

## ARTS EDUCATION OVERVIEW

- DBDT offers conservatory-level training, as well as workshops, master-classes, lecture/demonstrations, residencies, mini-performances, student matinees and a variety of dance services at elementary, middle and high schools, colleges and universities, social service agencies, and recreational facilities within the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex and across the nation. Through its educational outreach programs, Dallas Black Dance Theatre annually serves more than 50,000 youth.
- **Dallas Black Dance Academy** offers more than 50 classes weekly to children ages 4-18, as well as adults. Classes range from beginner to pre-professional, and more than 550 students attend each week.
- Annual **Summer programs** serve over 3,000 youth (3 Dallas, 1 Austin & 1 San Antonio)
- **School Outreach** serves over 950 K-12 students through 50 residencies (6-classes) at 25 North Texas Schools
- Virtual & In-Person **Student Matinees** serve over 30,000 students.
- Arts-in-education curriculum meets the **Texas Education Agency's Texas Essential Knowledge & Skills (TEKS) arts standards**
  - (dance for grades 9-12 and theatre for K-8) of perception, creative expression, and response/evaluation.
- Launched in 2018, Espresso Nutcracker provides the **only Nutcracker of color production in DFW and the only version casting youth in all solo and principal roles**. Helps eliminate racial stereotypes and promote diversity in ballet. The **abridged one-hour story** features narration and projected images making it easily accessible for those not familiar with The Nutcracker story. Each section is set to either **Tchaikovsky's original score or Duke Ellington's jazz interpretation** from his own Nutcracker Suite. The program contains all the recognizable pieces from the Land of Sweets while also adding a **unique African component**.



## EDUCATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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- **First Presidential Scholar in Dance** in Nation in 1980; **Nine Presidential Scholar recipients** from Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts have been trained at our Academy
  - Academy feeder school for students to successfully audition for arts magnet.
- Four Dallas Black Dance Academy students have been offered full scholarships into the prestigious dance program at **The Juilliard School** in New York City
- **100% high school graduation and college attendance** for Academy alumni since 2012
- DBDT receives **Texas Medal of the Arts** for arts education in February 2017, only the third Dallas organization to receive it since its inception.
- Only modern dance company with American Ballet Theatre-Certified training
- **Espresso Nutcracker:** Only African American Nutcracker production in DFW
- Sole professional development provider for all Dallas ISD dance teachers
- **Dance Integration In-School Residency Program:** Only curriculum in Dallas to fully integrate dance with K-12 subject areas (math, science, language arts, and history) to strengthen classroom learning.



Groundbreaking initiative expanded cultural literacy by offering virtual student matinee access to all 150,000 students in Dallas ISD. Over 25,000 students (140 campuses) participated in 2022 – the equivalent of 50 in-person student matinees in the Wyly Theatre. About 50% elementary schools and 50% middle and high schools. **Positive response from DISD has led to interest from other school districts.**

### Dallas ISD Teacher Feedback:

- *"This is something most of my students have never been able to see. Between the pandemic restrictions and low socio-economic levels, this was a unique experience which all of us appreciated."*
- *"It's fair for every student and class to participate, instead of just a selected few."*
- *"We've had several discussions about racism in dance and the importance of diversifying the arts."*
- *"Students especially loved the interpretation of 'There's a Hole in the Bucket Dear Liza' which led to my kindergarteners wanting to act it out, creating their own dance."*
- *"Most of my students are of Latino and African-American heritage. They had also been learning about Dr. Martin Luther King and other icons of the Civil Rights."*
- *"My students enjoyed seeing Black dancers and appreciated the diversity in dance styles."*

### Education Initiative Expansion:

- Expand virtual student matinees to additional school districts across the nation.
- ODETTA available on-demand to all students for 2 weeks in February 2023.