

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Training Dancers, Shaping People



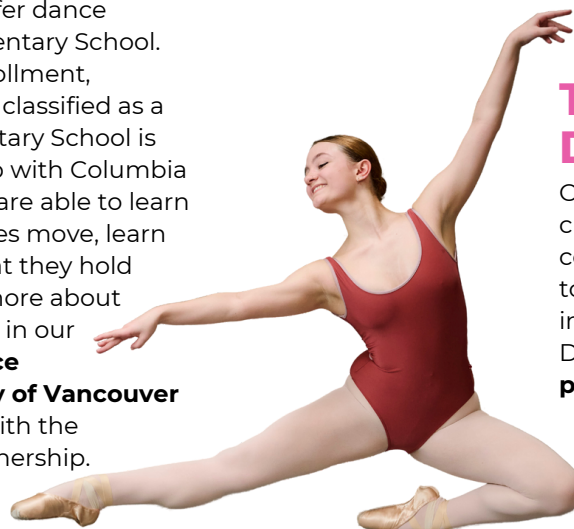
EXPANDING OUR OFFERINGS IN THE COMMUNITY

VANCOUVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS TRANSPORTATION FUNDING

When VPS was unable to secure the funding necessary to transport all 3rd grade students to Columbia Dance's Nutcracker student matinee, Columbia Dance stepped up! **We provided the \$5,000 necessary to ensure that all 3rd graders were able to culminate their Nutcracker curriculum (provided by Columbia Dance) with a live performance.** Equity is important to us! ALL children should have the chance to experience live theater.

DANCE ENRICHMENT COMING SOON TO EVERGREEN SCHOOLS

We have begun planning to offer dance enrichment at Orchard's Elementary School. At 93% free/reduced lunch enrollment, Orchard's Elementary School is classified as a Title I school. Orchard's Elementary School is excited to pursue a partnership with Columbia Dance in which their students are able to learn more about the way their bodies move, learn more about the confidence that they hold within themselves, and learn more about dance and the way it shows up in our everyday lives. **Columbia Dance received a grant from the City of Vancouver** to cover the costs associated with the inaugural year of this new partnership.



SENSORY FRIENDLY AUDIENCE DOUBLES

Columbia Dance was the first dance organization in our area to provide a sensory friendly Nutcracker performance for our community. We launched this initiative in 2022 and had 125 community members attend. In 2023, attendance more than doubled to 311 audience members taking advantage of our shush-free environment. We were excited to see our local professional dance company, Oregon Ballet Theatre, add sensory friendly performances to their offerings this year.

TICKET DONATIONS DIVERSIFY AUDIENCE

Our Nutcracker continues to draw a diverse crowd. From public school students, to community members with sensory concerns, to families lacking the disposable income to indulge in this holiday tradition, Columbia Dance **is committed to making the theater a place for everyone!**

5,000
Audience
Members

1,700
Public
School
Students

311
Sensory
Friendly
Attendees

500
Tickets
donated

2 Public
School
Partnerships

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EXPANDING OUR OFFERINGS WITHIN

INCLUDE SOARS!

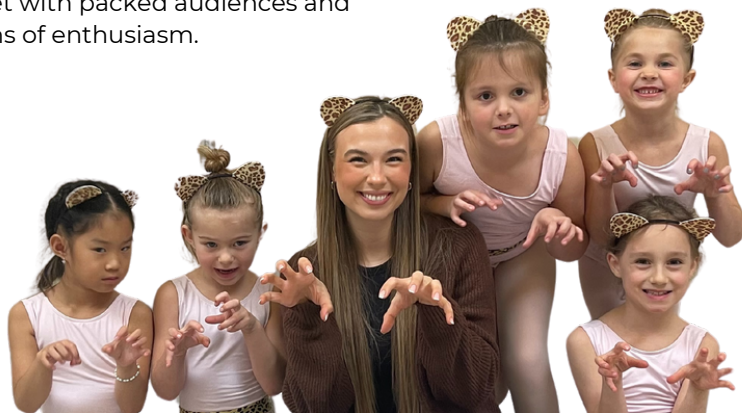
In the fall of 2022, Columbia Dance launched INCLUDE. Our INCLUDE program is designed for accessibility and equal participation in dance for all dance students. This class promotes an accessible environment that integrates the experiences of children with and without disabilities. The demand has been so high for this program that we have doubled our course offerings. **Our INCLUDE students now account for 7% of our student body.**

CHOREOGRAPHY CLASSES

Choreography was added to the Columbia Dance curriculum. Giving students the tools to choreograph, expands on the life lessons that dance gives them. Curating music, choosing costuming, creating the steps, articulating the lighting design, and leading a group of their peers to bring their vision to life **helps our advanced students become leaders and visionaries.** Our Level 6 dancers now have a weekly choreography class. We have 3 company dancers debuting new works. And our very own Thuy Chau, high school junior, was awarded an honor and scholarship for her original choreography at The Ballet Alliance festival in El Paso, TX.

NEW PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITY - AGES 3-6

Our youngest dancers are now performing twice a year! The debut of our Giraffes Can't Dance performance was met with packed audiences and tons of enthusiasm.



BOYS DANCE & PAS DE DEUX

Our male students ages 11 and up are now benefiting from boys classes designed especially to hone the strength and partnering technique specific to choreography for men.

Our advanced female students benefited from the addition of partnering classes with the professional male dancers of OBT.

175
Students

50
classes
per
week

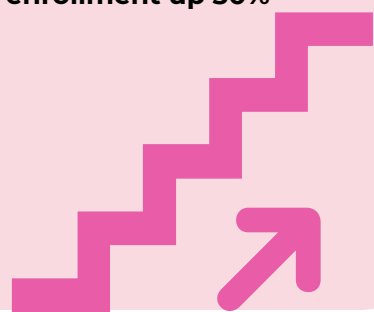
10%
students
receive
financial
aid

90%
retention
rate

AT A GLANCE

GROWTH

- **Fall Enrollment up 20%**
- **Summer Enrollment up 33%**
- **Financial Aid Awards up 37%**
- **INCLUDE enrollment up 50%**



STUDIO EXPANSION UNDERWAY

As our studio enrollment continues to reach new heights, we have begun plans to **expand our space into a 4th studio**, investing in our mission to bring dance and all of its mental and physical benefits to an ever-expanding demographic.