

# YOUNG DANCEMAKERS COMPANY

## NEWSLETTER

VOL.. #9

JANUARY 2009

13 Seasons • 206 Alumni from 53 NYC Public High Schools

### A note from Alice.....

The 2008 season---a great year in so many ways---18 creative voices---12 vibrant original student works created in July---free performances for hundreds in Manhattan, Queens, Brooklyn and the Bronx---

And presented by the professional Dancenow/NYC Festival:

"*Young Dancemakers Company*, did a really good job in three separate pieces.....impressive...." OffOffOff 2008

" ....including the charming teenage *Young Dancemakers Company*,..." NY Times, 10/30/2008.

AND excerpts from a repertory work of the Cunningham Dance Company, Merce Cunningham's "Field Dances," staged by Mary Lisa Burns and Robert Swinston.

AND the DANCE NY immersion into professional dance in New York: concerts, seminars, workshops with NY dance artists.

Onward to our 14th year of making dances, with scores of urban teens of varied backgrounds and levels of dance experience, dancing all over town, and sometimes out-of-town, in free performances of their own original work for thousands of young people and adults, through the years.

Many thanks to the producers and presenters around this wonderful town who have given performance opportunities to these young artists.

We are grateful to the talented and dedicated dance teachers in the NYC public high schools who refer their students to our auditions.

Special huge gratitude to the generous foundations who have made this entirely free program possible:

- The Richenthal Foundation
- The Surdna Foundation
- The Joseph S. Kornfeld and Emily Davie Foundation
- The Harkness Foundation for Dance
- The NY Times Company Foundation
- The Arnhold Foundation.

Wishing you a dancing new year,

*Alice*

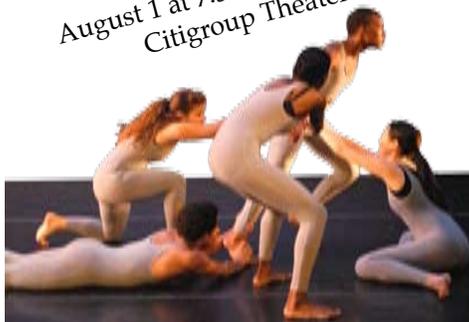
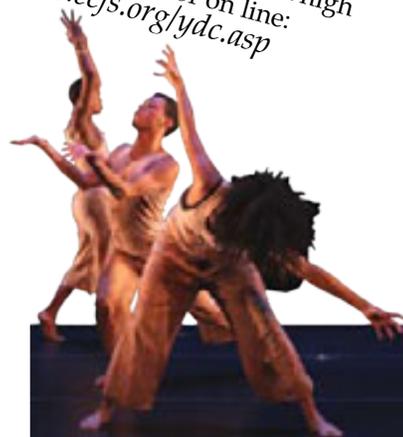
Alice Teirstein,  
Director



**Auditions** for the 2009 company  
at Dance Theater Workshop,  
219 West 19 Street,  
Sunday, March 8 11:30-6  
Call-backs Saturday, March 14  
**SPREAD THE WORD**  
**APPLY NOW.**  
Obtain application forms from high  
school teachers or on line:  
[www.ecfs.org/ydc.asp](http://www.ecfs.org/ydc.asp)

**The 2009 Season**  
June 29-August 2  
Performances all over town.  
Season to be announced  
(watch for the up-coming flyer).  
AND

**Save The Date:**  
Gala Celebration Concert  
Saturday evening,  
August 1 at 7:30 PM at the Ailey  
Citigroup Theater.



**EVERYBODY DANCE!**  
YDC alums lead community  
youngsters in making dances.  
Be there: Saturday  
January 24, 9-3,  
Fieldston School  
Followed by  
**YDC REUNION PARTY**  
From 3PM on



# THE 2008 TOURING CONCERTS



## ORIGINAL STUDENT WORKS

And the Merce Cunningham Repertory Project  
Post-concert audience improvisation

### FIELDSTON AUDITORIUM

Season Premiere for Bronx day camps, and  
Alfredo Thomas's Fieldston Enrichment Program

### FLUSHING LIBRARY

For the Queens libraries and community

### STERN AUDITORIUM at Mt. Sinai Medical Center

A full-house rousing reception from 600 enthusiastic  
young people from United Neighborhood Houses

### SUMMER ARTS INSTITUTE, Dept of Education Stuyvesant High School

A YDC/SAI sharing of work, with lively Q&A

### ABRONS ARTS CENTER

Henry Street Playhouse

### KUMBLE THEATER, LIU, Brooklyn

A college audience, in a beautiful theater on a grand stage

### CHELSEA ART MUSEUM

Two visits, 3 shows:

Improvisations inspired by the art

Afternoon and evening gallery performances  
of our concert

### ALVIN AILEY CITIGROUP THEATER

Gala Finale Concert, Full house, Standing Ovation.



Performing for United Neighborhood Houses at  
Stern Auditorium



Dance Theater of Harlem joins in the dancing



Have dance bag will travel



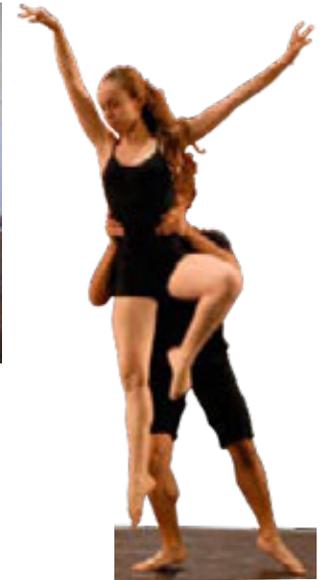
Exploring the art at Chelsea Art Museum



Improvisation with art installation



Alyssa and Joira lead audience improv on stage



*A bold audience improviser*



*Robert Swinston leads a Cunningham warm-up in Chelsea Art Museum Gallery*



*Audience Improvisation with Alice*



*Making up*

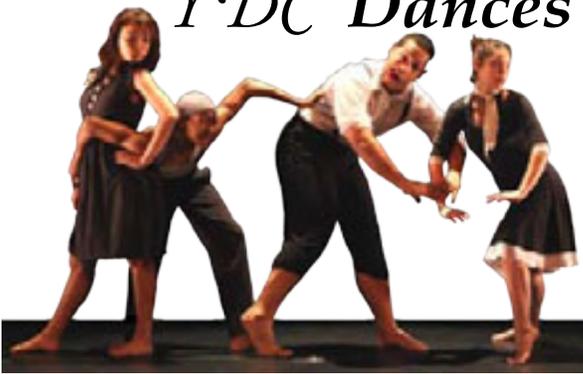


*Swim break*



*William Catanzaro*

# YDC Dances on.... Fall into Spring:



CLAMOR OF SPONTANEITY, Choreographer: Ruben Lopez



TORN, Choreographer: Jonathan Gonzalez



JUNE 21, 2008  
Choreographer:  
Mariah Bynoe

## Three student works from YDC 2008 were chosen to be performed as part of *The Dancenow/NYC Festival at DTW Oct. 2008*

William and Alice's new collaborative work "Sparks," also presented by the Festival, was joined by wonderful and amazing YDC dancers as cameo performers.

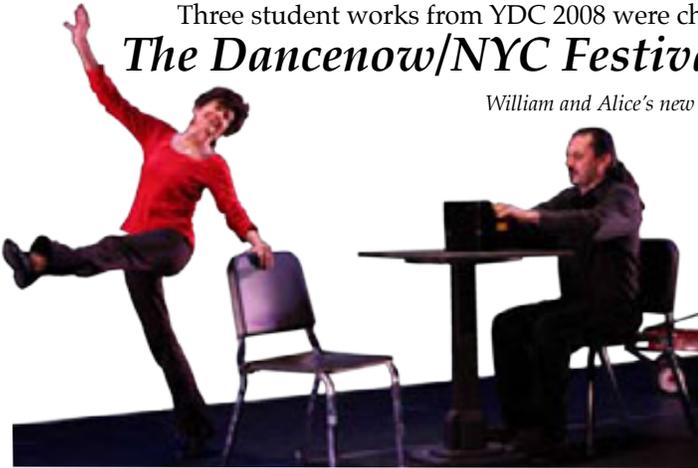


Photo: Suzanne Lanberg

Joseph Chase's moving work for five men, "Divine Brotherhood," created during YDC 2007, was submitted and accepted in the high school choreography competition at the 92nd St. Y. Performed as part of

## The Young Moderns Concert at the 92<sup>nd</sup> St. Y, May 2008



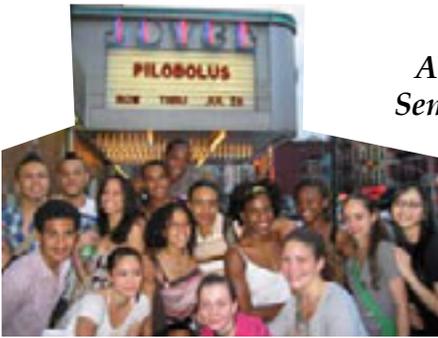
Thanks to the program directors throughout the city who have given performance opportunities to our future choreographers and dancers.

### Since 1996 YDC has given free concerts at:

- Abrons Arts Center • Ailey Citigroup Theater • Alternative High Schools/Board of Education LaGuardia Community College • Annual "Celebration" Concerts in the Fieldston Auditorium for audiences of community groups from throughout the city • Bridging the Hood United Neighborhood Houses Tribeca Performing Arts Center • Bronx Academy of Arts and Dance • Brooklyn Museum • Chelsea Art Museum • Chelsea Piers for hundreds of spectators • Dance Theater Workshop • Dancenow Downtown Festival '97, '98, '00 and '03 at the Joyce Soho Theatre • Dancing in the Millennium The international conference 2000 in Washington, DC Performance/ demonstration called a "highlight of the conference" • Dancing in the Streets • Fieldston School • Fordham University's Sculpture Garden at Lincoln Center in a program of improvisations inspired by the sculpture • Goddard-Riverside Community Center • Grants Tomb/Part of Harlem Week 2006 • Harlem School of the Arts • Hostos Center for the Arts and Culture • Kumble Theater, LIU • Lovinger Theatre, Lehman College, The Bronx • Queens Library • Schomburg Center/NYPL • Stern Auditorium/Mt. Sinai Medical Center for United Neighborhood Houses • Stuyvesant High School • The 92nd St. Y Dance Educators Lab • The Ailey Dance Camp • The Arts at University Settlement • The Bridge for Dance Part of the Uptown Performance Series • The Dancespace Project at St. Mark's Church • The Downtown Dance Festival in Battery Park • The Jacobs Pillow Dance Festival in Lee, Massachusetts • The NYC Board of Ed, High School Principals Leadership Institute on Arts Education • The Omega Institute in Rhinebeck, NY • The Point, a community development initiative in the Hunts Point section of the South Bronx • The Police Athletic League • The World Trade Center • The Yard / Martha's Vineyard, MA • UP! On the Roof at John Jay College Theater

# THE DANCE NY PROJECT

*An immersion into Professional Dance Concerts, Guest Artists, Seminars, Workshops, and our annual Repertory Project, all made possible by generous funding from the Joseph S. Kornfeld and Emily E. Davie Foundation*



*At the Theater*



*Pre-concert discussion with the Pilobolus cast*



*Paradigm Dance Company Concert at DTW  
Gus Solomons, jr, Carmen de Lavallade, Valda Setterfield, Dudley Williams, in pre-concert talk with YDC at Dance Theater Workshop.*



*Art & Myrna demonstrate in the Partnering Workshop and Alice gets carried away*



## **Merce Cunningham Repertory Project**

Featuring YDC in excerpts from "Field Dances"

Music by John Cage

## **Art Bridgman/Myrna Packer**

Partnering Workshop

## **Pilobolus Dance Company**

Joyce Theater

## **Pre-concert discussion**

with the Pilobolus cast

## **Merce Cunningham Dance Company**

at the DIA Museum of Art, in Beacon, NY

## **Elizabeth Zimmer, dance critic,**

Seminar "Looking at Dance"

## **Paradigm Dance Company Concert**

at DTW

## **Pre-concert discussion**

with the Paradigm Company

## **College and Career seminar**

at DTW

## **Larry Keigwin Dance Concert**

at the Joyce Theater

## **Pre-concert discussion**

with Larry Keigwin

## **Visit to Cunningham studio**

to observe company class



*Robert Swinston, Assistant to the Choreographer, talks to our students at the Merce Cunningham concert, DIA: BEACON*



*Larry Keigwin, choreographer/artistic director, talks to YDC about his work, pre-concert.*



*College and Career seminar at DTW, with representatives of area colleges, SUNY Purchase, Marymount Manhattan, Hunter College, Fordham/Ailey, and Dance Theater Workshop, re dance career work.*



*Merce took time out from choreographing to talk with us*



*Elizabeth Zimmer seminar*



*Eating out, pre Joyce Theater*

Thanks to the NYC public high school dance teachers who referred their students to YDC.

## Company members have come from NYC Public High Schools:

• A. Philip Randolph • Academy of American Studies • Adlai Stevenson • Aviation • Beacon School • Benjamin Cardozo • Bergtraum • Brandeis • Bronx Leadership Academy • Bronx Theater High School • Brooklyn Technical • Bryant • City-as-Schools • Columbus • Dewitt Clinton • Discovery High School • Erasmus Hall • Evander Childs • Fannie Lou Hamer • Fashion Industries • Frank Sinatra School of the Arts • Gateway • George Washington • Graphic Communications Art • Harry S. Truman • Herbert Lehman • High School for Contemporary Arts • High School for Environmental Studies • High School for Violin and Dance • Humanities & Arts Magnet School • Institute for Collaborative Education • J.K. Onassis • James Monroe • LaGuardia H.S. of Music and Art and Performing Arts • Leon M. Goldstein • Lower Manhattan Arts Academy • Manhattan Center for Math and Science • Marble Hill • Martin Luther King • Math & Science Magnet School • Performing Arts and Technology High School • Professional Performing Arts School • Renaissance Charter • Richard Greene • Saunders • Seward Park • Stuyvesant • Talent Unlimited • Townsend Harris • Urban Peace Academy • Walton • Washington Irving • Wings Academy

Calling All Alums  
**EVERYBODY  
DANCE!**



**Saturday,  
January 24, 2009**  
At Fieldston 9 AM to 3 PM

We need your talent to lead a crowd of 6th and 7th graders of the Fieldston Enrichment Program, in a day of dancing together and making dances, at Fieldston. Join Alice, workshop director, and William Catanzaro, music director, have fun and get community service credit, doing what you know how to do. Breakfast and lunch included.

Last year's great leaders: Michael Nameishi '06, Malena Galloway '06, Joseph Chase '07, Joey Cruz '07, Kayan James '07, Ashley Santana '07, Michael Yasin York '99

RSVP to Susan: 718-329-7250

Or e-mail: [aliceteirstein@aol.com](mailto:aliceteirstein@aol.com)

And Stay on for

## REUNION PARTY

3:30 to 6:30 PM

\*Food \*Videos \*Fun \*Friends

2008 alums pick up your gift from Alice: a memorable photo of you and Merce.  
And other photo gifts for you.

All Alums send your e-mail address to Alice



## Special thanks:

**Fieldston School:** Mark Stanek, *Head of School*,  
Michael Hwang, Julissa McHugh, Roura Rosales-Rosario, Jessica Torres-Rosa, *Business Office*  
Trish Shelton, *Related Programs* Carl Smith, Kirk Ruebenson, *Print Shop*  
Edna Ramos, Joy Rizzo, *High School Office*  
Eugene Kivlan, Bobby Hughes, John Piselli and *all Facilities*  
**Dance Theater Workshop:** Carla Peterson, Estelle Woodward Arnal, Tara O'Con  
**Ailey Citigroup Theater:** Alaric Han, Ginny McGivern, *Lighting Designer*

## News of Alums...

---

**Kelly Bojos '08**, here's my news. I am currently a sophomore dance major at Fiorello H Laguardia high school of music and art and the Performing arts. There I take both academic and dance classes such as ballet, pointe, and modern classes. I was in the Young Dancemakers Company in the summer of 2008 where I was introduced to Cunningham. I am now taking many different types of dance to enrich my technique in the Alvin Ailey School such as ballet, pointe, Graham, Cunningham, jazz, hip-hop, tap, ballroom, musical theater, and zumba. I have been introduced to a type of hot yoga called Bikram yoga that I find helps in all aspects of dance. I currently still go to Rising Stars Dance Studio in Queens and am in their senior company. I also take many types of dance there and am doing two solos. This Christmas we have choreographed pieces and are performing them all in Queens. I am still dancing and loving every moment of it!

**Jenee Whitehead '08**, Hiya Alice, it's Jenee How are you?? I'm just emailing to give you an update how things are with me and it just so happens that things are going very good! I'm still in school [Brooklyn College], I'm about to register for next semester. A friend and I started a dance team at my school: BCIDC [Brooklyn College iDance Crew]! we're getting the budget straightened out and will be working on routines during our winter break. My friend is into hip-hop and I'm into modern [of course] so our goal is to try and fuse the two together into some sort of happy medium haha...we'll see how this goes. I'll be sure to inform you of any upcoming performances. Oh yeah! and me and my business partner [another friend of mine] are working on expanding our knitting business!!!! We just secured our website and are working on designing it, hopefully it will be up and fully functioning by the end of the month. So that's my story. I'm looking forward to hearing yours.

**Anthony Morgan '98**, here's my news. Since *YDC* I have been working in the field of HIV prevention, education and treatment. Currently I am working at the Bronx AIDS Services as the Coordinator of Gay/Bisexual programming – I love it!! I am still in school working toward my Bachelors degree and have just been accepted into a training and certification program with the A. K. Rice Institute for the study of Social Systems. Just recently I moved to the Upper East Side and am really enjoying life – not dancing like I would like to but that is one of my New Years Resolutions! Hey Alice – I hope this is cool – I will attend the reunion on 1/24. [anthonyr.morgan@gmail.com](mailto:anthonyr.morgan@gmail.com)

**Samuel Jimenez '01**, Alice Darling, I was so happy to get your email. You always remain in my thoughts and heart. As for my whereabouts, I graduated from the SUNY college at Syracuse Univ. last Dec with a degree in Landscape Architecture and Urban Design (its a 5 year professional degree). I accepted a position at a Landscape Architecture and Engineering firm in Philadelphia. I wanted to try living in a new city. NYC will always be home but i wanted to try living in a new location.

As for dance, I continued to dance and choreograph all throughout college with several companies. I even incorporated it into my senior thesis where i studied the work of Lawrence and Anna Halprin, a Dancer and Landscape Architect couple in California. I studied their theory of the RSVP Cycle and created a notation system for movement through space.

As for the reunion... I would LOVE to come. Sign me up! Philly is only an hour and a half away and my aunt is still living across the street on Greystone ave. Below you will find all my current address. I miss you very much and look forward to seeing you in Jan ( a few days before my birthday). 1010 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107, apt 404

Much love, Sam

**Indira Domingues '04**, Program Assistant 2007, 2008  
Hi All, I'm graduating Ithaca College with a BA in Science for Speech Language Pathology. YAY! I've been teaching an adult hip hop class for about 2 years now. I'm considering going to grad school for Dance. I'm also considering grad school for Education. I'm dancing a lot in school, with teams and in classes. I'm taking a year or so off between graduation and grad school to DANCE DANCE DANCE + Audition. In the future I want to be part of a modern dance company. Hope everyone is dancing their hearts out and doing great things. Love, Indira

**Brittany Conigatti '06**, This past summer I attended the Paul Taylor Dance Company Summer Intensive and the Joffrey Contemporary and Jazz Summer Intensive, both on full scholarships. I was on F'N MTV as a featured dancer, was in a film Tom and Valkyrie as a dancing nurse/muse, and started my professional career in Disney's High School Musical On Stage at the Paper Mill Playhouse. I am a senior at LaGuardia H.S for the Performing Arts and plan on attending college as a musical theatre major. In my spare time, I am an assistant teacher at my local dance studio. I continue to audition, hopefully making it to the Broadway stage in the near future =). Due to my senior schedule at school, I will do my best to try attend the reunion party.

**Antoine "Agee" Gardner YDC 1996** (first *YDC* season)  
I currently own an artist Management and Development firm, Agee, Inc. My nine years of hard work and continued focus has brought me success this year like never before. My client, a music producer (and my cousin "Lamb") has been nominated this year for 5 Grammy Nominations for Jasmine Sullivan, a new R&B female. I want you all to know that dreams really do come true, so keep dreaming! Stay encouraged *YDC*. Thanks again Alice and all my *YDC* 1st season members. You are forever a part of me! New members, you are a part of something really special. Enjoy! I'm living in Atlanta so I can't be at the reunion but good luck!!! See my new artist Lil Brother@my space.com/axcity

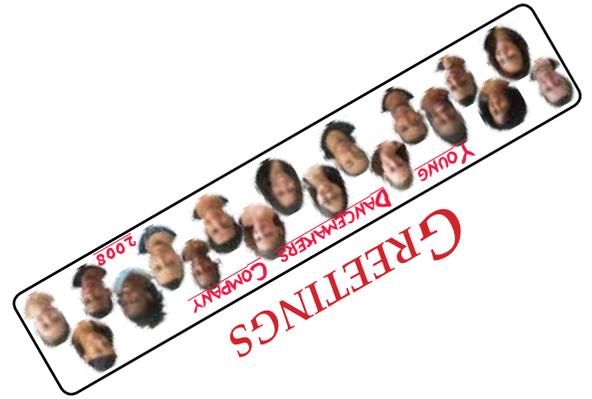
## News of Faculty

---

**Jessica Gaynor, YDC Assistant Director**  
Jessica has been busy choreographing and teaching since the end of *YDC* 2008. Her company, Jessica Gaynor Dance, successfully premiered a new evening length piece in November, and she continues to teach dance to grades K-12 at The Brearley School.

**Alice and William** created a new duet about the process of working together as *YDC* director and Music Director. It was produced on two concerts of the Dancenow/ *YDC* Festival at Dance Theater Workshop. It included cameo performances by the fabulous *YDC* 2008.

**Alice** is leading a 2-day workshop for dance teachers, on Improvisation, Jan. 17-18 at the 92nd St. Y, DEL Dance Educators Workshop



ETHICAL CULTURE FIELDSTON SCHOOL  
 3901 FIELDSTON ROAD  
 BRONX, NY 10471-3997



**YDC Staff Artists**  
**Alice Teirstein, Director**  
**Jessica Gaynor, Assistant Director**  
**William Catanzaro, Music Director,**  
 composer / performer  
**Jennifer Lee, Costume Designer**  
**Indira Dominguez, YDC alum,**  
 Program and Costume Assistant,  
 now finishing college and off  
 into the professional world,  
 we bid a loving farewell  
**Eva Young, Creative Arts Therapist**  
**Susan Dratel, Administrative Assistant**  
 "jetting" helpfully between  
 Fieldston and DTW  
**Noelé Phillips, YDC alum, Tour Assistant**  
**David Bush, graphic designer**  
**Mekea Hurwitz, photographer**

**Coming up for the 2009 Season**  
 Once again, Dance Theater Workshop, New York's center for new developments in dance, has opened its doors to us for our auditions and the opening weeks of our program. From June 29 to July 10 we will be in residence in DTW's professional state-of-the-art studios, on West 19th Street, NYC. Then we return to the Fieldston School, our generous host since our beginnings in 1996, where we will be rehearsing the new exciting student works in the recently renovated Fieldston Performing Arts Center.

**Calendar**

January 24	Everybody Dance!	
March 8	Alumni Reunion	9 - 3
March 14	Auditions	3:30 - 6:30
June 29 - Aug. 2	Call-back auditions	11:30 - 6
July 21 - 31	YDC Season 2009	10 - 5
August 1	Watch for concert touring dates	
	Gala Finale Concert	7:30 PM

**Newsletter design:** David Bush,  
 in collaboration with Alice Teirstein  
**Photo credits:** Mekea Hurwitz,  
 Steven Schreiber, Art Bridgman, Alice Teirstein  
**Printing:** Fieldston Graphic Arts Department

Please visit our web site: [www.ecfs.org/ydc.asp](http://www.ecfs.org/ydc.asp)