

Family Involvement Workshops

Children and caregivers will find inspiration in Family Involvement Workshops where artists engage children and adults in hands-on creativity to support the learning of any topic.

➔ VALERIE BRANCH **Express Yourself: Creative Dance and Me!**

Families will explore the elements of dance and specific movement strategies that will empower parents, guardians, and caregivers to use and facilitate movement-led teaching and learning experiences with their children. Parents will be encouraged to take risks with their children, join in on singing activities, and positively encourage their children to explore their bodies and their voice. Participants will learn how dance can be used as a form of non-verbal communication, to create a fun space, encourage movement and exercise within the home, and build deeper relationships. We will explore how our bodies can move in and throughout the space together!



➔ QUYNN JOHNSON **Let's Tap**

This workshop engages children and teachers in ways to create music with their feet. Using elements of tap dance and basic tap steps, participants will enjoy moving together and creating their own rhythms. Lessons connect to counting, patterns, steady beat, gross motor movement, directional changes, and choreography.



➔ NATASHA MIRNY

Moving and Learning Through the Rainforest!

Let's take an imaginary journey to a rainforest where we can explore a variety of animals and plants—and learn about the importance of protecting this unique ecosystem and other forest environments. Together we will learn where the rainforests can be found on our planet, we will create dances and movements of different animals that we will meet on our way through South American rainforest, we will turn our adults into Mangrove trees and rest under them, we will do some problem solving, work on spatial awareness, on using our full range of motions, and on our gross motor and fine motor skills.



➡ JAMAAL "MR. ROOT" COLLIER *The Four Seasons*

Mr. Root will engage and educate students through rhyming/rapping, vocal percussion/beatboxing as he explores the four seasons with words, sounds, movement, and music! We will discover and reinforce key details in each particular season that make them unique. There will be space and time for the early learner and their teachers, parents, and community guardians to interact, repeat, create, and move to a steady beat.



➡ ELIAS SCHUTZMAN *I've Got a Feeling*

This workshop is focused on social/emotional learning. Using my original song, "I've Got a Feeling (Down In My Toes)" as a musical foundation, and the book *The Rabbit Listened* by Cori Doerrfeld as the main experience, we will explore the four main emotions (happy, scared, angry, and sad). The musical tools of melody, steady beat, dynamics, and tempo as well as the drama strategies of imaginary travel and storytelling will help us embody different emotions and act out animal characters. Both the song and the story will emphasize the importance of talking openly about our feelings with friends and family, as well as listening attentively to our children when they express themselves.



➡ KHALESHIA THORPE-PRICE

Going on Safari: From Your Home to the African Savanna

Participants will be taken on an imaginary journey to the African Savanna. Upon arrival, they will be guided on a Safari to search for some of Africa's finest animals. They will engage in a series of gross motor movements while physically exploring animal characteristics.



➡ LAURA SCHANDELMEIER *Dancing Through the Day*

Come dance and sing together! How can you jump like a rabbit? Can you "jump" with your hands? How can you use your body to jump on a low level? Learn how to make a dance phrase with your child based on a character from a book. Explore the setting of a story with Interactive Movement Experiences. Learn how to create an environment for movement exploration and vocabulary development through the Descriptive Language Strategy.



➔ **TIFFANIE HORNER** **Creative Dance Pathways**

Families and children will learn to create a story-based movement sequence utilizing the unique space in their home. Participants will develop movements that portray characters or scenes from a book and learn to use strategies with books in their home library.



➔ **DEBORAH "SPICE" KLEINMANN**
Let's Move Together like Animals

We will sing songs together and learn some animals as well as how to move our bodies like these animals do.



➔ **ALDEN PHELPS** **Let's Go Together!**

With his silly songs, chants, and engaging visuals, Mr. Alden helps early learners think about different ways we get around. It all begins with the Big Blue Truck, which always brings a new surprise!



➔ **MARIA-INES TRIPODI** **How We Grow**

This workshop integrates literature, movement and imagination to help integrate and embody knowledge. Inspired by the book Muncha, Muncha, Muncha, this interactive workshop begins with an introduction to elements of dance such as shapes, levels, gestures, and stopping and starting in order to help us create our own version of the story. Some connections found in this workshop are self regulation, order of operations, health and environment, counting, gross motor movements, and spatial awareness.

