

Program Name: Pre-schoolers in Motion: Exploring the Elements of Dance

Artist: City in Motion Dance Theatre, Inc.

Special Requirements:

Minimum 24' x 30' stage or gym space, wood floor preferred; area and floor surface clean and clear of students 30 minutes before performance.



Performance Description

"Pre-Schoolers in Motion: Exploring the Elements of Dance" provides children ages 3 - 5 years the opportunity to experience live dance and explore dance in a structured and safe environment.

The pre-schoolers are engaged immediately by a high energy, visually stimulating original dance piece featuring a trio of professional dance artists. The choreography features movement motifs that are inspired by space, shape, energy and time. The students are then guided through a movement activity exploring their personal space.

Next, the professional dancers are characters in a Natural History Museum. The characters are

shapes that come to life with all kinds of energy! The children then practice different shapes and bring them to life as they practice the different kinds of energy for themselves.

The professional dancers perform the Elevator Dance where they explore levels and musical counts. The children are challenged to move on the elevator and to count forwards and backwards in time.

The performance culminates in Slowland/Fastland. The professional dancers perform at various speeds and then invite the children on the journey as a lively end to their experience.

Educational Objectives & Standards

Students will:

- Be introduced to dance as an art form
- Model the movements of professional dancers with movement activities that relate to the elements of dance
- Improve their body awareness by learning about personal space

Math:

- Counting
- Dance
- Understands dance as a way to create and communicate meaning



List of Resources:

Books:

Think Big by Liz Garton Scanlon & Vanessa Brantly Newton
Bloomsbury USA Childrens;
1 edition (July 17, 2012)
ISBN: 1599906112

Creative Dance For All Ages by Anne Green Gibert
Amer Alliance for Health Physical; 7th edition
(November 1992)
ISBN: 0883145324

Kids on the Move: Creative Movement for Children of All Ages by Cassandra Schmutz Boyd , Jennifer Schmutz Law, Melanie Schmutz Chalk
Creative Publishing (June 1, 2003)
ISBN: 0974483303

Contact KCYA for more information about this and other programs

816.531.4022
KCYA.org

Teaching Artist Andrea Skowronek received a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Stephens College in 1981. Since then, Andrea has been a professional dancer and educator, holding senior positions with dance troupes and theaters in the region. In addition, she has taught at University of Missouri-Kansas City, St. Mary's College and is currently on faculty at St. Teresa's Academy.

Andrea is the Artistic Co-

Director of City in Motion Dance Theater, Inc. She is also Children's Dance Theater Director and held the title of School Director for four years.

City in Motion, a school of dance in Kansas City, believes that everyone is a dancer. Founded in 1985, City in Motion boasts a professional faculty, offering a wide assortment of dance, movement exercise techniques, and other classes.

Vocabulary

Movement: Physical motion between points in space.

Dance: a type of art that involves movement of the body, often rhythmic and to music.

Choreographer: A person who makes up dances.

Kinesphere: The bubble or sphere around your body that surrounds you as you move through space.

Shape: The form your body makes in space.

Space: The area or place where you are making a shape or moving such as low, medium or high levels

Energy: The effort you are using such as sharp, smooth, punch, bob, swing.

Time: Speed or rhythm

Post-Performance Activities

1. Sound and Motion: Have students stand in a circle and one at a time make a sound with their voice and a motion with their body. The rest of the group echos back the sound and motion.
2. Review students' understanding of shapes by asking them to create the various shapes with their bodies, just their arms, fingers, legs, etc...

