

BALLET ARIZONA

IB ANDERSEN ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Community Engagement Impact Report 2023-2024

Community Engagement's Mission

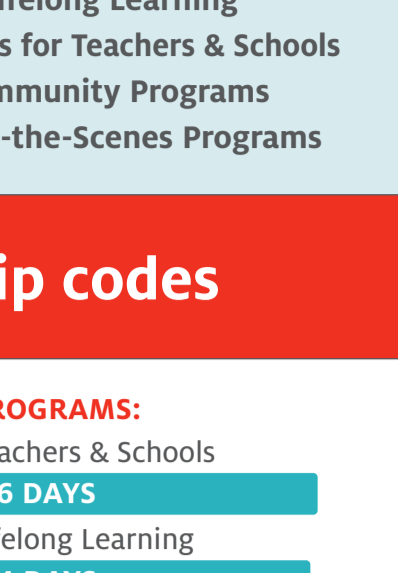
Ballet Arizona seeks to educate communities about the transformative power of dance. Through our work we strive to empower individuals to engage more deeply with the art form and eliminate barriers to participation that prevent people from experiencing dance.



EDUCATE



INSPIRE



IMPACT

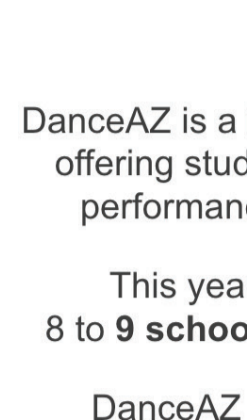


25,662 ARIZONA RESIDENTS SERVED

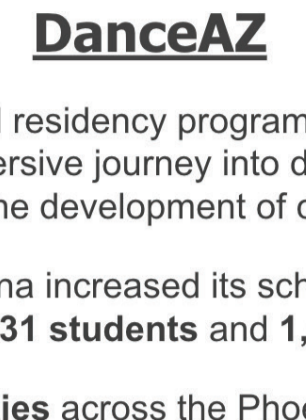
15 PROGRAMS

Lifelong Learning Programs for Teachers & Schools
Community Programs
Behind-the-Scenes Programs

Schools served in **67** zip codes



410 HOURS spent engaging with the community

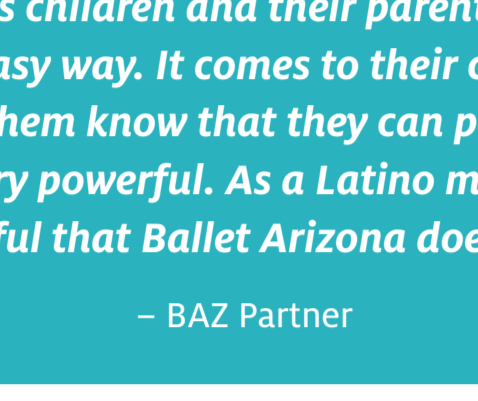
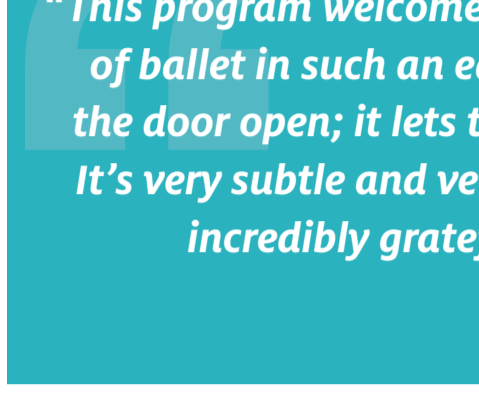


210 DAYS of programming

PROGRAMS:

Teachers & Schools
96 DAYS
Lifelong Learning
94 DAYS
Community Programs
112 DAYS

PROGRAMS FOR TEACHERS & SCHOOLS



Photos by David Knox

DanceAZ

DanceAZ is a free in-school residency program tailored for Title 1 schools, offering students an immersive journey into dance, choreography, and performance fostering the development of character-building skills.

This year, Ballet Arizona increased its school partnerships from **8 to 9 schools** reaching **131 students** and **1,097 audience members**.

DanceAZ reaches **6 cities** across the Phoenix Metropolitan Area!

FUN FACT!

Over **13,000 pounds** of flooring were installed and removed at DanceAZ performances.



"This program welcomes children and their parents to be part of the world of ballet in such an easy way. It comes to their community and leaves the door open; it lets them know that they can participate if they want. It's very subtle and very powerful. As a Latino man and as a father, I'm incredibly grateful that Ballet Arizona does what they do."

- BAZ Partner

Student Matinees

This season, Ballet Arizona's Nutcracker Student Matinee reached **5,819 students, teachers, and chaperones**.

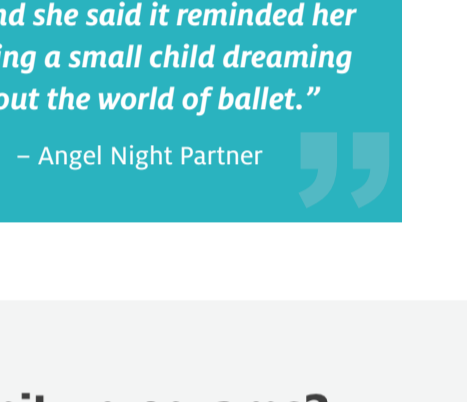
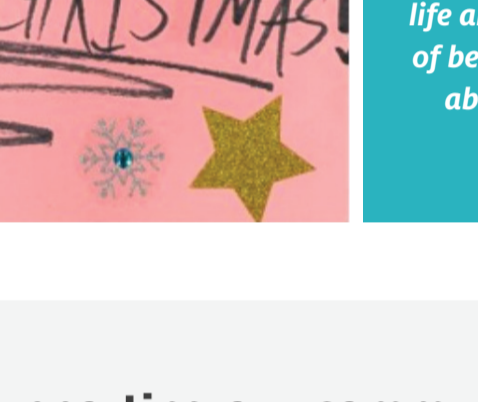
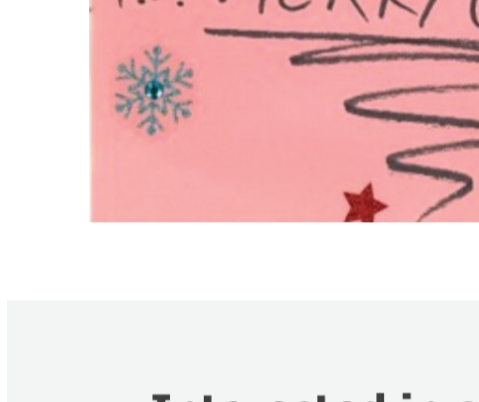
All three Nutcracker Student Matinee shows at Symphony Hall sold out!

SOLD OUT

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Ballet Under the Stars & Class Act

Ballet Under the Stars brings fully staged performances to local-area parks around the Valley, making dance free and accessible to the Arizona community.



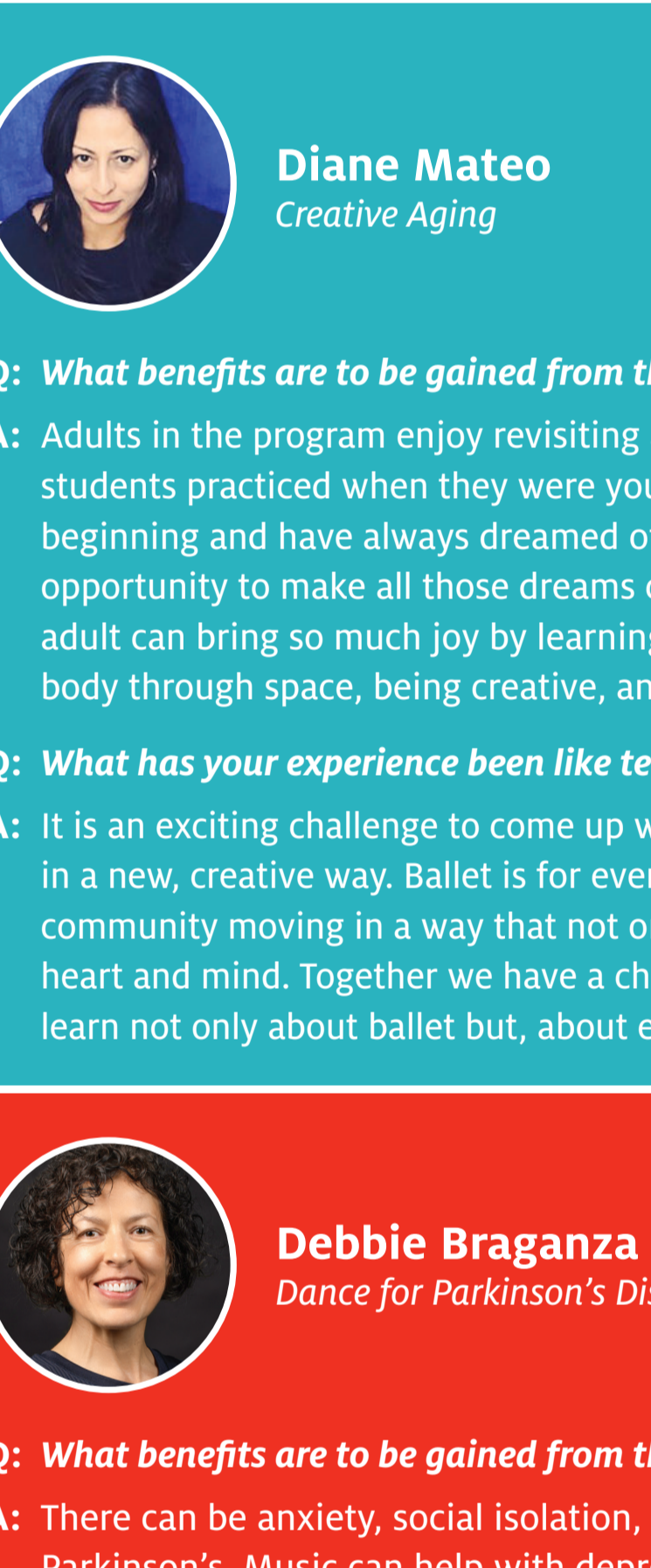
In conjunction with Ballet Under the Stars, Ballet Arizona partners with four elementary schools to bring Class Act to 3rd and 4th grade students.

This year, Class Act provided **72 local elementary school children** with the opportunity to dance, create, and perform under the guidance of Ballet Arizona's dancers at the Ballet Under the Stars performance.

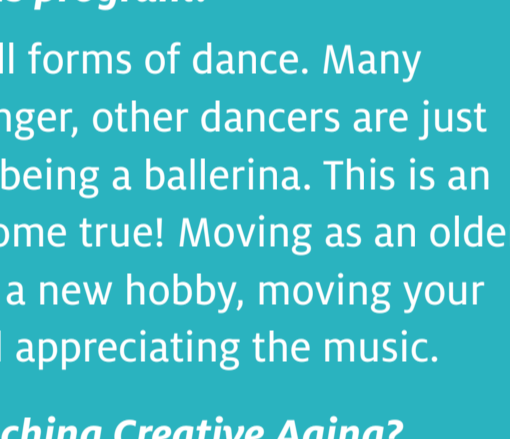
Photos by David Knox

Angel Night

Ballet Arizona collaborates with social service and veteran organizations to distribute complimentary tickets to children and families, providing them with the opportunity to experience our mainstage productions at no cost.



90 ORGANIZATIONS participated in Angel Night



"We were able to bring along with us my granddaughter's great grandma who is 89. The great grandma had never been to a ballet performance in her life and she said it reminded her of being a small child dreaming about the world of ballet."

- Angel Night Partner

Interested in supporting our community programs?

Click the button below to bring Ballet Arizona's mission to life in our community.

Make your Impact Today!

LIFELONG LEARNING PROGRAMS

This season has seen extraordinary participation in two of our Lifelong Learning initiatives: Creative Aging and Dance for Parkinson's Disease.

53 individuals participated in our Creative Aging through Dance program, working to build strength through mind and body, flexibility, and resilience.

39 individuals living with Parkinson's Disease and their caregivers participated this year, finding support, respite, and community through the practice of dance.

Talking with our Teaching Artists!



Diane Mateo

Creative Aging

Q: What benefits are to be gained from this program?

A: Adults in the program enjoy revisiting all forms of dance. Many students practiced when they were younger, other dancers are just beginning and have always dreamed of being a ballerina. This is an opportunity to make all those dreams come true! Moving as an older adult can bring so much joy by learning a new hobby, moving your body through space, being creative, and appreciating the music.

Q: What has your experience been like teaching Creative Aging?

A: It is an exciting challenge to come up with ways to introduce material in a new, creative way. Ballet is for everyone! My hope is keeping our community moving in a way that not only benefits the body, but also heart and mind. Together we have a chance to share and continue to learn not only about ballet but, about each other's lives.



Debbie Braganza

Dance for Parkinson's Disease

Q: What benefits are to be gained from this program?

A: There can be anxiety, social isolation, and depression with Parkinson's. Music can help with depression and anxiety. Dance can help with socialization. The students are focused on learning new movements and combining them with the music.

Q: What has your experience been like teaching Dance for Parkinson's Disease?

A: I'm inspired every class when I see a group or even just one person achieve something that didn't think they could do. We have built a community that supports one another and shares a passion for dance. They are family to me, I'm proud to be a part of the PD community!

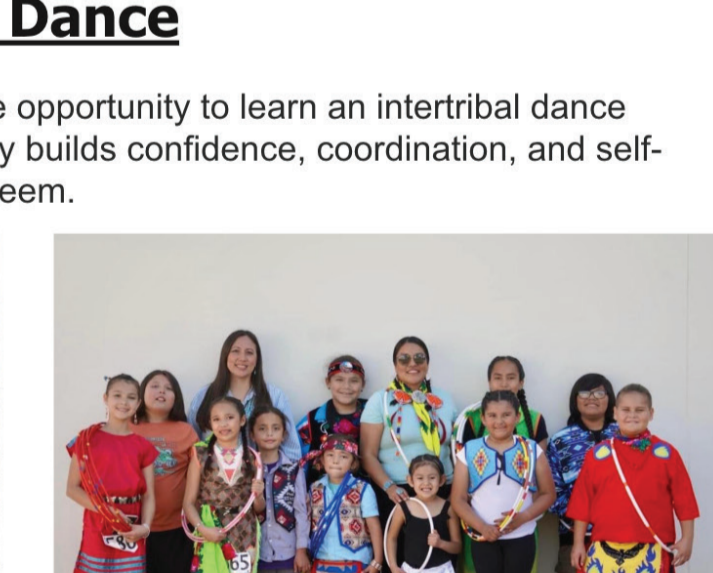


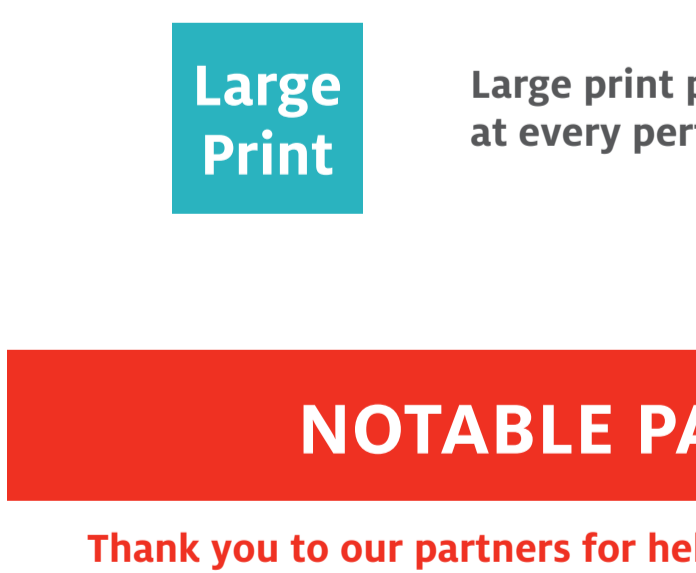
Photo on Left: Diane Mateo and Creative Aging participants
Photo on Right: Debbie Braganza and Dance for Parkinson's Disease participants

"The Dance for Parkinson's Disease program has made a huge difference in our lives. Part exercise, physical therapy, social contact and support. The joy of sharing dance and music with others who appreciate this is especially valuable to people with Parkinson's"

- Dance for Parkinson's Disease Participant

Hoop Dance

33 Native American students had the opportunity to learn an intertribal dance rooted in a cultural tradition that ultimately builds confidence, coordination, and self-esteem.

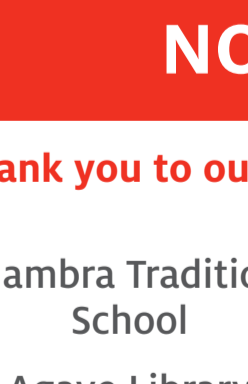


"This has been an incredible opportunity for both of us to grow. The children are able to take part in their culture in a way they have not been able to before. They love learning about their history!"

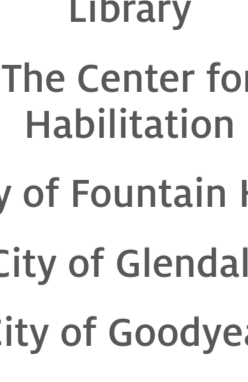
- Hoop Dance Parent

ACCESSIBILITY

Ballet Arizona strives to improve accessibility for all members of our community.



ASL Interpretation was provided at all Student Matinee and Studio Spotlight events.



OTOJOY T-Loop system available in Ballet Arizona's Dorrance Theater.

Large Print

Large print programs were provided at every performance.

NOTABLE PARTNERSHIPS

Thank you to our partners for helping bring ballet to the community!

Alhambra Traditional School

Desert Broom Library

McDowell Mountain Elementary

Agave Library

Desert Sage Library

Mesquite Library

Burton Barr Central Library

Don Mensendick School

Sagewood

The Center for Habilitation

Estrella Mountain Elementary

Saguaro Library

City of Fountain Hills

Freedom Plaza

Scales Technology Academy

City of Glendale

Hartford Elementary

South Mountain Library

City of Goodyear

Hohokam Elementary

Sundance Elementary

City of Phoenix

Ironwood Library

Wilson Primary

Juniper Library

Wilson Elementary

Kenilworth Elementary

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