# urbanStages

## FALL 2023

**SCHOOL AGED AND FAMILY PROGRAMMING** *CLICK ON THE CLASS TITLE TO READ A FULL DESCRIPTION* 

## MOVEMENT

50 Years of Hip Hop African Dancing and Folktales African Dance and Hip Hop Art of Mime Ballet with Angelina Ballerina Bhangra Dance Clowning: Our Unique Ridiculousness Improv Dance Indian Dance Adventure Irish Dancing The Shape of Stories: Indian Myth and Movement South African Gumboot Dance Wepa! Latin Dancing Yoga for Kids

# **ARTS AND CRAFTS**

<u>The Block</u> <u>Found Object Puppet Making</u>

## **PLAYS AND STORYTIMES**

Anansi the Spider Folktales <u>Bilingual Storytimes (</u>available in Arabic, ASL, Bangla, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Kreyol, Mandarin, Quechua, Russian, Spanish, Ukrainian, Urdu, Yiddish, and other languages upon request) <u>Gates of Equality: Martin Luther King's Story</u> <u>Jungle Explorers</u> <u>Pot o' Gold: Irish Folktales</u> <u>Stories for Rebel Girls: musical tales of extraordinary women</u>

## MUSIC

Peruvian Music Party Chicana en Nueva York Drummin into Winter: Latin American Drumming From the Statue of Liberty to the Barrio: A Musical Tour of NYC The Gals who Squeeze! A musical history of women accordion players The International Animals Dance Party: A Singalong in Spanish and English The Nightingale Fam Back to School Singalong Rhythm and Sound in the Theater The Rhythms of our Roots: Drumming from Africa through the Diaspora Spanish Singalong! Story Songs from the African Diaspora

## THEATER-RELATED

Circus with Polly Exploring Voiceover: Using Our Voices and Creating Characters Face Painting with Kellianne

<u>The Family Improv Jam</u> Juggling 101 <u>Magic Alive!</u> <u>Step Into Theater Dance</u>

## **SCIENCE**

<u>Dinosaurs!</u> <u>Story of a Seed: Drawing Time</u> <u>That (Virtual) Physics Show!</u>

## 50 Years of Hip Hop



Celebrate Hip Hop's 50th birthday with miss al boogie! This intergenerational and family fun workshop explores American and global street dance styles spanning from the 70s to the present. Warm up, freestyle, learn moves, and more. We'll show dances that everyone from 5 to 50+ will enjoy! miss al boogie has been learning and exploring the culture of street dance since 1984. She's studied with some of the original Lockers, Poppers, Waakers, Bboys and Bgirls, House dance pioneers and more. (all ages)

### African Dancing and Folktales

Audience members become the storytellers in a series of African folktales as our facilitator guides them through an interactive African Dance class. Accompanied by live percussion music. (age 4+)

#### African Dance and Hip Hop

In this class for the whole family, Fritzlyn Hector will share how African dance and music are essential in the evolution of hip hop dance. By way of demonstration and participation, viewers will experience how connected African dance movements are to hip hop dance movements. Everyone will learn a few African and hip hop dance steps along the way too. (all ages)

#### Anansi the Spider Folktales

Join our storyteller for interactive folktales from both West Africa and the Caribbean following that trickster, Anansi the Spider. We'll hear creation stories and other tales that span generations and across the Atlantic Ocean, and learn how they're still so relevant today. (all ages)

#### Art of Mime

Mime is the most ancient of the performing arts, and it is also something we use every day. Have you ever played Charades with your friends? That is mime. Do you like Hip Hop Dance? Mime is a huge part of it. Let's explore all that we can say without saying a word! We'll learn basic illusions like walls and ropes and moon walking and much much more! (age 4+)

#### Ballet with Angelina Ballerina

Take your first (or second... or hundredth!) ballet class along with Angelina Ballerina! We'll meet ballet's favorite mouse, Angelina Ballerina, in one of

her books, and then join in on the fun. Learn some new ballet terms, get some stretching in, and try the same combos that Angelina tries in the book. We'll end with a fun dance party! All from your own home. This class will explore the fundamentals of ballet, fine and gross motor skills, balance, and coordination all while encouraging imagination, creativity, and a love for reading. (ages 3-6)

#### Bhangra Dance

Join us to learn the joyful folk dance from the Punjab region in India and Pakistan. This dance originated in the farms and was danced to celebrate a good harvest. The signature move of this folk dance is strong shoulder movements accompanied by big joyful hops, leaps and arm movements. The music is positive, energetic and is highlighted by the dhol drum's infectious beats! A fun interactive program for the whole family. Balle balle! In partnership with Ajna Dance. (all ages) (\$500)

#### Bilingual Storytimes (available in Arabic, ASL, Bangla, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Kreyol, Mandarin, Quechua, Russian, Spanish, Ukrainian, Urdu, Yiddish, and other languages upon request)

Welcome to a storytime in your language! Our bilingual artists are excited to share their second languages with early learners and their families. These programs consist of songs,



stories, rhymes, puppets, and crafts, intended for bilingual families. We've created successful programs in the above languages, and can likely find artists who speak additional languages if there's interest. Each artist presents their own interactive mix of movement, music, and stories. (available as a series or one off, adaptable to all ages)

#### The Block

Utilizing *The Block*, with words by poet Langston Hughes and illustrations from artist Romare Bearden's iconic eponymous collage, participants will create their own collages exploring and illustrating the blocks and communities where they live. Materials will be provided if in-person, or are easily found at home. (all ages)

#### Chicana en Nueva York

Marilyn Castillo, a Mexican American singer, will tell us her story through songs of how she became a Chicana en Nueva York. We'll learn about her sources of inspiration and what she encountered and learned on her journey to find herself in the city where all cultures collide and dreams come true. (all ages)

#### **Circus with Polly**

Run away to the circus for an afternoon with Polly! We'll start with a big group warmup, then explore different skills, such as spinning plates, partner acrobatics, and walking the tight wire. Everyone will leave with a sense of accomplishment and some new fun skills to practice! Exact activities will vary based on group size and age. All materials provided. (age 5+)

#### **Clowning: Our Unique Ridiculousness**

In this fun clowning workshop, we will practice our unique ridiculousness by exploring movement and games. In the spirit of Pride, we will express our wildest hopes and practice presenting ourselves beyond social expectations and toward freedom. We will focus on clowning basics: 1) curiosity — we will keep our eyes open for opportunity, 2) flops! — taking risks and staying open when things go wrong, 3) movement — extending our physical awareness out and having fun! This program is fun for all ages, all you need to bring is curiosity! (age 5+)

#### Dinosaurs!

Paleontologists are much like detectives, who have arrived at the scene millions of years too late. Help Robert piece together all the clues and learn about dinosaurs and many of the other prehistoric creatures that lived long ago. Movies and television may show us what we think they may have looked like, but with new discoveries comes a new understanding of how these animals lived in a world that time forgot. (ages 7-12)

#### Drummin into Winter: Latin American Drumming

Escape to the tropics on a rhythmic trip to Latin America! Using his collection of exotic instruments, percussionist Norberto Goldberg explores the tropical rhythms of Latin America, the Caribbean, and beyond, and demonstrates how these beats have shaped and been shaped by other cultures. This highly interactive workshop ends with a celebratory conga line! The program can be facilitated in Spanish if requested. (age 4+)

#### **Exploring Voiceover: Using Our Voices and Creating Characters**

Learning to use our voices is important and one way is to play with them! We will explore how the voice can be used to create characters - both in our favorite cartoons and our own

stories. We will identify common voice types in animated characters, learn how to develop our own versions, and create new voices using our imagination! (age 7+)

#### Face Painting with Kellianne

Have you ever wanted to become a character from your favorite book? What about a tiger or a fairy? Join face painter Kellianne at the library to make your craziest wishes become a reality! Perfect to celebrate a library's birthday or special celebration. (all ages)

#### The Family Improv Jam

Practicing improv theater is a great way to improve communication, create engagement, and ignite creativity - and you don't have to be an expert to get up on "stage" and have a great time. In this interactive session, parents and kids build on each other's ideas in a positive, inviting environment. Improv games are selected on site, so they can address challenges personalized to the participants' ages, from emotional awareness to recognizing complex patterns. It's a session filled with LAL: Listening, Agreement, and Laughter. (ages 5-10, parents encouraged & welcome)

#### Found Object Puppet Making

Wait, don't take out that recycling just yet! Join us in this hands-on workshop where you will learn how just about anything can be animated and brought to life as a puppet. Our puppeteer will show you how objects you might readily discard, such as bottles, cans, paper tubes, etc, can be recycled to create magical creatures. We'll end with some activities to help create your puppet's unique personality! (age 5+)

#### From the Statue of Liberty to the Barrio: A Musical Tour of NYC

Join musician Sofia Tosello on a multicultural musical tour of our very own NYC! Learn songs and stories from New York's many Latinx immigrant and diasporic communities, starting on the subway and ending with a *comparsa* in the Barrio. We'll use songs, maps, and hands-on instruments in our journey through New York. A fun musical adventure for all! (best for ages 4-10) (\$475)

#### The Gals who Squeeze! A musical history of women accordion players

What is the accordion and who plays it?? Broadway accordionist and childhood music educator Mary Spencer Knapp takes us on a musical journey to meet some of the squeeze box's best and most influential players from around the world. Together we will learn about Creole zydeco music from Louisiana's legendary Queen Ida, experimental music from the legacy of Pauline Oliveros and merengue típico from Republica Dominicana's Fefita La Grande! Get ready to dance, shake... and squeeze! (ages 4-10)



#### Gates of Equality: Martin Luther King's Story.

The story of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. as told from his speeches and writings. An intimate intro to this important historical figure. (age 8+)

#### Improv Dance

Join us for a movement class where we'll explore how movement is related to other art forms, such as painting and sound. We'll work as a group to improvise something unique, using our bodies to explore line, shape and texture of different materials, build imagination, and ultimately create a new dance piece together. (age 4+)

#### Indian Dance Adventure

Join us as we get a first taste of the dances from India including Classical, folk and Bollywood dance styles. You will learn some basic movements and also a fun dance routine suitable for all ages and levels. Experience Indian dance and culture in a way that is relatable, joyful and fun. An interactive program that will get the whole family moving! In partnership with Ajna Dance. (all ages) (\$500)

#### The International Animals Dance Party: A Singalong in Spanish and English

Join Facundo on a musical adventure around New York City! We'll "visit" the Bronx Zoo, Brooklyn Aquarium and Central Park Zoo to meet and learn songs about different animals from different countries. We'll have live music, colorful scarves for dancing, and a parachute too! Join the party! (ages 3-7)



#### Irish Dancing

Patricia McManus, Irish dancer extraordinaire, leads participants through the world of Irish

Dancing. Participants learn new steps, listen to Irish music, and discover the joy of this classic style. (age 4+)

#### Juggling 101

Want to learn a new skill? Juggling is perfect! Join us to learn what can be juggled -- from fruit to scarves to socks. If we're in person, we'll make take-home juggling balls together. If we're virtual, we'll make do with what we've got! Then we'll go through the basics so everyone will be on their way to becoming a circus professional. Don't miss the advanced tricks that will inspire you to keep practicing! (age 5+)

#### Jungle Explorers

Bianca the Butterfly is scared to fly. She journeys through the jungle to find her courage and along the way meets a monkey, Venus fly trap, and a lion who help her find inner strength. Dazzling creatures of all kinds come to life in this highly interactive song- and dance-filled performance for young people! (age 3-6) (\$300)



#### Magic Alive!

This interactive magic program, led by family favorite magician Razzle Dazzle, has every jaw-dropping magic trick in the book, and includes a comedic twist! Part magic show, that has families working to create the magic by clapping, laughing, and saying the magic words. Part lesson, as each attendee will learn some magic that they create right there in their hands. (all ages) (\$300)

#### The Nightingale Fam Back to School Singalong

Accordionist, Broadway alum and Brooklyn mom Mary Spencer Knapp's music classes for adults and children ages 0-5 are educational, eclectic and get your blood pumping! Together we will discover unique instruments, rhythms, languages and sounds from around the world. Mary's music classes are designed for you the adult as much as they are for your children - for you to feel you are in a safe space where music is neither polished nor dull, but instead spontaneous, multifaceted and fun. We will sing about snow in Spanish, clap in 5/8 rhythm and dance to Balkan accordion, creating a unique musical community and vocabulary to continue at home! \**Can be adjusted to any season* (ages 3-6)

#### **Peruvian Music Party**

Join Araceli for a music party celebrating important women of PERU. We will listen to inspiring stories, from women such as Yma Sumac, one of the best-selling Latin American recording artists in history and the best-selling Peruvian in history, and Victoria Santa Cruz, considered "the mother of Afro Peruvian dance and theatre", and then sing and dance to their music. Grammy-nominated Araceli will bring her *charango*, traditional puppets, and many rhythms to try together. The session will celebrate powerful women who inspire girls around the world. (all ages) \*can be facilitated in Spanish if requested

#### Pot o' Gold: Irish Folktales

Discover a trio of Irish stories about mermaids, leprechaun trickery, and the importance of storytelling itself. Our storyteller Tim complements the tales with original music and traditional Irish folk tunes. (age 5+)

#### Rhythm and Sound in the Theater

Jon Berger shares wisdom from his 35-year-career as a drummer and percussionist for Broadway shows, concerts, and in the recording studio. Participants will experience hands-on how percussive sound effects are used in the theater, TV, and movies to tell stories, enhance dance movement and stage action. They will stay involved with interactive activities, and even learn how to make instruments from items they have in their home. (all ages)

#### The Rhythms of our Roots: Drumming from Africa through the Diaspora

Join us on a rhythmic journey from Africa to the US! Listen to the patterns and beats that have moved around the world and been passed down through the generations, and then get a chance to try them yourselves. By the end of this workshop, the whole family will be able to drum along, using common household objects as your instruments. (all ages)

#### The Shape of Stories: Indian Myth and Movement

How do you tell a story without speaking? How do you create a mood using only your expressions? In this workshop, we will explore the symbolic hand gestures of Indian classical dance. Together we will bring the comic and cautionary tale of Mohini Basmasura to life using these dance elements. Get ready to morph into the characters of Indian mythology! (age 5+)

#### South African Gumboot Dance

Join Zamo as we embark on a journey to the streets of South Africa and learn one of the most defiant and expressive South African dance genres: Gumboot dancing. Gumboot dancing originates from the dark gold mine tunnels of South Africa where black miners who were forbidden from conversing with one another began using codified taps on their gumboots to communicate with one another. Gumboot dancing is now one of South Africa's most expressive, rhythmic and defiant dance genres. This session celebrates and honors a culture's resilience and fortitude through rhythm, movement, sound and soul! Join Ses' Zamo to learn how to reconnect to our body's full range of expression and emotion through movement and sound whilst strengthening our confidence and connection through ensemble work and play. (ages 5+)

#### Spanish Singalong!

Join Grammy-nominated musician Araceli Poma as she sings, plays and tells stories in Spanish and English. Araceli will bring her charango from her native Peru and tell us a little about her beautiful culture, with rhythms of Andean and Afro-Peruvian music. Join us for this fun way to learn. Araceli's family programs bring her passion for her traditional music and language to New York students and families. (all ages)

#### Step Into Theater Dance

In this energetic and fun musical theater dance class, students will get the experience of a theater class and dance class, all in one! Brenna will lead participants to explore popular musicals by playing theater games, learning introductory dance techniques and choreography, and learning about storytelling through movement. Join us for a first taste of musical theater! (ages 4-10)

#### Stories for Rebel Girls: musical tales of extraordinary women

A colorful original musical adaptation of Elena Favilli and Francesca Cavallo's "Goodnight Stories for Rebel Girls," featuring Broadway accordionist and singer Mary Spencer Knapp and her ensemble of musicians and dancers. Through this interactive presentation we will learn the stories of some of history's most fearless pioneers, from American aviator Amelia Earhart to South African musician and activist Miriam Makeba. \$500. (ages 4-12)

#### Story of a Seed: Drawing Time

This workshop will give families the opportunity to create art together and think about the cultural foods familiar to them. Families will have a chance to engage with seeds from foods including tomatoes, prickly pear cactus, pigeon peas, and Lenape corn. We will look at the relationships between seeds and what we eat, while making artwork about the foods we love and the people we love to eat with. (ages 4-12)

#### Story Songs from the African Diaspora

What stories do we learn from music? French-Haitian musician Anaïs Maviel explores this question as she performs traditional songs from the African Diaspora with voice, drums, and n'goni, a West African string instrument. Then she leads a Circle Singing workshop where audience members are invited to share in improvisatory, call-and-response style singing. Blending all voices has been a privileged way to gather and share stories in many traditional societies; now you can bring your own stories to the table and engage in collective harmony. (age 6+)

#### That (Virtual) Physics Show! (Only available virtually)

Lifetime professional physics demonstrator David Maiullo brings his scientific "magic" from the world of physics to the stage. That Physics Show is based on hundreds of physics experiments presented at physics conferences and in classrooms across the country. Learn what damage a ping pong ball can do as it hurdles 700 miles an hour through a vacuum tube, see the shape of sound in dancing flames, and predict the shapes of smoke rings shot from a trash can! This is a classroom presentation of the Off-Broadway, Drama Desk Award winning show. Family fun for all ages! (all ages welcome)

#### Wepa! Latin Dance

Feel the heat of the Caribbean with this fun and interactive workshop! Engage your body and your mind by participating in guided listening, rhythmic exercises, body movement, and beginner Salsa (and other Latin dances) instruction! You will learn, you will laugh, and you will mambo around your house with a new love for this vast and rich musical culture. A gozar! (age 6+)

#### Yoga for Kids

Ms. Corinne uses her imagination, storytelling, songs and help from her audience to travel through space and time! We'll learn about different yoga techniques that teach us to be present, creative, and mindful, all while stretching our bodies together. (age 4-8)

