

Dancing Lions

PHOTOGRAPHY BY ZEKE SMITH

After a month-long residency with the **National Dance Institute's Bianca Johnson**, the entire fourth grade class at **Frank Porter Graham Elementary** was ready for action – **Arts in Action**, that is. The students presented **A Celebration of Africa** and brought six musical numbers to life, using modern dance techniques to turn themselves into the animals, tribes and terrain of the continent. The performance, which delighted the audience of parents, teachers and fellow students, was part of an ongoing effort by **North Carolina Arts in Action (NC-AIA)** to bring top-quality arts training into schools across the state. **CHM**



Members of Ms. Rusan's class perform the "Gumboot Dance."



FPG parent organizers Laura Montross, Debra Zinn and Jackie Fritsch.



Members of Ms. Easter's class perform "The Ashanti Tribe."



NC-AIA Artistic Director Kay Gayner with Shirley Berger, Bianca Johnson, Alton Tisino and Julie Bradley.



Members of Ms. Justus' class perform "The Gift of the Nile."



Debra and Lucas Zinn, Carol Ann and Lily Zinn, and Lisa and Emma Kang.

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