THE DANCE INSTITUTE OF WASHINGTON

DC'S MODEL FOR EQUITY IN DANCE

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The Dance Institute of Washington (DIW) is a non-profit dance education institution committed to advancing equity, inclusivity and diverse representation within the professional dance industry. DIW provides the youth of the Washington, D.C. area the opportunity to develop artistically, socially, emotionally and intellectually through dance training and holistic arts education.

DIW operates a pre-professional school and offers world-class dance training, mentoring, counseling, health and wellness programming, academic support, enrichment, and nutritious meals to youth ages 2 ½ - 22. DIW’s holistic services and workforce development opportunities grant youth chances to experience the performing arts and develop important skills.

Fabian Barnes founded DIW in 1987 during his summer break from the Dance Theatre of Harlem (DTH). He wished to give DC youth the opportunities that DTH gave him – to develop talent, confidence and discipline.

Today, DIW is DC’s top leading model for equity in dance education and upholds this vision: to empower and uplift our students, families, audience members, Columbia Heights community members, and supporters.
ACHIEVEMENTS

2019: Awarded and rated One of the Best Non-Profits by Catalogue for Philanthropy

2019: DIW Returns to The Kennedy Center Family Theater Stage

2018: DIW's Samaree Lawson wins 2nd Place in Men's Contemporary Dance at Youth American Grand Prix

2017: DIW students win 3rd Place Ensemble at Youth America Grand Prix (regional); Positive Directions students win 1st Place at Best of Both Worlds competition

2017: DIW Marks its 30th Anniversary

2015: Awarded and rated One of the Best Non-Profits by Catalogue for Philanthropy

2013: Fabian Barnes is awarded the Amtrak Pioneer award for outstanding involvement in the community

2011: DIW's Positive Directions Through Dance program wins the National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award from the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities

2010: DIW's pre-professional and community students perform an adaptation of West Side Story at Wolf Trap's Children's Theatre-in-the-Woods

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• The Dance Institute of Washington turns tragedy into triumph

• Dancing in the Light: Dance Institute of Washington’s Transformation After the Loss of Its Founder

• Washington Life Magazine: Dance Institute of Washington Celebrates 25 Years

• White House honors Fabian Barnes and the Dance Institute of Washington

• Dancer Offers Training to Low-Income Children

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PERFORMANCES

The Spirit of Kwanzaa Production
Presented at Thearc Theater
December 20 & 21, 2019
"Rise Up"
Choreographer: Kevin Malone

ENCORE Production
Presented at The Kennedy Center Family Theater
June 1st, 2019
"See-Line Women"
Choreographer: Ashanté Green

The Magic Kente Cloth
Presented at The Kennedy Center Millenium Stage
May 31st, 2019
Story Ballet
Choreographer: Fabian Barnes

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A FEW DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

Alicia Graf Mack (Director of Dance: The Juilliard School)
Amber Mayberry (Broadway: Lion King)
Antonio Hudnell (Step Up, Fame, Celebrity back-up dancer)
Ashanté Green (Award-winning choreographer; Current School Manager)
Daisha Graf (Step Up 2, Beyonce, Ariana Grande, Rihanna)
Daniel Harder (Alvin Ailey)
Daniel Moore (Complexions Contemporary Ballet)
Derrick Spear (Broadway: Lion King)
Joe Bunn (Ballet im Revier in Germany)
Sierra Jones (Dallas Black Dance Theater)

Courtesy of DIW Alumnus, Daniel Moore
LOOKING TO CONNECT WITH THE DANCE INSTITUTE OF WASHINGTON?

Please reach out to our Communications Manager at ccamargo@danceinstitute.org or contact us via social media.

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