



ACCENT DANCE NYC

ANNUAL REPORT FY 2025



Dear Friends of Accent Dance NYC,

Accent Dance NYC envisions a world where everyone has access to dance and sees themselves reflected in the art we create. While that is a lofty aspiration, it has propelled us to new heights, helping us to better serve New York and the growing Accent Dance NYC community.

As we close the curtain on our seventh year, we are excited to share some organizational firsts that are getting us closer to fully realizing our vision. It is in this spirit that we bring you our Annual Report FY 25 and the “Super 7”: seven milestones in our seventh year that represent just how far we’ve come:

- **10,000+ students:** We reached over 10,000 students through our educational programming, more than doubling the number of students reached from last fiscal year.
- **Full-fledged public charity status:** We acquired final public charity status after 5 years as a private operating charity. This milestone is a recognition by the IRS that we have a broad base of support, opening the door to a far greater number of entities and foundations who are now able to support us.
- **Record number of performances:** We had more educational performances than ever before for Hispanic Heritage and Black History Months and worked in a record number of schools and community centers.

(continues)



The transformative power of dance and arts education has helped Accent Dance NYC to reach more students, in more places, than ever before.



- **First professional concert dance season:** We had our first professional concert dance season at the Ailey Citigroup Theater in March 2025. It was an unforgettable experience as we presented our first full-length program of dance, featuring 22 exceptional artists across a vibrant spectrum of styles and genres.
- **New grant sources.** In addition to our ongoing, multi-year grants through the New York State Council on the Arts, the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs and ArtsWestchester, we anticipate receiving funding this year through the Mid Atlantic Folk and Traditional Arts – Community Projects program, with support from the National Endowment for the Arts.
- **More dance for more people:** We expanded our educational programming to include community workshops, multicultural festivals, master classes, dance residencies, family engagement workshops, in-school educational performances, and graduation ceremonies. Programming took place throughout NYC and lower Westchester County, including in the Bronx, Harlem, Brooklyn, Mt. Vernon and New Rochelle, New York.
- **New offerings:** We added new dance styles to our dance residency offerings (flamenco) and our educational performance series (Chinese/Tibetan folklore), that now also include West African dance, step, Hip Hop dance, Latin dances (flamenco, cumbia, salsa, merengue, bachata), modern technique, jazz, contemporary, theater dance, tap, and creative movement.

As we celebrate the Super 7, we would like to acknowledge the collective efforts of our amazing Board of Directors, passionate staff, artists, educators and the individuals who support our important work every day. We also want to thank all our partner schools and community centers for welcoming us into their own communities.

Thank you for being part of the Accent Dance NYC family. Together, we are achieving our mission and remaining true to our core values of community, education, creativity and representation.



Andrea Ziegelman
Executive and Artistic Director
Accent Dance NYC



August 2025



The exploration of culture, and our students' connection to it, is a primary focus of our educational programming.

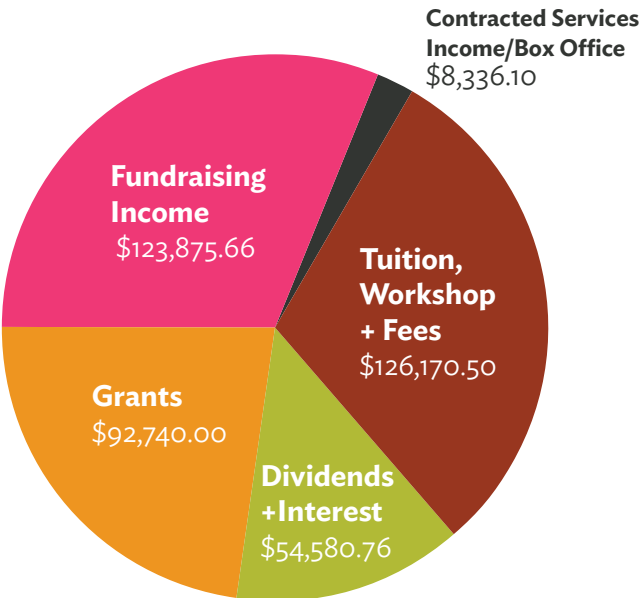
How We've Grown

Over the course of Fiscal Year 2025 (July 1, 2024- June 30, 2025), Accent Dance NYC's commitment to education and community was as strong as ever. Our in-school educational performances, dance residencies, master classes, and family engagement programs reached over 10,000 students in FY 25, more than double the number of students reached in FY 24.

We expanded into a record number of schools and community centers with a total of:

- 22 Black History and Hispanic Heritage Month educational performances
- 18 multicultural dance residencies, and
- 3 family engagement workshops
- **For a total of 26 school and community sites served**

On the revenue side, as part of our multi-year grant from the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs, we received an award in FY 25 of \$37,910 – over a \$5,000 increase from last year. This grant allowed us to bring five more FREE dance residencies to school partners in FY 25. We also raised significant money from individual donors and our Board (\$123,875.66), the New York Council on the Arts (\$40,000), and ArtsWestchester (\$16,000), and collected tuition and workshop fees of \$126,170.50. Total FY 25 revenue was \$405,775.24.*



*Although a grant from National Endowment for the Arts of \$10,000 was withdrawn in connection with the new administration's priorities in FY 25, we anticipate receiving funding this coming FY 26 from a new foundational source – the Mid Atlantic Folk and Traditional Arts – Community Projects program with support from the National Endowment for the Arts.

OUR PUBLIC CHARITY STATUS

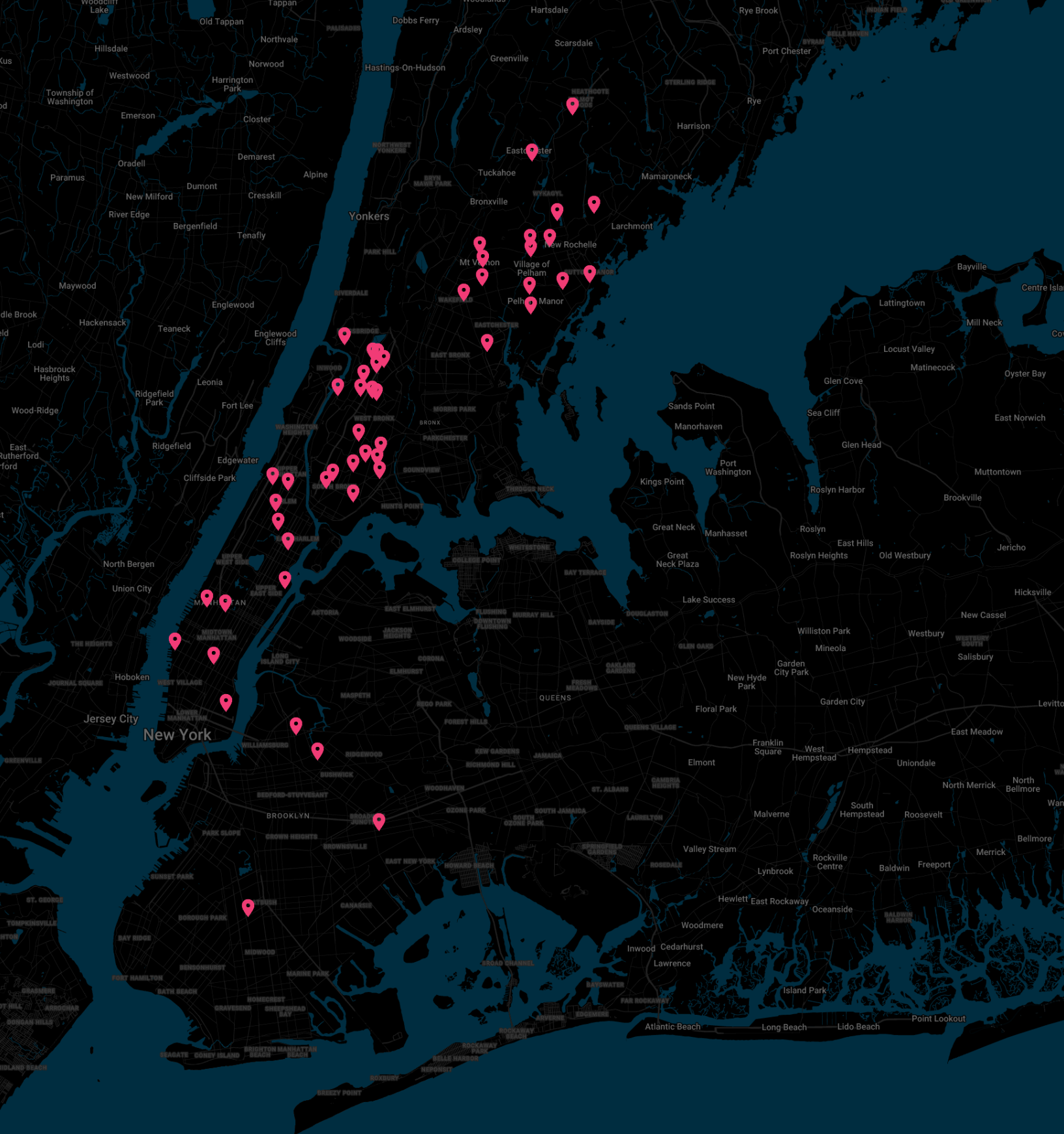
We are now officially a public charity after five years' operating as a private 501(c)3 charity. This has important implications when it comes to fundraising, as it will broaden the potential base of organizations able to support us. Among other things, many companies offer employer matching gifts to qualifying public charities, which means that a significantly increased number of donors will be eligible through their employers to **double their donations** to Accent Dance NYC.

Securing public charity status also makes us eligible for a greater number of foundational and other grants that were not previously available to us. For example, our conversion to public charity status led to a recent donation of \$15,000 from Phi Gamma Delta of MIT.

In addition to the above advantages, the IRS recently refunded a total of \$11,211.06 in connection with excise taxes paid with our 990-PF tax filings since 2019. This is because our public charity status is deemed retroactive to 2019 when we first applied for it. On an ongoing basis, we will file IRS Form 990 instead of the IRS 990-PF (private foundation).

Teaching artist Sofía Forero Correa with pre-K ballet students at the New Rochelle YMCA





MORE DANCE FOR MORE PEOPLE

We expanded the geographic scope of our educational and concert dance programming to include Manhattan, Harlem, the Bronx, Brooklyn, Mt. Vernon and New Rochelle, New York.



High school students trained and performed alongside professional dancers in an adaption of *The Waters*, a work commissioned by Accent Dance NYC by Christie Coleman.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Accent Dance NYC's educational programs have enriched the lives of over 25,000 students and audience members since our inception in 2018.

Among other educational programs, we provide schools and venues with multicultural dance performances that highlight various cultures, holidays, or themes through diverse dance styles. Students have an opportunity to join in and participate during interactive dance segments and during a Q&A with the artists. Performances showcase a range of styles, including classical ballet, Hip Hop dance, West African dance, step, tap, Latin dance (tango, flamenco, cumbia, salsa, bachata, merengue) Chinese folkloric dance, Broadway jazz, and contemporary dance.

In addition to our educational performances, our dance residencies foster creativity, cultural awareness and a love for dance in schools and community centers across the NYC metro area. Dance forms include West African dance, step, Afrobeat, Hip Hop dance, ballet, Latin dance (flamenco, cumbia, salsa, bachata, merengue), modern techniques, jazz, contemporary, theater dance, and creative movement and can incorporate topical issues such as social justice, identity or explore historical themes. Classes provide opportunities for students to collaborate and create and explore the origins and history of each dance style within its cultural context(s). For high school students, special curriculums are offered based on Accent Dance NYC's commissioned works. These include: *Narcissus*, focusing on self-exploration, *The Waters*, addressing issues of climate change and fresh water access, and *A Place For Us*, fostering connections through immigrant stories.



Jaryd Farcon and Kaylan Bradford
in *Narcissus* by Will A. Ervin, Jr.

OUR PROFESSIONAL DANCE COMPANY

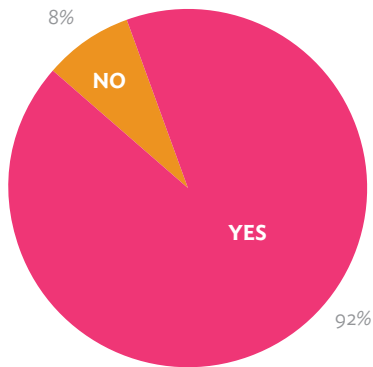
We had our first professional concert dance season at Ailey Citigroup Theater in March 2025. It was an unforgettable experience as we presented a full-length program of dance, featuring 22 exceptional artists across a vibrant spectrum of styles and genres. For the first time, audiences saw our commissioned works together in one program, including Pedro Ruiz's *Danzón*, a dynamic reinvention of Cuba's beloved dance form with contemporary and ballet influences; Danielle Diniz's *A Place for Us*, a heartfelt exploration of journeys and belonging; and William Ervin's *Narcissus*, a bold reimagining of the classic myth. The evening also included a powerful West African dance performance with live drumming paired with dynamic, contemporary movement.

An important component of our mission is commissioning and performing works that amplify diverse cultures and perspectives. For high school students, special curriculums have been developed based on these works, engaging and inspiring even the most hard-to-reach youth. This year's commissioned work, *Echoes Between Us*, by Chinese choreographer Miaotian Sun, exemplifies the mission of *NEXT: The Emerging Choreographer Commissioning Program*. A first look performance of this powerful and provocative new work will be presented at Gibney Studios in downtown Manhattan on September 12, 2025.

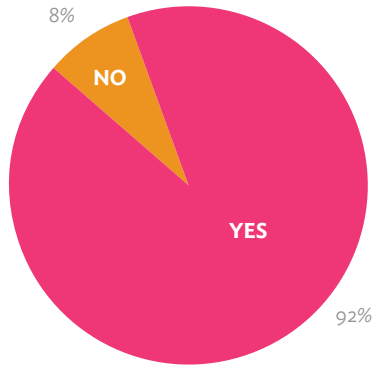
EVIDENCE-BASED IMPACT OF OUR PROGRAMMING

In FY 25, we also implemented a rigorous system of conducting both pre and post-residency surveys of the students. Here are the results of just one of these surveys*:

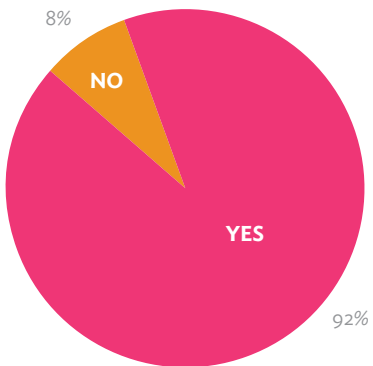
Q1. Do you feel more confident and excited about dancing now?



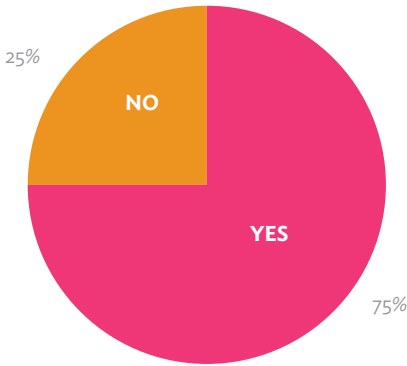
Q2. Are you more interested in your culture?



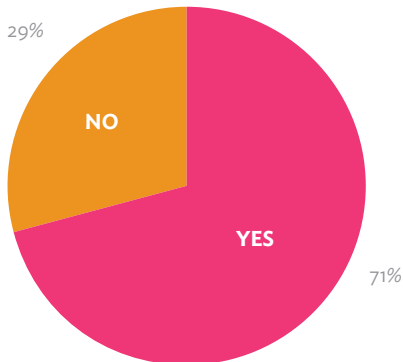
Q3. Did you learn new things about where different dances come from?



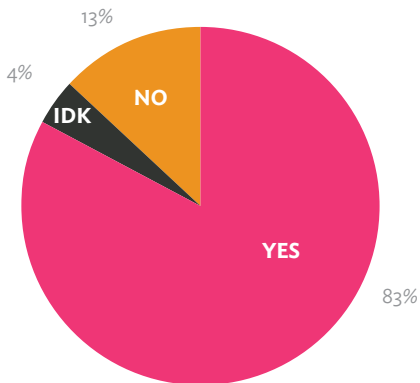
Q4. Did you help others and work together when you danced?



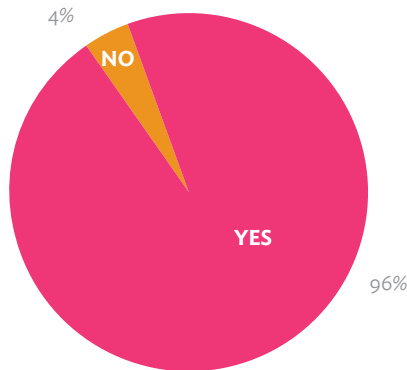
Q5. Were you inspired to create your own dance moves?



Q6. Would you like more opportunities to perform?



Q7. Do you feel good about working together with others as a team?



*Hip Hop dance residency, grades 3 and 5, winter 2025

In FY 25, students from our 26 partner schools and community sites were immersed in a wide variety of dance residencies culminating in student-led performances for family, friends and school communities. This spring alone, we had culminating performances of Afrobeat at PS 140x, Hip Hop at PS 246x, Afrobeat at Bronx Career and College Preparatory High School, ballet at the YMCA of New Rochelle, bachata at PS 48, and a theme-based residency exploring climate change issues at Bronx Studio School for Writers and Artists in the South Bronx.

We also added Flamenco as a new dance style to our dance residency offerings.

Here is some of what educators had to say about the impact of our new Flamenco residency on their students:

“Ms. Corazon was very kind, patient, and engaging. The children connected to her and were eager to dance when she came in”

“All students participated with enthusiasm and a love for learning something new”

“The students became familiar with Flamenco dance”

“The students truly enjoyed learning a new art form. It made the classroom a lively and enjoyable place for everyone.”

Financial Overview

FY 25 (JULY 1, 2023-JUNE 30, 2025)

Total Revenue	\$405,775.24
Total Expenditures	\$364,235.61
Net Revenue	\$41,539.63

BREAKDOWN OF REVENUE:

Tuition/Workshop Fees	\$126,170.50
Contracted Service Income/Box Office	\$8,336.10
Dividends & Interest	\$54,580.76
Fundraising Income	\$123,875.66
Grants	\$92,740.00
Misc. Revenue	\$72.22

BREAKDOWN OF EXPENSES:

Artistic Services	\$75,986.78
Payroll and Related Expenses	\$175,437.35
Technical/Production	\$13,142.49
Other Outside Professional Services	\$1,070.00
Advertising/Promotion	\$13,808.07
Dues, Subscriptions & Software	\$6,899.90
Equipment Rental/Supplies	\$4,523.68
Financial Fees	\$14,407.12
Gala Assistance and Meals	\$15,024.24
Insurance	\$4,830.00
Legal & Professional Fees	\$8,598.00
Meals/Entertainment	\$131.59
Space Rental	\$25,554.30
Taxes	\$275.00
Travel	\$3,653.04
Misc. Business Expenses	\$894.96
Reimbursable Expenses	\$616.77

TOTAL ASSETS = \$2,274,039.70



Council on
the Arts

NYC Cultural
Affairs

ARTSW
ARTSWESTCHESTER

Staff + Board of Directors

STAFF

Andrea Ziegelman

Executive and Artistic Director

andrea@accent.dance

Kim Johnson

Director of Educational Programming

kim@accent.dance

Michaela Esteban

Coordinator of Community Outreach

micky@accent.dance

Jenna Purcell

Grants Manager

jenna@accent.dance

Kimberly Giannelli

Public Relations and Media Inquiries

kimberly@theprsocal.com

Fred Gates

Design Director

fred@fredgatesdesign.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sergio Aguilar

Lynda Bagley

Elizabeth J. Fee, Esq.

Leigh Goldman

Sharee S. Gregg

Sharene Jones

Lee Rauch

Keisha Salmon

Crystyn Wright

Andrea Ziegelman, Esq.

George Zilvetti



<https://accent.dance>