



WWW.NCARTSINACTION.ORG

P.O. Box 51277

Durham, NC 27717

(919) 619-0483

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK @NCArtsinAction

Spring
2019

north
carolina

ARTS IN ACTION



Teaching life skills to children through
dance and music.

On behalf of the Board,
staff and children we
serve, thank you for your
continued support. NC
Arts in Action believes
that participation in the
arts promotes self-
confidence, builds self-
esteem, self-discipline,
tenacity and a
commitment to
excellence.

Please donate today by
check or online.

North Carolina Arts in Action (NC AIA) uses dance, music and performance to instill self-esteem, perseverance, and excellence in children. Our vision is to bring the NC AIA program to fourth grade children statewide who might not otherwise have the opportunity to participate in the performing arts and benefit from the life skills they teach and inspire.

NC AIA is an internationally acclaimed in-school, curriculum-based, performing arts program for elementary students. The program develops life skills such as self-esteem, teamwork, and focus among underserved students in Title 1 schools. We provide dance teaching from certified instructors, live music, and allow students rigorous exercise. NC AIA benefits schools in Durham, Orange, Wake and Chatham counties.

NC AIA LEAP TEAM CELEBRATES DANCE IN DURHAM'S ANNIVERSARY EVENT ON JUNE 8

In honor of Durham's 150th anniversary our LEAP Team will take the stage and perform on June 8 at the Durham Arts Council's PSI Theatre at 3 p.m. We are inviting local artists to share the stage with LEAP in June. This performance will be part of Durham 150th anniversary year-long celebration.

LEAP and other dancers will bring to life a day of entertainment, movement and joy in their performance of *Celebrating Dance in Durham*. The event will have live music and feature the works of local professional choreographers, including dances by Duane Cyrus. Mr. Cyrus is also a former dancer with the Alvin Ailey and Martha Graham dance companies and a two-time NC Arts Council Choreography Fellow. Admission will be free, and it will be open to the public and special guests. Generous support is provided from individuals, foundations and corporations.

Mr. Cyrus, an acclaimed professor of Dance at UNC Greensboro, has brought his extensive background in modern dance to our LEAP Team this Spring. Duane has developed his method *Theatre of Movement*, which emphasizes engagement over instruction, and utilizes dance to explore educational themes as well as diversity and inclusion. Duane has combined this with NC AIA curriculum to make a more robust exposure to the arts for our LEAP students who want to deepen their dance exposure and learn on Saturdays.

Through history, music and poetry as vehicles of instruction, Duane has been working with our LEAP dancers to deepen their understanding of dance and bring it to a new level. All LEAP dancers are learning complex choreography created expressly for them. This curriculum emphasizes *the theater of movement* which he broke down into dance, spoken word, and historical research. Duane's Visiting Artist Residency is partially funded by the North Carolina Arts Council, a division of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, with funding from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Photo Credits: MaryBeth Carpenter

WE THANK OUR GENEROUS DONORS

Thanks to our many friends for their individual donations to NC AIA this year. We also deeply appreciate the recent support of these foundation and corporate funders:

- Mary Duke Biddle Foundation
- Gipson Foundation
- Thomas S. Kenan Foundation
- William R. Kenan Jr. Charitable Trust
- Lacy Family Foundation
- Morgan Creek Foundation
- Rotary Club of Durham
- Centerline Digital
- Myco Medical
- Core Results Personal Training
- Sinclair & Co
- Nitta Gelatin NA Inc
- Nixon Peabody
- Fenwick Foundation
- Rolander Family Foundation
- Castle Worldwide/Scanton
- Cree/Wolf speed

"My favorite thing about NCAIA is that it levels the playing field for all students. Regardless of academic or social obstacles, every student could participate. It was so special to see every one of my students shine."

Fourth grade teacher &
North Carolina Arts in
Action Liaison



CABARET OF THE ARTS MAY 16

Our NC AIA dancers and musicians will be featured in a private fundraising event in mid-May at a beautiful private home in Raleigh. Sponsors at the \$1,000 level and above will be invited to an exclusive tour of our hosts' elegant mansion, a replica of one of America's most iconic homes of the 18th century, George Washington's beloved Mount Vernon. Each year, NC AIA holds private events in the Triangle to raise funds to meet the expenses of our expanding programs. We thank our hosts for their generosity, our sponsors for their exemplary support, and all who bought a ticket.

"Students who struggled academically were able to "shine" in Arts in Action. This "self-esteem" that had been lacking started to spread into their academics, and they no longer gave up easily or considered themselves unable to do assignments. They were more willing to take risks and accept their mistakes as part of learning. Students who struggled with inappropriate behavior showed improvement by making better choices and having more self-control. They started to see themselves as "leaders" and that was my favorite thing to see."

— Teacher

WHAT IMPACT DOES NC AIA HAVE ON STUDENTS

Each student, teacher, school liaison and principal, as well as parents, fill out a rigorously developed evaluation survey that measures our program's effectiveness. Previous assessments of the in-school program by the Link Group found these results detailed below.

After participation in NC AIA:

- 95 percent of students feel better about what they can accomplish at school after completing the program (Figure 1)
- 93 percent of students feel better about going to school on NC AIA days (Figure 2)
- 90 percent report an increase in confidence (Figure 3)
- 67 percent of parents report that their child has a positive attitude toward school attendance (Figure 4)
- 60 percent of parents report that their child has an improvement in the opinion of him/herself (Figure 4)
- 57 percent of parents report that their child has an increased interest in school academics (Figure 4)

