



Information

Barre Belle is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization designed to expose and provide universal access to the art of dance by way of local community centers and schools.

Barre Belle is a portable dance studio for elementary students to introduce ballet fundamentals. Classes are geared towards those with little to no previous ballet or dance training. Students will have an opportunity to learn, perform and attend a professional dance performance to reinforce what is learned during their session.

Our aim is for students to achieve an increased level of self-awareness, self-esteem and encourage movement through the art of dance whether it is ballet or any other form.

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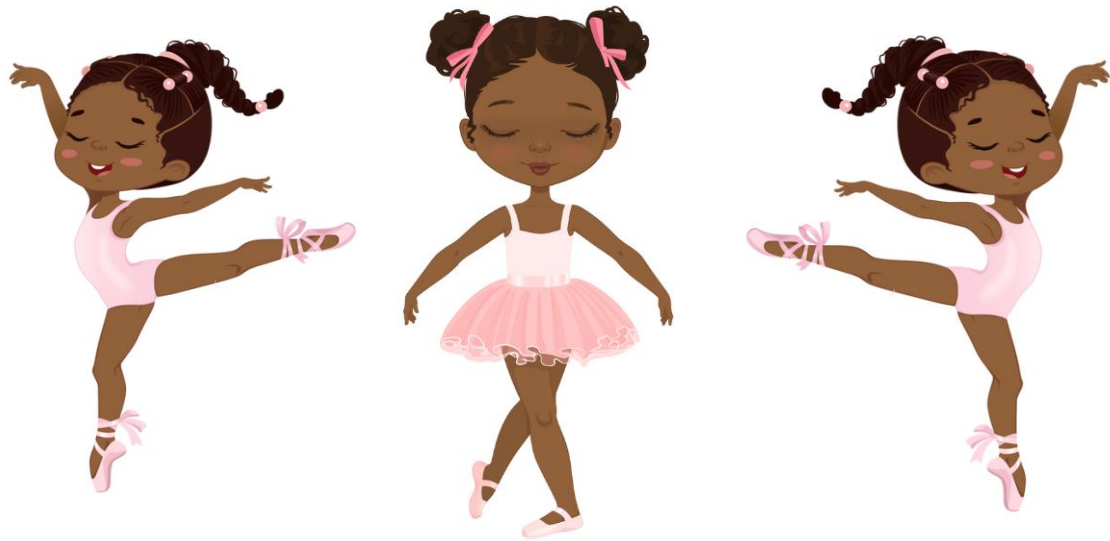
Ambassador

Mico Quijano

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BARRE BELLE newsletter

Issue 1, Volume 6

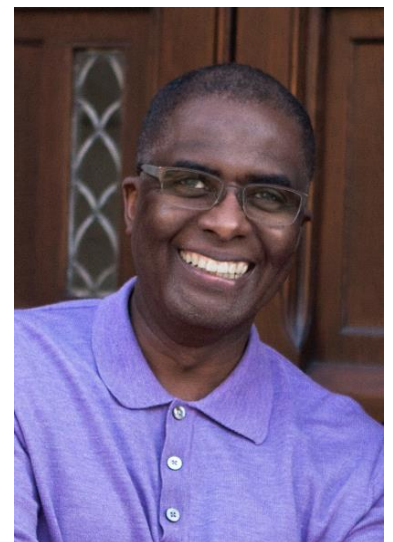
September 2023

Let's Celebrate Collaboration!

Our successes this year have come from hard work and many collaborations.

Through our community partners, we have reached over 750 students the last four years, providing dance classes and workshops throughout Charlotte. We can build our communities by working together. We will continue to seek partnerships to develop and expose underserved students to the art of dance within the local arts community. It is our collective responsibility to build young minds and develop creativity, discipline and teamwork.

Let's celebrate what we were able to accomplish together. Thank you for being part of our team!



Hubert Pipkin
Treasurer

Summer Spotlight: Dance Camp & Programming Recap

Dance Around the World Summer Dance Camp

This summer, Barre Belle held its first week long Summer Dance Camp at the Salvation Army Center of Hope Women and Children's Shelter. Our program included morning dance classes led by our intern Alabi and his assistant Akhita. Participants were then taught to create art from recyclable items through our partner, Upcycle Arts.

Afterwards, our participants enjoyed a health-conscious meal from Cola Boys Catering with a menu that mirrored the dance style of the day. With Dance Around the World being the theme, students learned diverse styles from across the world. For some of our participants, the best part may have been the tasty food or even morning dance class. Our goal of providing a safe and conducive environment for our children remains the same and we're looking forward to our impact in the future!

Freedom School Partners

For the 5th summer, Barre Belle led community dance classes at Freedom School Partners summer camp programs. The summer camp experiences were at 4 various sites across Charlotte. Interns, Briahna and Alabi, with the help of high school dance assistant, Akhita, were able to provide an immersive, exploratory, and creatively challenging class to over 100 students.

The workshops allowed participants to learn a variety of styles and showcased their creativity.



Meet our Ambassador

Mico Quijano



Mico Quijano is a dedicated and passionate individual, currently serving as a Barre Belle Ambassador. With a Bachelor's of Science in Business Administration in Marketing and a minor in Dance from UNC Charlotte, Mico's educational foundation is complemented by a lifelong commitment to the arts.

Professionally, Mico thrives as a Leadership Development Program analyst at Truist, harnessing their skills to contribute to the growth and success of the organization. Beyond their professional endeavors, Mico's love for dance has been a constant presence since their early years, having graced the stage since 3rd grade. This journey culminated in Mico's representation of Barre Belle through a university-affiliated pageant, where their sponsorship became a platform to share their passion for dance while promoting Barre Belle's mission.

Mico's dedication to the community shines through their active involvement in various nonprofit initiatives. Advocating for diversity, equity, and inclusion across multiple platforms, Mico has played a pivotal role in promoting positive change. His infectious energy and unwavering commitment to uplifting others serve as a beacon of inspiration.

Intern Impressions

Alabi Orisadele

My internship with Barre Belle has been an amazing experience! Our administration really cares about making a strong impact in their community and that is also reflected in their care for their team and the aspirations/quality of the individual instructors.

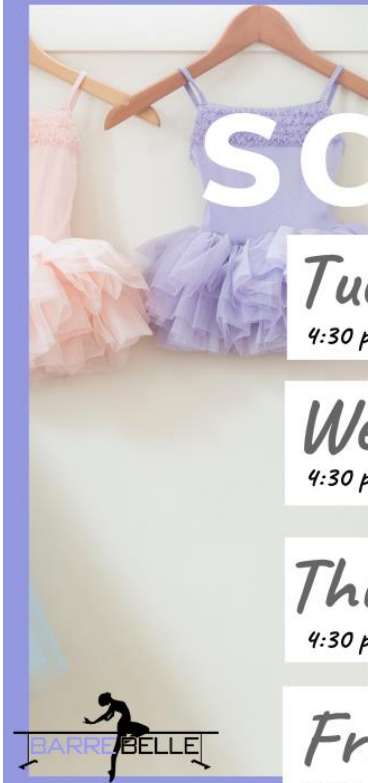
Being able to actually go out and make a direct impact on students by providing them with an environment to fully express themselves and take that new leap of faith to be vulnerable and dance in the present, that's something I've dreamed about doing and Barre Belle is already out here doing that and changing lives in the process.

I can only hope to be a part of that change as well and hopefully inspire our youth to be their best selves for the future.



In Partnership

Community Dance Classes



FALL '23

SCHEDULE

Tues

4:30 p.m.

Boys & Girls Club - Sedgefield

Wed

4:30 p.m.

Boys & Girls Club - Oak Forest
Center 360 - Amay James

Thurs

4:30 p.m.

Boys & Girls Club - VERITAS
Center 360 - Francis Bradley

Fri

4:30 p.m.

Charlotte CSA

We are excited to add another community partner to the Barre Belle family this semester – Center 360!

Center 360 is a grassroots non-profit organization that provides a holistic approach to career development. Their aim is to empower middle school students who are at-risk of disengaging from school by providing them with life skills training, personal development, and career enrichment activities. Center 360 creates a safe space where youth can learn self-awareness and resilience, develop academic persistence, and be exposed to career opportunities in the fields of Music, Arts, Athletics, and Technology.



Intern Chronicles

Meet our Fall '23 Interns



Alabi Orisadele A native of Raleigh, NC, Alabi is a performer, producer and candidate for a Bachelor of Arts in Applied Dance with a concentration in Modern Dance forms from University of North Carolina at Charlotte. His artistic interests are in modern, contemporary and African diaspora techniques. Alabi's research focuses on the benefits of kinesiological movement of the body and its uses for therapy and rehabilitation across various populations including athletes and performing artists. Along his journey, he hopes to connect with those around and build a sense of community and appreciation for the arts across all cultures.

Riley McGowan is an undergraduate student at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. She majors in Dance with a concentration in Performance, Choreography, and Theory. She also minors in English. Riley is from China Grove, North Carolina. She has been dancing since the age of 3 beginning at Center Stage Dance Company where she spent 15 years there doing competitive dance. She has trained in all styles of dance and continues to train in a variety of styles at her university. Riley hopes to pursue a career dancing professionally after college while also teaching and choreographing.



Empower Movement: How to Support Our Program

MAKE A DONATION


Donation Amount

\$25 Donation




Your support matters! A \$25.00 contribution will provide a pair of ballet slippers for (1) student.

\$50 Donation




Every contribution counts! A \$50.00 contribution will provide two pair of ballet slippers for (2) students.

\$75 Donation




Help us reach more children in need! A \$75.00 contribution will provide one pair of ballet slippers, leotard and tights for (1) student.

\$150 Donation




Be a hero for a child in need! A \$150.00 contribution will provide a pair of ballet slippers, leotard and tights for (2) students.

\$250 Donation



Your support can change lives! A \$250.00 contribution supports (1) portable ballet barre for four students to use each class.

Custom Donation



Together, we can make a difference! Your donations can bring joy, confidence, and opportunities to children who need it the most.

\$ USD

We are thrilled to share with you the various ways you can contribute to our mission of bringing the joy of dance and yoga to everyone in our community. Your support enables us to continue offering free classes and reaching even more individuals who may not have access to these enriching experiences otherwise.

Give Lively: Easy and Secure Giving
barrebelleballet.org/donate

Cash App: Instant Giving
\$barrebelleballet

Venmo: Quick and Social Giving
@barrebelleballet

PayPal: Trusted and Secure
Paypal.me/barrebelleballet

Every contribution, no matter the amount, goes a long way in helping us continue offering free dance and yoga classes to our community. Your support empowers us to expand our reach, offer diverse programs, and enrich the lives of those who benefit from these classes.

We want to express our heartfelt gratitude to all our donors who make it possible for us to spread the love of dance and yoga. Together, we can keep our community moving and growing.

Thank you for being a vital part of our mission to empower through movement!