater, at North Cincinnati Youth Ballet, at School of Nashville Ballet (contemporary dance and yoga), and Decca Academy (mindfulness and yoga with young males with behavioral issues). Shabaz has been teaching yoga, mindfulness and movement at the Global Education Center since 2016 in both our school and community outreach, including in the youth detention center, and his company shackled feet DANCE rehearses at the Center. In addition to teaching DANCEFIX® complements of Nashville Ballet, Shabaz has helped to organize our Black Dance Festival.



**Brandon "Sunni" Corlew - Vogue: From Harlem to House**

**Sunni is a Nashville native with roots in Atlanta where he attended college and was a member of two dance organizations, a featured dancer in shows and productions, and a choreographer for events and pageants, getting a taste of what the professional and underground dance life is like. Experiencing the excitement of Vogue (the crowd, the beats, the spins and dips), led Sunni to explore the world of ballroom culture, cemented in his dancing with his invitation to join the Iconic House of Ebony. Sunni and the Iconic House of Ebony will be sharing history, culture, and beauty of the world of ballroom in their workshop and house party, Vogue: From Harlem to House.**



**Helios World Dance Ensemble – Performing at Black Dance in America Concert**

Helios World Dance Ensemble, led by Alejandro Rivera, performs dances that reflect the cultures of its diverse team members, teaching one another the artistic traditions of their respective roots. Their dance repertoire includes various styles of Latin dance, folk dances from India, Puerto Rican Plena, and Mexican folkloric, and Helios is truly a community dance group that reflects the diversity of Nashville.



**Nyama Diaspora Ensemble – Performing at Black Dance in America Concert**

NYAMA shares the rhythms and dances of a diverse array of traditional cultures from the Afro Latin Diaspora. Their journey begins in West Africa, highlighting dynamic dances and powerful rhythms emanating out of The Great Mali Empire in an effort to show the connection between Africa and music and dance traditions throughout the Afro Latin Diaspora, showcasing the common roots we all share: West African, Afro Cuban, Afro Brazilian, Afro Peruvian, Afro Colombian and Afro Caribbean.

**SPECIAL THANKS TO FESTIVAL PLANNING COMMITTEE: STERLING FAUST, TEREË MCCORMICK, SHABAZ UJIMA, & ELLEN GILBERT**

## BLACK DANCE IN AMERICA CONCERT PERFORMANCE



**Sunday, May 1, 2022 at 1:00 pm  
Father Ryan High School**

**From the Shores of West Africa - NYAMA  
The Middle Passage - shackled feet DANCE  
Puerto Rican Plena - Helios World Dance Ensemble  
The Orisha of Cuba - Elena Garcia & NYAMA  
Afro Colombian - Danzas Genericas  
Afro Peruvian - NYAMA  
Afro Brazilian - NYAMA & Grupo Balança**



**Intermission**

**Mocking the Masters - shackled feet DANCE  
Charleston - Emily Logan and Sterling Faust  
Lindy Hop - The Harlem Swing Dance Society  
Jazz - Malone Studios  
Tap - Malone Studios  
Disco - shackled feet DANCE  
Capoeira to Breakin' to Jookin' & More -  
Spidey & Grupo Balança  
Latin Street Party - Mambo - Elena, Sterling & Friends  
Salsa - Helios & Danzas Genericas**



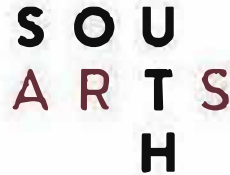
**Closing Carnival featuring  
Malone Studios  
Quenia Ribeiro  
Nyama Diaspora Ensemble  
Helios World Dance Ensemble  
shackled feet DANCE  
Danzas Genericas de Colombia  
The Harlem Swing Dance Society**



**AUDIENCE - GET OFF YOUR FEET AND DANCE**



**GLOBAL EDUCATION CENTER THANKS ITS MANY SPONSORS WHO ARE SUPPORTING DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF OUR BLACK ARTS IN AMERICA PROJECT**



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