

Amanda Selwyn • Notes in Motion Dance Theatre

Annual Report

Fiscal Year
2023-2024



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2023-2024 Annual Report

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From our Artistic/Executive Director

Amanda Selwyn Dance Theatre/Notes in Motion is rooted in our mission of offering access, nurturing community, and promoting individual expression and freedom. Our dance education programs in the NYC schools offer students tools to express themselves, engage with their peers, and gain a more well rounded school experience. Through sharing and providing access to this inclusive learning model, we are engaged in the critical work of breaking down barriers of systematic racism and oppression. We actively recruit diverse teaching artists, dancers, staff, and board to reflect, empower, and celebrate the diverse populations we serve. We are steadfast in our commitment to equity and change and driven to show up with vulnerability in an open dialogue with our schools, audiences, patrons, volunteers, and supporters. It is a privilege to share the joy of dance, offering students and audiences in-roads to discover inspiration, meaning, and joy. We continue into our third decade of dance-making, sharing, and educating with a dedication to foster equality, access, and opportunity to all.



Amanda Selwyn

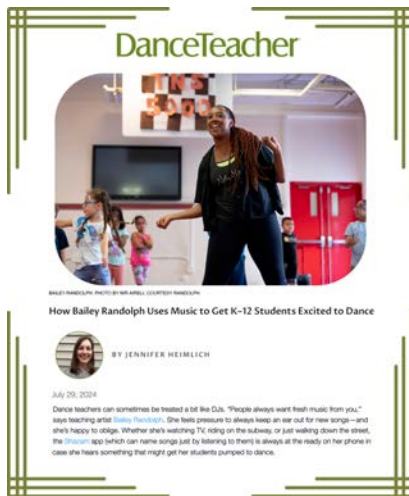
This Season, we premiered the evening-length work *Habit Formed* at BMCC Tribeca Performing Arts Center. The piece explored how habits are created and broken in our lives. These habits can manifest strength, ease, and freedom and also create limits, boundaries, and affliction. The piece was set in a world of shifting physical structures (cages, netting, rocks) and lingered between the comfort of routine and the desire for change, as dancers broke away from established patterns and embarked on solo journeys of self-discovery. In *Habit Formed*, the ensemble moves from moments of synchrony to disruption, illustrating the tension between conformity, individuality, and the struggle for freedom from ingrained patterns. The piece traverses a spectrum of emotions associated with habits, from euphoria to restlessness to liberation. The ultimate journey of the work is a story of discernment, unpacking how we can be empowered by intentional habits and not impaired by them.

Organizational Mission

Amanda Selwyn Dance Theatre/Notes in Motion presents dynamic dance theatre productions that activate emotional expression. Through an interplay of athletic and articulate motion, we present theatrical and immediate works that engage audiences from start to finish and beckon a response of thought, feeling, and soul. Our education program, Notes in Motion, brings inclusive dance programs to the NYC Public Schools in styles including modern, ballet, tap, jazz, hip hop, Latin, African, and more. Programs are united by our singular approach to dance education, *The Movement Exchange Method*, which combines technical instruction with creative skill-building and collaborative learning. We aim to provide access to the art form of dance to inspire the next generation of dance appreciators.

A Year of Growth

In the last three years, we have grown from 25 dance education programs/20 school partners per year to 125 programs/60 school partners. In 2023-2024, Notes in Motion served 8,000 students delivering 3,000 program sessions in-school, after-school, and community events throughout NYC. This year, Amanda Selwyn Dance Theatre was awarded a CUNY Dance Initiative Residency and our 24th Annual Performance Season *Habit Formed* was presented at BMCC Tribeca Performing Arts Center March 1-2, 2024. The premiere was followed by our season Gala *In Partnership* where we honored longtime video collaborator, Zachary Ludescher and the Principal from one of our strongest school partnerships, PS 126 Bronx's Luis Quan. We previewed the piece at an Open Rehearsal at Gibney, in New Paltz at *Dance on the Pond*, in East Hampton for *Green Afternoon*, and at 8 of our school partners as Notes in Motion Community Programs. As we gear up for our 25th anniversary, we are deepening our multi-generational community programs, expanding our City Council and school partners, planning an international tour to Tarbes, France, and continuing to expand the accessibility and inclusivity of all of our programming. With 45 Company Teaching Artists working throughout the year, we reached the 220,000 students reached mark. We completed the year with a huge milestone -- in August 2024, we signed a lease for our own studio space in Tribeca and have set the stage for a new era for the organization.



Randolph even looks up tracks she doesn't necessarily love herself because she knows that not all of her students will share her own preferences. "When I'm picking music for teaching, I try to not latch on to only the things that I like," she says. "I try to be open to everything."

More importantly, Randolph wants to make sure she's branching out from her own culture to find tunes that reflect the genres she's teaching. For instance, she's recently been teaching Afrobeat classes in New York City public schools through choreographer Amanda Selwyn Dance Theatre/Notes in Motion, so she searches specifically for African artists to play. "I like highlighting African artists because then students want to go and look them up," she explains. "I feel like that's really important to teach students to be more inquisitive about artists."

The music Randolph chooses for K-12 students is also somewhat different from what she'd play at a private dance studio. "When I used to teach at a studio, I would look for music that had strong and bold and different accents," she says, adding that she'd look for tracks with lyrics that would help her teach the students how to "point the music" with their bodies. But with public school students, she focuses more on getting them to accent the beat and move with their whole bodies, so she gravitates to upbeat songs with strong, clear musical dynamics.

That doesn't mean she ignores musicality, though. She might instruct her students to focus on one particular instrument at a time, or closely listen to a certain accent in the rhythm. "It really helps young students in kindergarten through fifth grade to latch on to something," she explains. Other times, Randolph might have them clap out the rhythm, then put that rhythm into a particular body part, like the shoulders or the cage. Or she'll ask them to try to dance the "opposite" of the rhythm. "Usually I get running around or just shaking," she admits, with a laugh.

Music isn't only reserved for dancing in her classroom, though. If she sees students are getting overwhelmed at any point, she'll turn to a dedicated meditation playlist she's made, and choose a song that will help the room calm down with a mid-class meditation moment. Other times, she'll set a welcoming vibe before class with a popular, up-tempo song that the kids know in order to provide something familiar, so that dance class doesn't feel intimidating.

And when it's time to dance, she turns on something upbeat that makes her students want to move. "I always pick something that makes the kids feel energized," she says. "This is their time to dance in school!"



Go-To Songs for Class

Here, Randolph shares some of her favorite tracks in a Spotify playlist she made specifically for DanceTeacher+. They span from soca songs for Afrobeat classes to rhythmic music she likes for contemporary. But all are kid-friendly, often largely instrumental, and any that do have lyrics focus on positive messages.



'Follow the Leader' by The Notors

"This is my best warm-up song for young kids because it has instructions in it, it hands up, down, and then move left to right. And I've incorporated variations into that instead of just doing a march. I can acknowledge the possibility of the song, but also put in some core values of Afrobeats, which is emphasis on isolating a body part to a beat and dancing within your community."

'Awww' by Black Kiki and Mic Flammer

"There's not a lot of lyrics to this song. It's more instrumental, which is good for working in schools because sometimes there's a lot of explicit lyrics or a message that you don't want. I use this a lot for my Afrobeat classes. I like that it's very clearly an African song. It's got a consistent beat, but there are also vocal breaks in the music—those are always good times to change up the choreography. And it's always a big hit because the beat is just contagious and happy."

'It Runs Through Me' and 'Disco Yes' by Tom Misch

"I love Tom Misch's stuff because, first of all, there's no curse words that I have to blur out. He also uses lovely rhythms. His music almost pulls on Afrobeat culture and Black culture the way that there's a constant drum line through it. It's bright, but also calm."

Diversity, Equity, Access & Inclusion

At Amanda Selwyn Dance Theatre/Notes in Motion, Diversity, Equity, Access, and Inclusion is a direct reflection of our values and the work we do creatively, artistically and in the communities we serve. We aim to be thoughtful, transparent and intentional at creating a more inclusive organization. Through tracking data/metrics, seeking out ongoing community training, and fostering engagement within the diverse constituencies in the organization, we wish to lead the way towards positive change at this critical time in our culture. We are committed to advancing, cultivating and preserving a culture of diversity, inclusion and belonging; it makes us a stronger, more impactful organization and it directly aligns with our mission to inspire, magnify humanity, and engage community through dance.

Amanda Selwyn • Notes in Motion Dance Theatre

2023-2024: a year of dance making, sharing, and educating...

Over **9,290** students served

3,477
Dance Classes

62
Teaching Artists

71
Public Schools

120
Distinctive Programs

34
Community Events

18%
Multi-Language
Learners

21%
Students with
Disabilities

25
Countries
represented by
artist, staff and
board

African Dance, Ballet,
Capoeira, Hip Hop,
Jazz Latin Dance,
Indian Dance,
Modern, Musical
Theatre, Tap, Yoga

95
Artists
Employed

4
Professional Development
Workshops

15
Amanda Selwyn Dance Theatre
Performances

1
Feature in
Dance Teacher+

24
Years of
Creating Dance

1
Master Class at Tribeca
Performing Arts Center

Over **2,665** audience members



Manhattan

PS 63 STAR Academy, PS 333, British International School of New York, East Village Community School, Manhattan Center for Science and Math High School, The Earth School, The Neighborhood Earth School, The Urban Assembly School for the Performing Arts



The Bronx

PS 18, PS 41, PS 53, PS 78, PS 83, PS 126, PS 310 Marble Hill School, Bronx Career & College Preparatory High School, PS Collegiate Institute for Math and Science



Queens

PS 2, PS 46, PS 63, PS 89, PS 177, PS 182, PS 186, PS 199, PS 211, PS 223, PS 376, PS 330, PS 499, Cambria Heights Academy, The Children's Lab School, Flushing International High School, Rockaway Park High School for Environmental Sustainability, The Magnet School of Global Studies and Leadership, Young Women's Leadership School



Brooklyn

PS 44, MS 51, PS 11, PS 114, PS 124, PS 135, PS 152, PS 153, PS 219, PS 208, PS 233, PS 235, PS 244, PS 274, PS 276, PS 279, PS 315, MS 484, MS 890, Bushwick Leaders' High School, Brooklyn Community School for Excellence and Equity, Brooklyn Independent Middle School, Cypress Hills Collegiate Prep., Frederick Douglass Academy VII High School, Liberty Avenue Middle School, Multicultural High School, Vista Academy



Staten Island

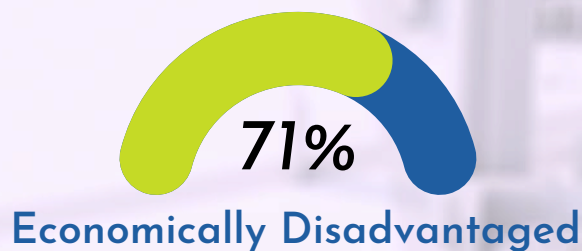
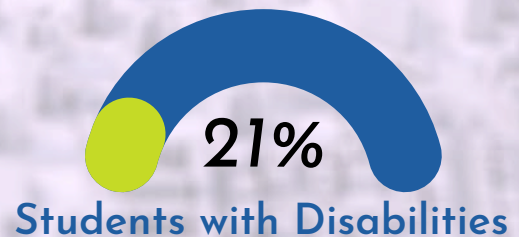
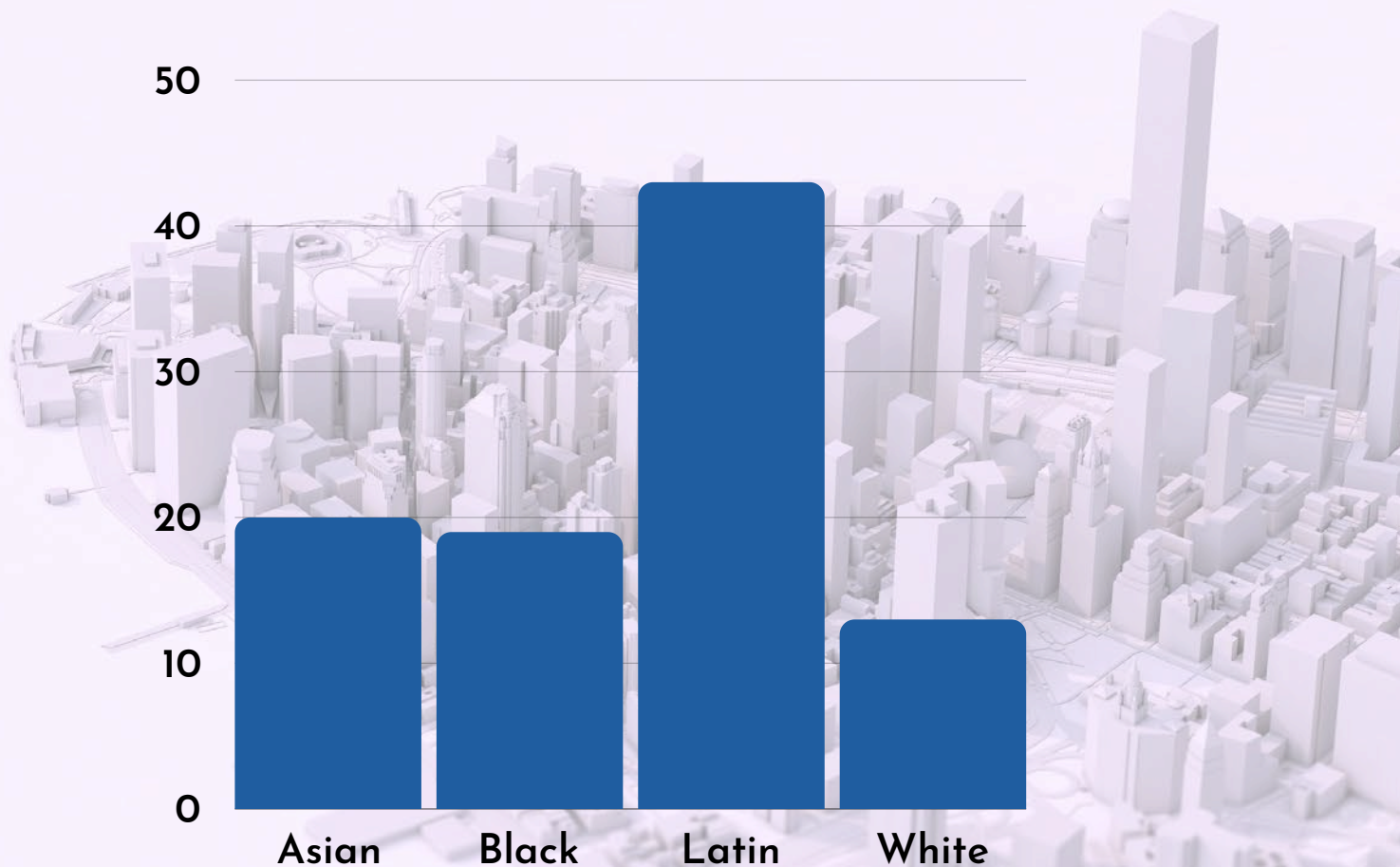
PS 26, IS 49

58,648

2023-2024 Students Served

223,651

2000-2024 Students Served



Notes in Motion

School Year 2023-24 Student Reflections

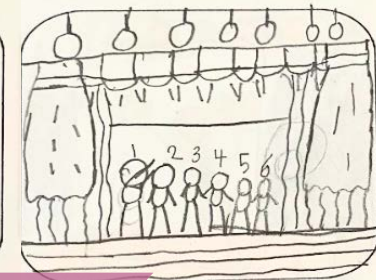
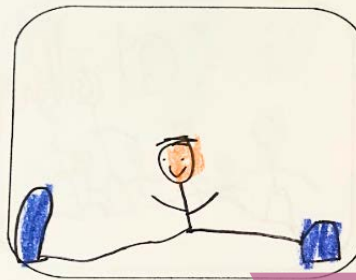
"I loved the new experience. It really helped me break out of my comfort zone. The dances were fun to learn and enjoyable. When learning the Chorus Line and all the Jazz, I wasn't exactly confident about myself, but as time come by, I started to become more"

- PS 78 Bronx, Student

What are your favorite things you learned in dance class?

Jazz Square

step1 → Step2
↑
step4 ← step3



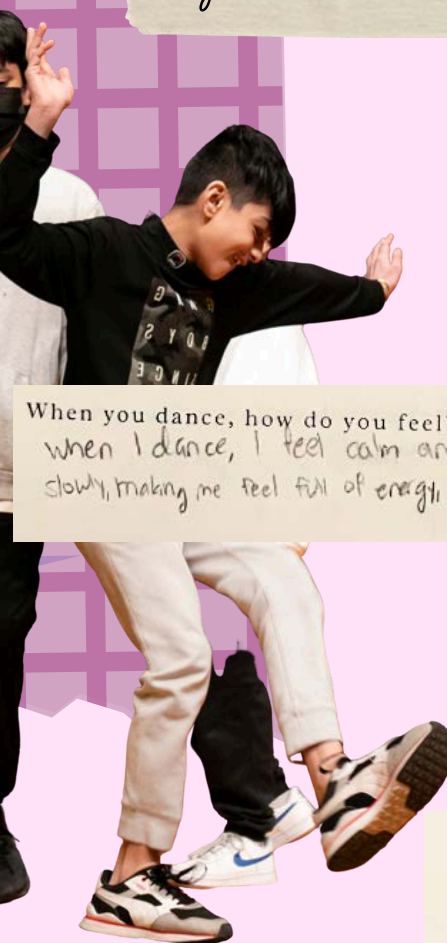
I Love it so much
when im sad
i dance it helps me.

When you dance,
how do you feel?

When you dance, how do you feel? Write or draw your feelings:
when I dance, I feel calm and relaxed. I automatically begin inhaling and exhaling slowly, making me feel full of energy, yet still calm.

Please share three words to describe what dance means to you:

~ Embracing Art
~ Letting yourself to be free
~ Being flexible with music and culture



Notes in Motion

School Year 2023-24 Classroom Teacher Reflections

"Our students have expressed that their dance classes are therapy for them!" - Cambria Heights Academy Queens, Classroom Teacher

Students learned about Bollywood dance and the culture it originated from. This had great impact on reaching our goal to expand students' knowledge and appreciation of cultures around the world and their customs. Students were also able to expand their listening, attention, and kinesthetic skills. - PS 63 Queens, Arts Teacher



We've recently become a Magnet School for Engineering and Design. This dance experience has helped merge/connect the concepts of engineering and design. Choreography is about breaking a dance down into the basic elements, like the shapes you make with your body, the spaces you occupy as you move about the stage, and the timing—rhythmic or not—of your movements. Our students learned to build and design through to create meaning through dance. - PS 44 Brooklyn, Assistant Principal



The students experiences in dance fostered a sense of community within our participating students. Notes in Motion helped them to work on skills that are necessary for learning successfully in all subject areas. Some of these skills include: collaboration, creativity, communication, expanding their cultural awareness and building character.
- PS 114 Brooklyn, Classroom Teacher

"My students really enjoyed the dance program and were extremely excited to perform. Ms. Julia was patient, and kind. As a Special Education teacher, I was thoroughly impressed with the experience she had with different kind of learners. They learned how to better collaborate. Learn routines and patterns. Incorporate and remember new ideas." - PS 41 Bronx, Classroom Teacher

Notes in Motion School Year 2023-24 Family Reflections

Please describe something you learned or a memorable moment from Notes in Motion's Community Program.

The memorable moment for my husband and I was the connection of school community through dance.



Notes in Motion's Dance program had a very emotional/outstanding growth in my daughter's daily activities. She has become more active, playful, and very interactive w/ other people.

The impact that Notes in Motion programs have had on my child is magical. My child is less shy to interact, dance, perform, and sing in front of crowds. She is absorbing it all like a sponge and enjoying every minute of it. - PS 376 Queens, Parent

Thank you for the opportunity to dance during the school day. NIM dance classes are not only physical activity but they help kids to be more confident, improve their emotional state, and improve relationships between children." - PS 152 Brooklyn, Parent

3. Please describe the impact/personal growth that Notes in Motion's Dance program had on your child:

Social emotional growth
physical awareness / spatial awareness
more flexible.

The Notes in Motion dance program has turned our living room into a dance studio. Our daughter showed so much excitement for this program and it has given her one more thing to look forward to. I definitely recommend this program continue for many years to come."
- PS 63 STAR Academy Manhattan, Parent



2023-2024 Season | Community Performances & Events

A Night for Our Future

September 22, 2023 | One Art Space, NYC

Dance on the Pond

September 30, 2023 | New Paltz, NY

Community Performance

February 1, 2024 | Cypress Hills Collegiate Prep. Brooklyn

Choreography Workshop: Motifs & Structures

February 21, 2024 | Tribeca Performing Arts Center, NYC

Habit Formed World Premiere

March 1-2, 2024 | Tribeca Performing Arts Center, NYC

In Partnership | 24th Season Gala

March 2, 2024 | Smyth Tavern, NYC

Latin, Bollywood, & Caribbean Dance Around the World

May 8, 2024 | PS 63 Queens

Afro-Beats, Hip-Hop, & Latin Around the World

May 9, 2024 | Bushwick Leaders Brooklyn

American Line Dance & K-Pop Around the World

May 10, 2024 | PS 376 Queens

Asian-Pacific Month Dance Celebration

May 14, 2024 | Cypress Hills Collegiate Prep. Brooklyn

Amanda Selwyn Dance Performance & Fitness Workshop

May 17, 2024 | PS 200 Queens

Afro-Caribbean, Contemporary, & Latin Around the World

May 19, 2024 | PS 333 Manhattan

African, Latin, & Modern Dance

May 22, 2024 | PS 315 Brooklyn

Dance Therapy Workshop

May 23, 2024 | Cambria Heights Academy Queens

K-Pop, Latin, & West African Dance Around the World

May 29, 2024 | PS 46 Queens

African Dance Workshop

June 5, 2024 | PS 124 Brooklyn

African, Indian & Latin Dance Around the World

June 11, 2024 | PS 199 Queens

An Improvisation with Strings

June 13, 2024 | Cypress Hills Collegiate Prep. Brooklyn

Father's Day Rodeo Line Dance Fun!

June 14, 2024 | PS 177 & District 75 PreK Queens

Amanda Selwyn Dance Theatre Performance + Q&A

June 22, 2024 | PS 182 Queens

Green Afternoon XI

July 13, 2024 | East Hampton, NY





"Selwyn has managed to produce sincere, personal works year after year for two decades—no small feat."
— *The New Yorker*

"Choreographically Amanda's point of departure is not an image or a gesture, but a theatrical imperative felt in her insistence on expression." — *Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival's Pillow Pages*

"Amanda Selwyn is a master at illustrating the symbiosis of sound and movement, the romance of motion and emotion – she had me laughing, crying, cringing and gasping all in the short 55-minute production."
— *Inside New York*

Select Repertory Works:

Habit Formed (2024) | Threads (2022) | Hindsight (2020) | Crossroads (2019) | Refuge (2017) | Renewal (2015) | It's a Game (2013) | Detour (2012) | Five Minutes (2011) | Passage (2010) | Undercurrent (2009)

Board of Directors 2023-2024



Sandy Forbes, Board Co-Chair
Property Manager, Cushman & Wakefield

Tembi Sibanda, Board Co-Chair
Global Chief Data Officer, Arup

Marie Etienne, Secretary
Real Estate Broker, Compass

Erika Roegies, Treasurer
COO, University of the People

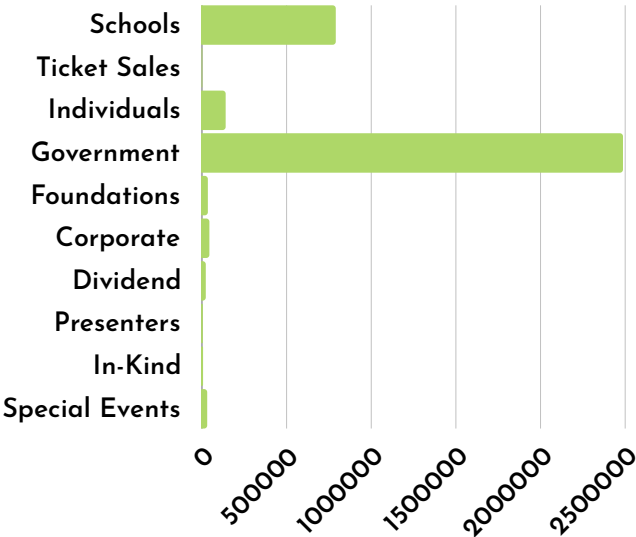
Amanda Selwyn, Artistic/Executive Director

Shircara Stewart
Senior Level Global Project Management Consultant

Financial Snapshot

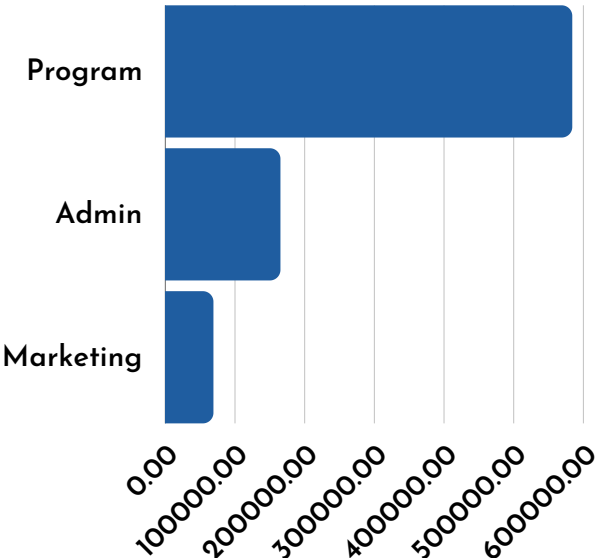
Fiscal Year 2023-2024

Revenue

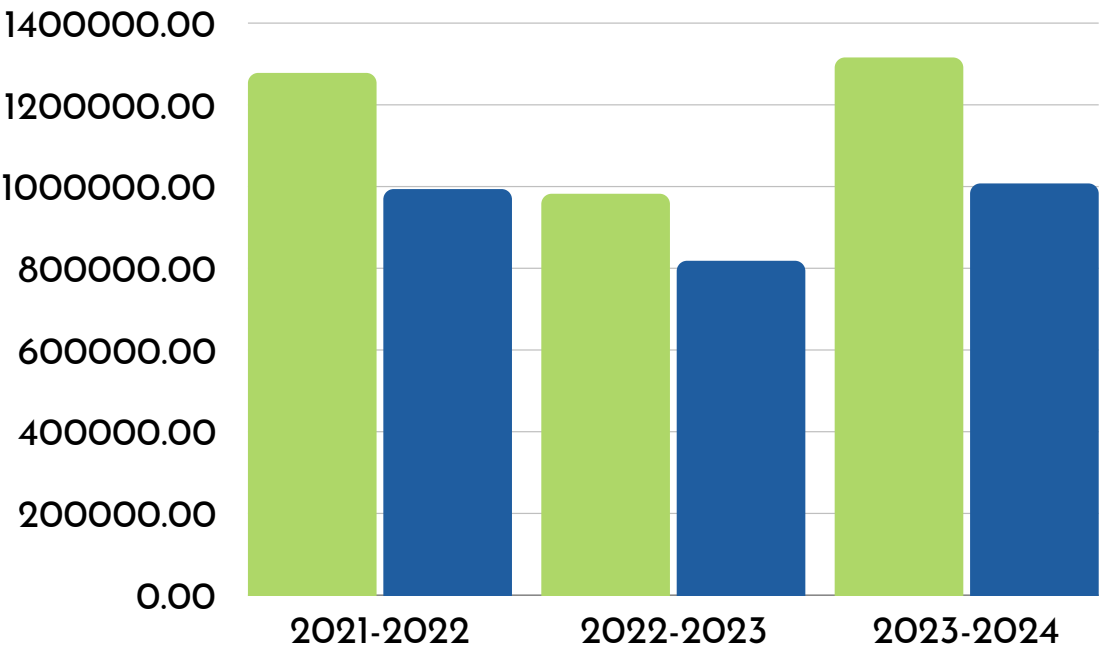


Total Revenue
\$1,315,040.50

Expenses



Total Expenses
\$1,007,627.24



2023-2024 Supporters

Beacons ~ \$10,000 +

Anonymous
BFB Architect
Marie Etienne
Sandy Forbes
New York City Department of Cultural Affairs
New York State Council for the Arts
NY City Council Member James Gennaro
NY City Council Member Farah Louis
NY City Council Member Kevin Riley
NY City Council Member Carlina Rivera
NY City Council Member Althea Stevens
NY City Council Member Marjorie Velazquez
NY City Council Member Inna Vernikov
O'Donnell Green Music and Dance Foundation
Titanium Scaffold Services
West Harlem Development Corporation

Visionaries ~ \$5,000 - \$9,999

Mark D. Selwyn and Susan Stayn

Director's Circle ~ \$1,000 - \$4,999

Absolute Electric
Belfor
Boca
Eric Derector
DNA Contracting LLC
DTM Drafting & Consulting Services, Inc.
Equinox
Genesis Flooring Systems
The Harkness Foundation for Dance
Harvard Maintenance, Inc.
Hillmann Consulting, LLC
Johnson Controls
Johnson and Johnson Foundation
Justin Leisenheimer
Manon Hallay
Manulife Investment Management/John Hancock
Montroy DeMarco Architecture, LLP
M&S Mechanical Services, Inc.
Nouveau Elevator
Lynn Modell
Oasis Day Spa
Palladium Window Solutions
Elizabeth T. Peabody
Pejo Glass Art
Steve and Georgianna Roberts
Erika Roegies
Eric and Fran Rosenfeld
Robert Speranza
Stembile Sibanda
Shircara Stewart
Quest Builders Group
Waste Connections

Collaborators ~ \$500 - \$999

AB Energy Partners
Robert Catalano
Sara B. Chase
Guardian Service Industry
Lisa and Chris Gibbons
Rachel Marchica
Chandru Murthi
Christopher Realmuto
Min Kim and Chris Reuning
Paul Sabbatini
Tribeca MedSpa
Wendy Lubin Family Gift Fund

Soloists ~ \$250 - \$499

Russell Baskin
The Benevity Community Impact Fund
Cinnamon Chambers
Douglas J. Deshong
Danielle and Michael Flynn
Noelle Dubina
Nathaniel Frank
Bayo Gbowu
Marcia Previti & Peter Gumpel
Penguin Random House
Kelly Miller
Andrea Moore
Margo Morrison
One Girl Cookies
Ricardo Rezk
Ann and Peter Seidman
Karen Selwyn
Stephen Ehrenberg and Autumn Terrill
Marcia E. Young
Raychel E. Wade

Lifters ~ \$150 - \$249

Anonymous
Peter Burrows
Marianne and Joseph Cesarotti
Carlos Cuevas
CitiBike
Catau Florent
Grandaisy Bakery
Arielle Katz
Jo Ann Kumins
Wendy and Jeff Lemcke
David Lobenstine
Michael Lockhart
Heidi B. and Matthew S. Meyers
Reed Wellness
Christina Russo
Jeremy Selwyn
John A. Stayn
Dahlia Boyarsky and Troy Shadian
Billy and Malgorzata Siegenfeld
Chad and Laura Smith
Mehul Trivedi

Movers ~ \$75 - \$149

Abby Middleton Pilates
Stephanie Vanden Bos
Brooklyn Cyclones
Miri Cohen
Katelyn Cummings
Vikesh Dalal
Sofia Engelman
Jonathan Fields
Julie Friedburg
Kurt Gosselin
Happy Boards
Ken Harada
Renee Jarusinsky
Kathryn Jourav
Patricia Kelley
Faith Koca
Kripalu Center for Yoga and Health
Pavee Kwun
Wayne LaFlamboy
Kristine M Logan
Christa Maiwald
Mandel Fund
Priscilla Newell
Pamela Pietro
Sonya Piggott
Manish Polavarapu
Samuel Pott
Jenny and Grant Powell
Edward Rodriguez
Yana Rolnik
Anne Vorce
Caleb Wheeler

Friends ~ \$1-\$74

Lori Akina
Brad Bond
Caroline Bracey
John P and Deborah L Barton
Jay Chavez
Nicole Clark
Michael and Linda Comcowich
Darren Cornelio
Brian DeAngelo
Alexander Donovan
Nadia Dowla
Cristian Moron Espadas
John and Elaine Frank
Edward and Julia R. Forhane
Vanna Gallesi
Michael Gnat
Joanna Grossman
Maureen Kaiser

Friends ~ \$1-\$74 cont'd

Rebecca S. Kelly & Craig Brashear
Andrew Liang
Audrey Lipson
Jess Lemcke
Isaac Kerr
Andrea Markstrom
Louis Dorley and Nadine Martinez
Gary McCall
Meredith McCann
Sarah McQueen
LeeAnn Miller
Bonnie and Richard Myers
Amy, Roy, and Alina Oser
Susan and Curt Picunko
Lo Poppy
Ashadur Rahaman
Susan Rainey
The Rock and Roll Playhouse
Jenna G. Mandel and Marco Ricci
Thomas Richardson
Deanna Senior
Ilia Seleznev
Claire Steichen
Miriam Straus
Shirl Davis-Susser & Howard Susser
Allen and Judith Susser
Rachel Tamarkin
Angela Tanzer
Susan Cary Tenner
Alana Marie Urda
Sadi Weir
Deborah Weltsch
Vera Wisniewski
Bryce Younger
Christopher Zuccarello



25th Anniversary Performance Season

1st Annual Golf Outing

Forest Hill Field Club, Bloomfield, NJ
September 9, 2024

Holiday Performance

Amanda Selwyn Dance Studio, NYC
Thursday, December 12, 2024

Open Rehearsal

Amanda Selwyn Dance Studio, NYC
Monday, January 13, 2025

Studio Grand Opening

Amanda Selwyn Dance Studio, NYC
January 2025

Designer Exhibition & Panel

Amanda Selwyn Dance Studio, NYC
Thursday, February 6, 2025

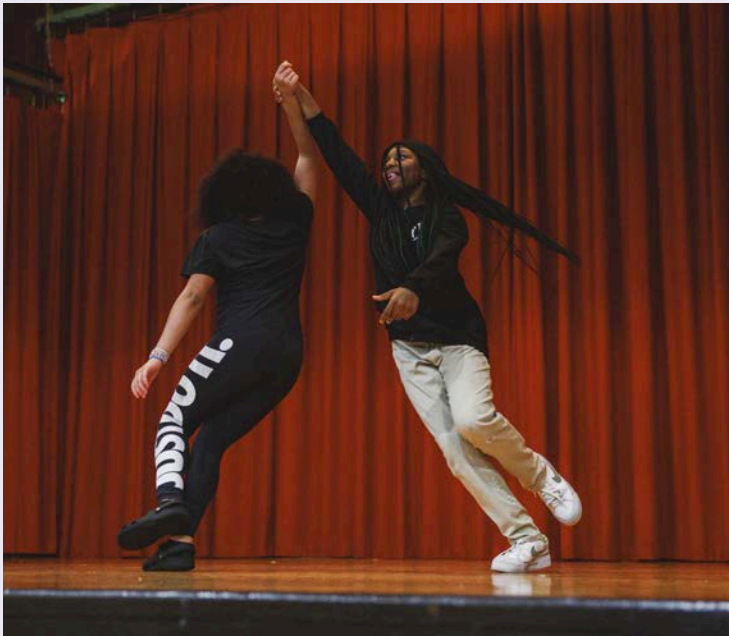
Alumni Event

Amanda Selwyn Dance Studio, NYC
Saturday, April 26, 2025

25th Annual Performance Season | Awaken World Premiere

New York Live Arts,
Thursday-Saturday, May 8-10 2025







Amanda Selwyn • Notes in Motion
Dance Theatre

412 Broadway, 2nd Floor | New York, NY 10013
amandaselwyndance.org | notesinmotion.org (212) 995-9446



Visit us on the web