

BalletROX

2018

ANNUAL REPORT

A Letter from the BalletRox Board of Directors



For three years in a row BalletRox has received the prestigious National Endowment for the Arts ArtWorks Award.

We are thrilled to be recognized again for our ongoing leadership for youth and the arts in Boston!

BalletRox has given more kids in Boston a “chance to dance” for over 25 years. Each year more than 700 young people participate in our programs.

Last year my daughters and I talked with state senators and representatives during Arts Advocacy Day about the positive impact BalletRox is having on Boston’s youth and communities, urging our leaders to fully fund the arts. If you have seen these amazing young dancers in action – in class, at community events, in your homes, at our performances – you know the incredible impact of BalletRox.

Please spread the word and continue to support BalletRox. So that all children have the opportunity to dance.

With deep gratitude for your generous support,

Greg Manousos, BalletRox Vice President

On Behalf of the BalletRox Board of Directors



*Ballet Rox is proud to be a 2018
NEA ArtWorks recipient!*



Transforming Young Lives

Performances

BalletRox Dance! students performed onstage in front of an audience of more than 400 friends and family. This year's spring production, *Alice in Wonderland*, included a nonsensical Tea Party with the Mad Hatter, a journey down a rabbit hole, a croquet match with Flamingos, an oversized Caterpillar, and a grinning Cheshire Cat.



Dance Classes

BalletRox Dancers work hard in dance classes learning skills and techniques that will help them take the next steps forward in life. They study Ballet, Tap, Modern, Hip Hop, and culturally relevant dance, such as Caribbean Soca, Nigerian, Bollywood, and Bachata. Dancers learn skills such as confidence, perseverance, focus, and collaboration.



Youth Council

BalletRox provides a supportive community for teens to nurture curiosity and learn real life skills. This year the council worked together on a conceptual dance project demonstrating social issues such as bullying, body image, and cultural differences. They applied for and won a

Massachusetts Cultural Council Amplify Grant to create and perform their dance for the community.



Youth Council takes a field trip to Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater at the Boston Opera House.

Through Dance Education

Student Spotlight: Dance Everywhere

Sisters Kaitlyn and Megan have been dancing with BalletRox for nine years. Dance permeates their lives. They began BalletRox dance classes at the Kenny Elementary School in Dorchester. BalletRox scholarships enabled them to join the after-school community dance program. Now the sisters also actively engage in Youth Council and the BalletRox performing group.



Haley Pilot School: Full Inclusion Dance Equalizes Education

With support from the Liberty Mutual Foundation, BalletRox offers nearly 300 students dance instruction at the Haley Pilot School in Roslindale. At this full-inclusion school, dance gives all students equal access to the arts curriculum that they enjoy. “We have found dance to be a wonderful equalizer for our students across all levels of education, giving them what they need to succeed within the classroom,” says Principal Kathleen Sullivan. “BalletRox support of full inclusion makes this possible.”

Passionate and Personal: A Teacher's Story

Teaching is my passion. Sharing tap dance with young people in the BalletRox

I am a grandmother. I am a teacher. Tap tells my story. Teaching is my passion. I am truly grateful and blessed.

– Sybil Huggins, *BalletRox*
Tap Instructor

community is a privilege, and brings me great joy. Tap transcends gender, race, and other defining characteristics. Tap tells our stories. My granddaughter Denasia is a part of the BalletRox community, too. BalletRox is helping shape who she is today – a respectful, accomplished young lady. She is more confident every day, thanks to the BalletRox community.

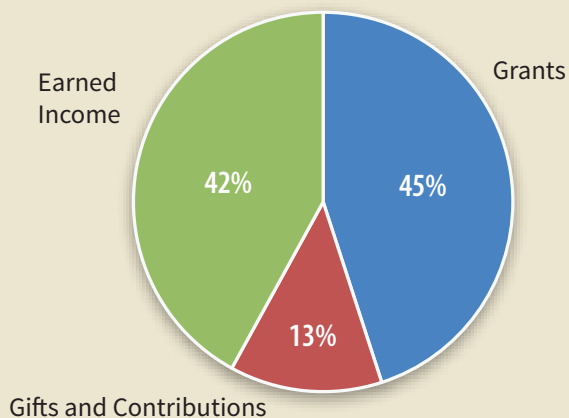


“BalletRox feels like home”

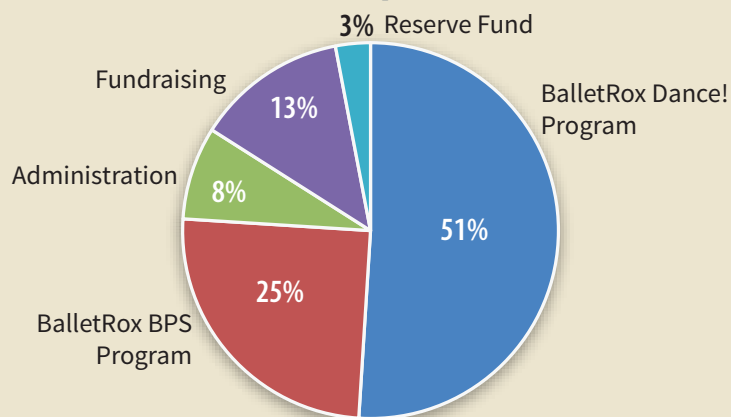
Chineme Onwubueke (ChiChi), a three year Northeastern University volunteer, feels at home at BalletRox where she can share her love of Nigerian dance with the community.

“I really enjoy working with so many people of all ages, and being in such a fun, welcoming environment. This is such a good space for kids!”

BalletRox 2018 Income Total \$300,611



BalletRox 2018 Expenses Total \$300,611



For detailed Financial Reports, please go to our web page.

OUR SUPPORTERS

Thanks to many generous funders, donors and supporters, BalletRox was able to meet our financial goals for 2018 and fulfill our mission to make dance accessible to nearly 800 students!

Alchemy Foundation
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
Black Ministerial Alliance of Greater Boston
Capacity Institute
Boston Cultural Council
Boston Police Department Youth Development Fund
BPS Arts Expansion Fund at Edvestors
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And a special thank you to the many individuals who donated wealth, wisdom and work to help BalletRox succeed!

BalletRox programs are funded in part by grants from the BPS Arts Expansion Initiative, a multi-year initiative focused on access, equity and quality arts learning for BPS students; and the Boston Cultural Council, a local agency which is funded by the Massachusetts cultural Council, administered by the Mayor's Office of Arts, Tourism, and Special Events.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

BalletRox can't do it alone!

Your support can make a huge difference.

Will you give one child a chance to dance?

\$500

pays for one child to attend BalletRox Dance! Community Dance Program

\$150

supports one child in a BalletRox Boston Public School Dance Program

\$100

provides one child with dancewear and a recital costume

\$25

gives one child a pair of tap shoes

CONNECT with BalletRox

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