



Afoutayi

Haitian Dance, Music and Arts Company.

Afoutayi Haitian Dance, Music and Arts company produces high quality events dedicated to promoting knowledge and understanding of Haitian culture, history and traditional arts. Established in California in 2009, the company relocated to Minnesota in December 2014 and continues to offer performances throughout the Twin Cities and greater Minnesota area. Founded and directed by native Haitian artists Djenane Saint Juste and Florencia Pierre, with extensive experience in dance instruction, choreography, acting, and storytelling, Afoutayi Dance, Music, and Arts Company battles the misconceptions of Haitian culture through educational and expressive arts. Together, we join to inspire and engage people of all ages to dance, drum, sing, tell stories, and experience the beauty of Haiti. For more information, please visit our website at www.afoutayidmaco.com.

TEACHING STUDENTS THROUGH ORDWAY'S ARTISTS IN THE SCHOOLS PROGRAM

www.afoutayidmaco.com



Natalia Romero Arbeláez

Experienced performer, educator, and musician.

Originally from Colombia, Natalia Romero Arbeláez is an experienced performer, educator, and musician. As an educator, she thrives in the intersection of contemporary music education and culturally relevant teaching. She is passionate about equity and access in her performing practices and strives to bring that into any collaborative space she is involved in.

Natalia's strength lies in her ability to connect and engage learners across all settings, although she is particularly fond of working with and learning from teenagers. Natalia works full time as the Choir Director at Harding Senior High School (located in Saint Paul, Minnesota) but freelances around the Twin Cities as a soprano and music director with youth theaters.

Natalia is an active performer. She can be found singing with the VocalEssence Ensemble Singers, and Border CrosSing, where she also directs a bilingual community choir called Heritage Choir. Natalia holds a Bachelor of Music from Saint Olaf College and is currently pursuing a Master of Music Education at the University of Saint Thomas.

FEATURED ON THE ORDWAY EDUCATION YOUTUBE: **WATCH NOW**

NARomero.com



Lisa Arnold

Represented by Art Resources Gallery in Minneapolis

Lisa Arnold is a teaching artist who believes that art changes people and people change the world. She encourages her students to engage with themselves and the diverse world around them by using their life experiences to create art and art experiences to create their lives. Her main goal is to empower students by honing their visual, technical, and poetic abilities. She gives students tools in art interpretation and creation so they can express themselves in positive, productive, and creative ways, both inside and outside the classroom.

TEACHING STUDENTS THROUGH ORDWAY'S ARTISTS IN THE SCHOOLS PROGRAM

@xola_arts on Instagram



Sivanuja Balaji

Artistic director and Founder of Nritya Kalakshetra School of Performing Arts

Guru Sivanuja Balaji is the visionary Founder and artistic director of Nritya Kalakshetra Academy of Performing Arts. She is a disciple of late Mr. Adyar K. Lakshman and Ms. Krishnaveni Lakshman, and studied under the legend Padma Subramaniam.

With over 28 years of dedication, she excels in teaching, performing, and choreographing various art forms. As an alumna of Kalakshetra Foundation, she has honed her skills in Bharathnatyam, Mohiniattam, folk dances of India, and Carnatic music, vocal percussion, and drums.

Ms. Sivanuja's influence goes beyond the studio. Her students showcase a diverse range of performances, from traditional Bharathanatyam to the elegance of Mohiniattam and the vigor of Kuchipudi, seamlessly integrating contemporary expressions.

In the cinematic realm, she contributed her choreographic talents to the film REFUGE, working with renowned choreographer Jennifer Aravey and award-winning filmmaker Philip Harder.

Recognized for her contributions, she serves as the coordinator for Griffin College London in Minnesota and neighboring states, Guest Artist at Ordway and Community advisory panel, and she's also a member of the Cowles Center's Program & Education Committee.

TEACHING STUDENTS THROUGH ORDWAY'S ARTISTS IN THE SCHOOLS PROGRAM

@Nrityakalakshetraacademy on Facebook | @sivanujabalaji on Instagram



Taylor Berman

Art program designed to ignite creativity, nurture artistic skills, and foster a lifelong love of art.

Taylor Berman is an artist and educator living in the St. Croix Valley of western Wisconsin. Working with his hands and spending time outdoors have been passions of his since a young age. Taylor's work consists of both aesthetic and functional art forms, from printmaking and mural painting, to knife making and fly tying. Regardless of medium, his work is often inspired by a passion for history and spending time outdoors. His creations are documentation of his learning and thought process as he discovers and explores new places, visual languages, and various aspects of the natural world.

TEACHING STUDENTS THROUGH ORDWAY'S ARTISTS IN THE SCHOOLS PROGRAM.

www.taylorbermanart.com



Center for Irish Music

Dedicated to handing down traditional Irish music to the next generation of musicians in our community

The Center for Irish Music (CIM) is a thriving nonprofit community music school based in St. Paul's Hamline-Midway neighborhood. The CIM is dedicated to handing down traditional Irish music to the next generation of musicians in our community through private lessons, group classes, and events featuring world-class artists like the Minnesota Irish Music Weekend.

This school performance features teaching artists Norah Rendell (flute, whistle, song), Brian Miller (guitar, bouzouki, banjo), Mary Vanorny (fiddle), and Danielle Enblom (fiddle, stepdance).

TEACHING STUDENTS THROUGH ORDWAY'S ARTISTS IN THE SCHOOLS PROGRAM

www.centerforirishmusic.org | @CenterforIrishMusic on Instagram



Chops Inc.

Helping School and Community Drumming Groups access Festivals and Competitions

Leveraging a 30-year history in national drum corps and percussion communities, Chops partners with local schools and educational groups to make restorative efforts come to life within Minnesota's music education sphere. Chops works with professionals and organizations throughout Minnesota to identify, mentor, and uplift underserved music educators and education programs in the urban core. With a belief that music education and the performing arts are strong vehicles for improving lives, Chops aims to ensure all have equitable access to grow through music education. Chops offers evidence-based program development, professional mentorship, and resource management services to education communities in the Twin Cities. In addition, Chops provides live performance opportunities for youth and adults from in-class drumming residencies, to economic opportunities with Panhandlers, Tin Cups, and ChopsLIVE entertainment groups.

TEACHING STUDENTS THROUGH ORDWAY'S ARTISTS IN THE SCHOOLS PROGRAM

www.chopsinc.org



Desaré Cox

Choreographer, Instructor and Red Bull Dance Your Style-MN Qualifier

Desaré Cox (she/her) is an artist native to Chicago, IL, raised in Minneapolis, MN. As a self-taught dancer inspired by the movement, spirit, and community around her, she quickly learned, through embodiment and hard work, the true nature and essence of hip-hop. Desaré believes that dance is emotions personified and a powerful language that connects us all. Through that language, her work is fueled by the intention to grant viewers a moment to feel seen, understood, and represented, while simultaneously allowing the expression of emotions and experiences—freely, and unapologetically. Currently, Desaré is teaching movement at Hothouse dance studio, is a flourishing model, forever student, and safe space; always striving to be a better teacher, artist, and human.

TEACHING STUDENTS THROUGH ORDWAY'S ARTISTS IN THE SCHOOLS PROGRAM

@chipotlayyye on Instagram



Ensamble 7/4

Seven witty music lovers thrilling audiences in and out of Venezuela.

Founded in Venezuela and currently based in Florida, Ensamble 7/4 has toured in the US and internationally throughout Europe and South America. They have recorded 5 albums; "Welcome to America" and "FestFanfaren", and are both Silver Medal winners of The Global Music Awards 2018-2020 respectively.

The group also has appeared at international festivals such as the Trumpet Festival of the South East 2022 in Atlanta, the Miami World Music Festival 2018-2021-2022, the Italian Brass Week 2012-2020; International Trumpet Guild 2015-2019, FIU Music Festival 2019, Sauerland-Herbst Brass Festival 2015-2016-2017; Miami Dade College Honor Band Music Festival 2017; Schagerl Brass Festival 2014; SBALZ Festival 2011.

As members of "El Sistema" in Venezuela, in 2015 the 7/4 toured with maestro Gustavo Dudamel and the Simón Bolívar Symphony Orchestra (SBSOV). This time, they appeared in San Francisco and Los Angeles, where they performed in concerts such as the 2015 LA Phil Opening Night Gala.

TEACHING STUDENTS THROUGH ORDWAY'S ARTISTS IN THE SCHOOLS PROGRAM

ensemble74.com | @ensemble74 on Instagram



Tamiko French

Multidisciplinary Creative, Sound Healer, Crystal Healer.

Since 2011 Tamiko French has been a multidisciplinary creative with a background in dance performance and choreography. Additionally, creating jewelry and sharing her gift with communities abroad has been a sincere passion that is now her full time business. Her love for science, nature, and the magic between them is carefully synergized with each service she delivers. Whether it be crystal consultation, crystal healing, custom functional jewelry, movement exploration, or a unique sound bath, you can discover something that illuminates your soul. Her vibrationally charged work has been featured at Rituals in Midtown Global Market, at various pop up shops, and resident at Chicago Avenue Fire Arts Center where she is a teacher and welding artist.

In 2020, Tamiko added sound healing to her array of services in response to the rising needs of safe calm space from the murder of George Floyd, and the homeless displacement where many volunteers and homeless needed some form of calm affirming her own healing journey. She has been accredited with the International Natural Healers Association and has been featured at Well Connected Twin Cities, SALT Salon and Spa, Abbott Hospital and Mother Baby Center, One Yoga, and Watershed Spa.

FEATURED ON THE ORDWAY EDUCATION YOUTUBE: **WATCH NOW**

www.soulspeakexpressions.com/lander | @soulspeakexpressions5836 on Instagram



Gaosong V. Heu

Performance artist, musician, vocalist, published writer, educator, arts administrator and entrepreneur.

Gaosong V. Heu is a Hmong American performance artist, musician, vocalist, published writer, educator, arts administrator and entrepreneur based in Saint Paul, MN.

Gaosong has over 15 years of training in Western Classical music, as well as training in traditional styles of Hmong folk music.

As a lover of all art and advocate for diversity, access and inclusion within the cultural sector, Gaosong received her B.A. in Theater Arts from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities and her Masters of Arts in Arts Administration from Columbia University, class of 2020.

Gaosong is starring in the world premiere of "The Late Homecomer," a one-woman show based on the winning novel of beloved Hmong author, Kao Kalia Yang. This show is being produced by the theater company, Literature to Life based in New York City. "The Late Homecomer" premiered in the Spring of 2021 in New York City and features a national tour across the U.S.

When Gaosong is not performing or working as a consultant, she is the Co-Owner and Chief Operating Officer of Marc Heu Patisserie Paris, St. Paul's premier destination for french desserts and pastries.

ORDWAY ARTISTS IN COMMUNITIES

www.gaosongvheu.com



Doktor Kaboom

A man who creatively blends Science, Theater arts and Comedy.

David Epley, through the character of Doktor Kaboom! performs original interactive Science Comedy shows for audiences of all ages. Creatively blending theatre arts with the wonders of scientific exploration, Doktor Kaboom! keeps his crowds riveted with interest and rolling with laughter. Join Kaboom! for a sidesplitting journey of increasingly spectacular (and often successful) science experiments designed to involve, excite, educate, and entertain.

David Epley is a native of Charlotte, North Carolina, and has been fortunate enough to discover two passions in his life.

Science, his first, took him to studies at the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics. His second, performing, became his career, and for 20 years David has made his living writing, performing, and directing original interactive theatre across the US and Canada.

David is thrilled to be able to bring his passions together and honored to share them with you. He considers himself quite fortunate to have found his calling in life and blessed to be allowed to make a living doing what he loves.

David lives in Seattle, Washington, and is the proud papa of his teenage daughter, Jindalee. He thanks his mother, Barbara, his father, Paul, and Annie, the love of his life, for their unyielding faith and loving support.

TEACHING STUDENTS THROUGH ORDWAY'S ARTISTS IN THE SCHOOLS PROGRAM

@doktorkaboom on Instagram



Tumelo Khupe

Award- and tournament-winning krump dancer

Tumelo Khupe is a krumper, emerging choreographer, and actress based in the Twin Cities area. She began focusing on her passion for performing arts while still living in Botswana, before moving to the United States to pursue a performing arts career in 2016. Through work with Maia Maiden, Darrius Brown, and more recently, Herb Johnson 111, she has become a part of the street dance community, more specifically the Minnesota Krump (MN KRUMP) community, with alias "Melo." She also works closely with mentors Wynn Fricke, Claudia Tatinge Nascimento, and Patricia Brown.

Tumelo is interested in how krump offers endless possibilities for storytelling through its technique and the language shared amongst its practitioners, and providing a shared experience that encourages community building.

With a BA in music theater and a minor in dance, Tumelo has received awards including the David Wick Leadership Award, David Wick Best Choreography Award, and The Mabel Meta Frey Outstanding Theater Artist Award, as well as first place in the first "King of the Ring" krump tournament event in Texas in 2020.

FEATURED ON THE ORDWAY EDUCATION YOUTUBE: **WATCH NOW**

@melo_kh_ on Instagram



Literature to Life

Making books come alive through performances

Literature to Life (LTL) is a performance-based literacy program that presents professionally staged verbatim adaptations of American literary classics. Founded as the educational program of the American Place Theatre more than three decades ago, LTL carries forward the legacy of founder Wynn Handman, who championed American writers of diverse backgrounds as “voices worth hearing” — a pioneering notion in the 1960s. Now under the leadership of Literature to Life co-founding Artistic Director, Elise Thoron, this mighty collective of artists and educators brings the voices of diverse authors to thousands of students and audiences nationwide, giving them the tools to become the empowered “voices worth hearing” of our future.

ORDWAY ARTISTS IN COMMUNITIES

literaturetolife.org



Sharon Liú

Art program designed to ignite creativity, nurture artistic skills, and foster a lifelong love of art.

Sharon Liú is an emerging oil painter and small business entrepreneur based in the Twin Cities area. With a BA in oil painting from China Academy of Art, Sharon’s work has been featured in “Open Door 17” at Rosalux Gallery 2022, “Untitled 17” at SOOVAC 2023, and in the Minnesota State Fair 2023 Fine Art Competition. Sharon works mainly with oil, watercolor, and charcoal. She finds deep meaning in continuously exploring her subjects and searching for more expressive techniques to stage her story. She loves working with room-sized canvases, seeing large scale work as profoundly impactful for public art. Alongside her art career, Sharon began focusing on her passion for art education in 2023, launching Artlet26, her first teaching studio, in September with the goal of providing a space for kids where creation is not limited by medium. Her curated art program is designed to ignite creativity, nurture artistic skills, and foster a lifelong love of art. She believes that art, like language, changes the way we think and helps us understand ourselves and our world.

TEACHING STUDENTS THROUGH ORDWAY’S ARTISTS IN THE SCHOOLS PROGRAM

artlet26.com



Malevo

Passionate Drummers and Explosive Dancers.

Direct from Argentina, MALEVO is an all-male group elevating Malambo traditions with urban percussion and dance. Testing strength, dexterity and agility, elements of flamenco, tango and Irish stepdance meet and the result is a performance that not only pushes the Malambo style beyond its limits but gives audiences an extraordinary visual and sensory theatrical experience unlike any other.

After being named an official Cultural Ambassador to the National Identity of Argentina and achieving numerous successes including performances in Las Vegas, New York, Paris, and London, MALEVO has appeared with Latin pop star Ricky Martin, Cirque du Soleil, and on the hit television show *America’s Got Talent*.

TEACHING STUDENTS THROUGH ORDWAY’S ARTISTS IN THE SCHOOLS PROGRAM

[@malevook](https://www.instagram.com/malevook) on Instagram



Andy Mor

Choreographer, Instructor and founder and creator of AMANIM5, LLC.

Andy Asong-Morfaw (AKA Andy Mor), founder and creator of AMANIM5, LLC; a dance brand for holding monthly dance workshops with its perks for merchandise. Originally from Cameroon, and live in Coon Rapids, MN. My style derives from African (Makossa from Cameroon) and branching to Hip Hop with other styles of dance like Jazz, Urban, and house. I have a Masters' in Project Management from St. Mary's University and I am the assistant choreographer for the Timberwolves' 612 dance crew and have choreographed for the NBA Timberwolves' dancers as a guest choreographer, performed and choreographed for actor and singer, Dua Saleh during the Timberwolves half-time from the Netflix series, "Sex Education", formal dance instructor at All day Studio, current dance instructor at Hothouse Mpls in Minneapolis while running a Health Care business as well. I have been affiliated with Mixtape, a hip-hop collaborative group at the Cowles center for 3 years, and did "Andy Mor & Cabarave " last year of 2023. I have done residency work for the University of MN (2019) and Bates Dance Festival (2023). Former cast member of "I'm From" Vol. 1 & 2 at the Southern Theatre and choreographed for Southwest High School's showcase for 2 years and South High School and have taught at University of Minnesota as a guest artist and choreographer. I have also taught and choreographed for Barrio dance in Madison, Wisconsin. My style specializes in jazz funk (collaboration of styles and movement that expresses performance, stage presence and personality in the form of choreography for intermediate and advanced levels).

TEACHING STUDENTS THROUGH ORDWAY'S ARTISTS IN THE SCHOOLS PROGRAM

@Andy.mor5 on Instagram



Jared Mikach

Pianist, Singer and Vocal Coach.

Born in San Diego, California, Jared Mikach discovered his passion for collaboration while participating in his high school choirs. He graduated from St. Olaf College with a B.A. in Music and an Asian Studies concentration studying with Dr. Ananda-Owens, and recently finished a Master's Degree in Collaborative Piano and Coaching at the University of Minnesota with Dr. Lovelace. At St. Olaf, he worked extensively with the vocal, choral, lyric opera, and theater departments. During his time at the U of M, he played for the University Singers, opera scenes, and a production of Menotti's *The Consul*, under Lara Bolton.

As a freelance pianist in the Twin Cities, Jared has worked with groups and organizations such as Border CrosSing, South Metro Chorale, Schubert Club, Mississippi Valley Orchestra, Minnesota Opera, Mill City Opera, AOT, Journey North Opera Company, and OOPS MN. One of Jared's musical passions is in studying and performing the music of Latin America and the Iberian Peninsula.

FEATURED ON THE ORDWAY EDUCATION YOUTUBE: **WATCH NOW**

@jaredmikach on Instagram



The Sampson Bros

Hoops x Health x Healing

The Sampson Bros, Lumhe & Samsosche Sampson (Seneca/Mvskoke), have been Hoop dancing for more than 28 yrs while visiting and teaching various indigenous communities throughout Turtle Island (N. America) and beyond. Witness and experience Indigenous Hoop Dance from their unique perspective, enlighten one's mind and invigorate the spirit through their evolutionary artistry. The Sampson Brothers are Indigenous citizens of the Seneca Nation (in Upstate NY) and also Mvskoke (Creek) on their father's side from Oklahoma. Dancing at Powwows throughout their lives has groomed the Bros. in the various dance styles of Grass, Fancy, Hoop, and Powwow Social Dances. Strengthening their own voice and identity through practicing culture of song and dance has allowed them to share, teach, and learn while giving respect and consideration to all walks of life. With performance experience since early childhood, the Sampson Bros. began performing outside of traditional contexts as an evolutionary step into modern Native dance. Even just after graduating high school, they began performing, along with family, with various musicians on-stage to complement the story telling capacity, as rhythms expressed and reciprocated through the body and hoops. Rock, Pop, Blues, R&B, Country and, of course, HipHop / Rap were among the genres that influenced and shaped their experiences and very well carried them throughout Turtle Island (N. America) and beyond.

TEACHING STUDENTS THROUGH ORDWAY'S ARTISTS IN THE SCHOOLS PROGRAM.

FEATURED ON THE ORDWAY EDUCATION YOUTUBE: **WATCH NOW**

sampsonbrosarts.com/home



Women's Drum Center

Bringing people together to share the powerful connection of drumming.

The Women's Drum Center (WDC) is a non-profit dedicated to serving the Twin Cities community with world percussion programs that nurture and inspire. As a small organization, WDC is operated by dedicated part-time staff, talented teaching artists, and incredible volunteers. While the Women's Drum Center functions as a woman-founded community space centering womxn, we offer programs for people of all gender identities.

Our programs currently celebrate world percussion traditions based in Ghana, Guinea, Brazil, and Japan. All WDC programs focus on health, community, and fun! Classes, drum circles, and workshops are held primarily at the WDC in St. Paul, MN. We also offer customized workshops focused on wellness, team-building, and more all around the Twin Cities area.

ORDWAY ARTISTS IN COMMUNITIES

womensdrumcenter.org