

national dance  institute

*Virtual*

44TH ANNUAL

**GALA**

*From the Heart*



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Jacques d'Amboise  
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Ellen Weinstein  
Artistic Director

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WELCOME YOU TO THE

*Virtual*  
44TH ANNUAL

**GALA**

*From the Heart*

HONORING

**Judy & Josh Weston**

HONORARY CHAIRS

**Alec & Hilaria Baldwin**

WITH APPEARANCES BY

**Alec Baldwin, Glenn Close, Charlotte d'Amboise,  
Jacques d'Amboise, Jennifer Gambatese, Josh Groban,  
Kathryn Grody, Dharon E. Jones, Judy Kuhn, Terrence Mann,  
Brian Stokes Mitchell, Mandy Patinkin, Daniel Ulbricht, and  
Tony & Katie Yazbeck**

WITH PERFORMANCES BY

**The Children of National Dance Institute**

WITH THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS:

Arnold S. and Madaleine  
Penner Family Foundation



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*\*in memoriam*

## a message from our founder

### *The Hand*

*Fists banned, weapons discarded.  
Send out instead your hand,  
In friendship opened.*

*The hand with love,  
The hand that strokes and soothes,  
The hand reaching out to you now.*

*Please give me your hand.*



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jacques" followed by a stylized flourish.

Jacques d'Amboise  
*Founder & President, National Dance Institute*

# a message from our board chair, executive director, and artistic director

Dear Friends,

Welcome to NDI's Virtual Annual Gala!

Forty-four years ago, Jacques d'Amboise had a dream – that learning in the arts would be part of every child's education. Today, National Dance Institute (NDI) is an extraordinary team of artists, teachers, administrators, patrons, and volunteers who share Jacques's dream and work tirelessly to make it a reality. This year, tens of thousands of children throughout New York City, across the United States, and around the world are experiencing the joy and life-changing power of learning and discovery through the arts.

Through the lens of an annual curricular theme, NDI's programs introduce students to new cultures and big ideas, instilling in them an abiding curiosity about the world and their place within it. They learn to work collaboratively, think creatively, and act with empathy.

While these are unprecedented times, we are not letting that stop us. If ever there were a moment to celebrate the transformative power of the arts, and of NDI, it is now!

During this pandemic, NDI has been masterful in pivoting to remote learning platforms, and delivering vital arts education programming to our children and communities. We have been developing new ways to connect meaningfully with our students while distanced, and are bringing NDI into the homes of thousands of children every week through ndiLIVE, our new interactive online dance series. And we are supporting our national network of Associates of National Dance Institute (ANDI), along with our global partners, through the NDI Collaborative for Teaching & Learning.

NDI is an essential, unstoppable, and humanizing force. The children are our future and our hope. Your support helps to nurture and sustain us. Thank you for your belief in NDI and for all that you do to keep us dancing.

With our deepest gratitude and hopes that you and your loved ones are healthy and safe,



*Helen*

Helen Stambler Neuberger  
Chair, Board of Directors



*Ellen*

Ellen Weinstein  
Artistic Director



*Traci*

Traci Lester  
Executive Director

# starchild appeal

**Help our children reach for the stars!** National Dance Institute's arts education programs transform the lives of thousands of New York City public school children and their families each year. With your support of our StarChild Program, we will be able to bring the magic and joy of the arts to even more children.



## **\$25,000 Adopt a School**

NDI has partnerships with 44 schools throughout New York City. Your generosity will help bring our joyful and engaging arts and learning programs to a school community for a full year.



## **\$10,000 Adopt a Class**

NDI currently reaches 250 classrooms in schools across Brooklyn, Queens, Manhattan, and the Bronx. Your support will make it possible for an entire class to experience the transformative power and collaborative spirit of the arts for a full year.



## **\$5,000 Make a DREAM Come True**

At NDI, we believe that every child can dance. Your involvement will help children with disabilities to experience the thrill of the arts through dance, live music, and performance.



## **\$2,500 Keep the Music Playing**

Live music is integral to all of NDI's arts education programs. Your donation will ensure that NDI musicians and their music fill not only our classrooms, but the lives of our young dancers as well.



## **\$1,000 Sponsor a Dancer**

NDI is reaching more than 6,500 school children each week from all corners of New York City with our rigorous and participatory arts and learning programs. Your contribution will help ensure that each and every one of these dancers has **the opportunity to experience the joy and power of the arts in their lives.**

# program

## **When The Saints Go Marching In**

Choreography by Ellen Weinstein

Music: Traditional

## **Charlotte d'Amboise & Terrence Mann**

Emcees

Remarks:

**Alec Baldwin, Honorary Chair**

## **Dancing In the Street**

Choreography by Bianca Johnson

"Dancing in the Street": Music & Lyrics by Marvin Gaye,

William "Mickey" Stevenson, & Ivy Jo Hunter

"Get Ready": Music & Lyrics by William "Smokey" Robinson

Vocals by Gregory Stamper

Performed by the Children of NDI

Remarks:

**Ellen Weinstein, Artistic Director**

**Jacques d'Amboise, Founder**

## **The Colors Of My Life**

Performed by **Glenn Close**

Music by Cy Coleman

Lyrics by Michael Stewart

## **New Words**

Performed by **Brian Stokes Mitchell**

Music & Lyrics by Maury Yeston

Remarks:

**Traci Lester, Executive Director**

Remarks:

**Jillian Mercado**

## **Route 66**

Choreography by Kay Gayner

Music & Lyrics by Bobby Trapp

Performed by the NDI DREAM Dancers

Presentation of the NDI Dream Maker Award

**Judy & Josh Weston**

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Performances by NDI's Celebration Team are made possible  
through the generous support of Judy & Josh Weston.



# program

## **Rent Party**

Choreography by Ellen Weinstein  
Music: "This Joint is Jumpin" by Fats Waller  
Lyrics by Andy Razaf & J.C. Johnson  
Arrangement & Orchestration by Jerome Korman  
Performed by the Children of NDI

Remarks:

**Mandy Patinkin & Kathryn Grody**

## **Appalachian Clog Dance**

Choreography by Jay Ledford  
Music: Tim Harrison

Remarks:

**Bianca Johnson**

Remarks & Performance:

## **Judy Kuhn**

"Other Side of My World"  
Choreography by Peter Gennaro  
Music & Lyrics by Judy Collins  
Arrangement by Jerome Korman  
Performed by the Children of NDI

Remarks:

**Josh Groban**

Remarks:

**Dharon E. Jones**

Remarks & Performance:

## **Daniel Ulbricht**

"Ain't No Sunshine"  
Choreography by Larry Keigwin  
Music & Lyrics by Bill Withers

Remarks:

**Helen Stambler Neuberger, NDI Board Chair**

## **I Could Have Danced All Night**

Music by Frederick Loewe  
Lyrics by Alan Jay Lerner  
Arrangement by Jerome Korman  
Rap Written and Performed by Dufftin Garcia  
Performed by Charlotte d'Amboise, Jennifer Gambatese,  
Terrence Mann, Tony Yazbeck, Katie Yazbeck,  
and the NDI Family

# about ndi

At **National Dance Institute** (NDI), we believe the arts have a unique power to engage all children and motivate them toward excellence.

Through our award-winning arts education programs, we strive to serve children of every background, ability, and socio-economic status—transcending systemic barriers and expanding opportunities for all children to become their best. Our professional teaching artists foster in students a love of dance and music, a curiosity about the world, and a desire to achieve. These dedicated teachers help our young dancers learn to work together as they develop persistence, empathy, and confidence that support their success in school and in life.

Since our founding in 1976 by New York City Ballet principal dancer Jacques d'Amboise, NDI has empowered the lives of more than 2 million children. NDI's core programs are offered to all children free of charge.

## Inspiring Children through the Arts

NDI's programming is exuberant, joyful, and engaging—and unlike any other of its kind. Under the artistic direction of Ellen Weinstein, NDI has developed a unique, proven teaching methodology that uses dance and music to improve children's critical thinking, foster pride in achievement, develop their global perspective, and hone their social-emotional, communication, and collaboration skills.

NDI is continually building upon our mission to transform young lives through the arts with: an inclusive **In-School Program** in New York City public schools that ensures success for every student and currently serves more than 6,500 children each week; Advanced Programs for exceptionally motivated children to continue their NDI experience by joining our **SWAT Team** or **Celebration Team**, and by attending our **Irene Diamond Summer Institute**; the **NDI DREAM Project** (Dancers Realize Excellence through Arts and Movement), in which children with disabilities dance and perform in partnership with non-disabled peers; and public performances locally, nationally, and internationally.

NDI disseminates our acclaimed teaching method through the **NDI Collaborative for Teaching & Learning**, a professional development program for teaching artists, dance educators, musicians, and organizations worldwide. Every year, professional artists and educators from around the globe participate in our trainings and emerge from this transformative experience with an advanced set of teaching tools and a deepened understanding of the power of the arts in education.

Throughout our history, NDI has seeded programs both nationally and internationally. There are currently 12 **Associates of National Dance Institute (ANDI)** thriving in the United States that utilize NDI's pedagogy to serve over 30,000 children every year. Internationally, NDI has developed collaborations with arts and education organizations in both Shanghai, China and in Beirut, Lebanon through training in the NDI methodology. These **International Programs** serve more than 8,000 children annually.

In the fall of 2011, NDI opened the doors to our permanent home—the **National Dance Institute Center for Learning & the Arts** located at 217 West 147th Street in Harlem. The NDI Center is home to the Howard Gilman Performance Space, three dance studios, two art galleries, green rooms, and administrative offices. The NDI Center is used for after school classes, rehearsals, teaching artist training, performances, special events, and in service to the local Harlem community.

The NDI Center furthers our mission and expands our reach. It has become a beacon for children, teachers, and artists in New York City and worldwide. In keeping with the NDI tradition of collaboration, the NDI Center is also available to visiting artists and arts organizations.

When the public health emergency in March 2020 required that we close the NDI Center and suspend teaching in schools, NDI immediately moved our programming online—creating a robust and ever-growing library of dance and music resources to keep children dancing and learning in all of our partner schools. Through **ndiLIVE!**, our platform of joyful, participatory, and free online instruction, we are continuing to serve children and families worldwide with daily classes designed to uplift and inspire.

# partner schools: 2019–2020

## Manhattan

### PS 1

partner since 1985  
8 Henry Street

### PS 2

partner since 1985  
122 Henry Street

### PS 6

partner since 2013  
45 E 81st Street

### PS 7

partner since 2013  
160 E 120th Street

### PS 20

partner since 2009  
166 Essex Street

### PS 33/Chelsea Prep

partner since 2006  
281 Ninth Avenue

### PS 40

partner 1979–1998;  
2005–present  
319 E 19th Street

### PS 41

partner since 2006  
116 W 11th Street

### PS 77/Lower Lab School

partner since 2013  
1700 Third Avenue

### PS 87

partner since 2011  
160 W 78th Street

### PS 110

partner since 2009  
285 Delancey Street

### PS 123

partner since 2011  
301 W 140th Street

### PS 124

partner since 1985  
40 Division Street

### PS 126

partner since 2000–2010;  
returned 2019  
20 Catherine Street

### PS 130

partner since 1985  
143 Baxter Street

### PS/MS 149 Sojourner Truth

partner since 2018  
41 W 117th Street

### PS 161

partner since 2011  
499 W 133rd Street

### PS 163

partner since 2005  
163 W 97th Street

### PS 183

partner since 1991  
419 E 66th Street

### PS 189

partner since 1984  
2580 Amsterdam Avenue

### PS 199

partner since 1997  
270 W 70th Street

### IS 223/Mott Hall

partner since 1984  
71-111 Convent Avenue

### PS 234

partner since 2007  
292 Greenwich Street

### PS 290/ Manhattan New School

partner since 1996  
311 E 82nd Street

### PS 397/Spruce Street School

partner since 2013  
12 Spruce Street

### PS 452

partner since 2010  
100 W 77th Street

### PS 859/Special Music School

partner since 2006  
129 W 67th Street

### The Filomen M. D'Agostino Greenberg Music School

partner 1989–2004;  
2008–present  
Housed at 92nd St. Y,  
1395 Lexington Avenue

### Girls Prep Lower East Side Elementary

partner since 2013  
442 E Houston Street

### Hunter College Elementary School

partner 1981–1984;  
1997–present  
71 E 94th Street

### Speyer Legacy School

partner since 2011  
925 Ninth Avenue

## Bronx

### Girls Prep Bronx Elementary

partner since 2013  
681 Kelly Street

### PS 51/Bronx New School

partner since 2015  
695 E 182 Street

### PS 105

partner since 2003  
725 Brady Avenue

### MS 302

partner since 2015  
681 Kelly Street

## Brooklyn

### PS 10

partner since 2012  
511 Seventh Avenue

### PS 24

partner since 2019  
427 38th Street

### PS 147 | Isaac Remsen

partner since 2019  
325 Bushwick Avenue

### PS 169/Sunset Park School

partner since 2016  
4305 Seventh Avenue

### PS 235

partner since 1998  
525 Lenox Road

### PS 255

partner since 2014  
1866 E 17th Street

## Queens

### PS 45

partner since 2012  
126-128 150th Street

### PS 92

partner since 2019  
99-01 34th Avenue

## Jersey City, NJ

### Dr. Lena Edwards Academic Charter School

partner since 1980  
509 Bramhall Avenue



# ndi staff

Jacques d'Amboise  
**Founder & President**

Ellen Weinstein  
**Artistic Director**

Traci Lester  
**Executive Director**

## Artistic Staff

Kay Gayner  
Associate Artistic Director/  
Co-Director of DREAM Project

Jerome Korman  
Music Director

Emily Meisner  
Director of NDI Collaborative  
for Teaching & Learning

Bianca Johnson  
Rehearsal Director of  
Advanced Programs

Yakir Ben-Hur  
Associate Music Director

Ly Bedaña  
Music Associate

Tracy Straus  
Artistic Associate

## Development

Michele O'Mara  
Chief Advancement Officer

Brooke Berescik-Johns  
Major Gifts Officer

Armelle Kessler  
Manager of Individual  
Giving & Special Events

Bretleigh Sandorf  
Manager of Institutional Giving

Pia Catton  
Development & Marketing  
Manager

## Communications

Jannell Turner  
Communications &  
Brand Manager

## Programs

Aileen Barry  
Senior Director of  
Education & Outreach

Samantha Belth  
Director of Advanced  
Programs

Christina Aguirre  
Program Manager

Natalie Correa  
Program Assistant

Ariel Fonner  
Program Assistant

Sofia Baeta  
Program Assistant

Calia Marshall  
Equity Advocate

Agnes McConlogue Ferro  
Co-Director of DREAM Project

## Administration/ Operations

Gail Cruse  
Senior Director of  
Finance & Administration

Rachel Lee  
Finance & Human Resources  
Manager

Susan Loeb  
Finance Assistant

Cherita Griffin  
Office Manager

Mike Pitsikoulis  
Facilities/Studio Manager

Llewellyn Smith  
Facilities Maintenance

Emily Reid  
Assistant to the Founder

## Production

Kit Westerman  
Technical Director/Producer

Alexa Zanikos  
Facilities/Production  
Associate

Lynn Hippen  
Costume Designer

## Teacher/ Choreographers

Jennifer Aks-Neuman  
Gabriela Burdsall  
Kelly Buwalda  
Jessi Colón  
Andrea Davey-Gislason  
Jennifer Eisenberg  
Nicole Frazzini  
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Angel Reed  
Leonardo Sandoval  
*(Artist in Residence)*

Dr. Jenny Seham  
Elizabeth Sellner  
Eliana Slurzberg  
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Carlos Thomas  
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## Musicians

Seiko Akita  
Tony Allen  
Adrià Barbosa  
Ly Bedaña  
Yakir Ben-Hur  
Robert Cookman  
Alex Garcia  
Micha Gilad  
Claudia Govantes  
Tim Harrison  
Diana Herold  
Todd Keller  
Tony Kieraldo  
Jerome Korman  
Mark Kross  
David Marck  
Shahar Mintz  
Jonathan Smith  
Yaniv Taubenhouse



## gala production team

### Event Producers & Gala Office

Ruth Schwartz & Co.

### Marketing

Alissa Blate of Black Dog Strategies

### Tribute Video in Honor of Judy Weston

Adam Joel, Corinne Chapman

### Video Production

All of Us Films

Benjamin Ryan Nathan, Producer & Editor

Video recordings from NDI Event of the Year by Character Generators, Inc. (Mark Robison, *President*)

Video recordings from Jacques' Art Nest by Dancing Camera, Inc. (Nic Petry, *Founder & Executive Director*)

"I Could Have Danced All Night"

Yaniv Taubenhouse (*Video Editor*), Micha Gilad (*Audio Editor*), and Jerome Korman (*Arranger & Audio Editor*)

## music performed by

Paul Adamy  
Grisha Alexiev  
Tony Allen  
Willie Applewhite  
Jack Bashkow  
Yakir Ben-Hur  
Steve Count  
Philip Flagg  
Jason Fraticelli  
Tim Harrison  
Tom Hubbard  
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Rebecca John  
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Todd Keller  
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## special thanks

to those whose generous participation helped to make this evening a success:

Alec Baldwin  
Justin Bias  
Corinne Chapman  
Glenn Close  
Charlotte d'Amboise  
Jacques d'Amboise  
Jennifer Gambatese  
Josh Groban  
Kathryn Grody  
Karen Gutch  
Adam Joel  
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Judy Kuhn  
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Brian Stokes Mitchell  
Benjamin Ryan Nathan  
Mandy Patinkin  
Miriam Reines  
Daniel Ulbricht  
Tony & Katie Yazbeck

### All People Involved with *I Could Have Danced All Night*:

Jennifer Aks-Neuman  
Tony Allen  
Jack Bashkow  
Ly Bedaña  
Yakir Ben-Hur  
Brooke Berescik-Johns  
Lucia Bradford  
Charlotte d'Amboise  
Andrea Davey-Gislason  
Jennifer Gambatese  
Dufftin Garcia  
Jamie Kelton  
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Jason Mills

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The Families of our DREAM, SWAT, and Celebration Team Dancers

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Our deepest thanks to the following donors who helped make NDI's home – the National Dance Institute Center for Learning & the Arts – a reality.

Including gifts received as of April 30, 2020.

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Our deepest thanks to the following donors for their generous support of our Annual Gala.

Including gifts received as of May 7, 2020.

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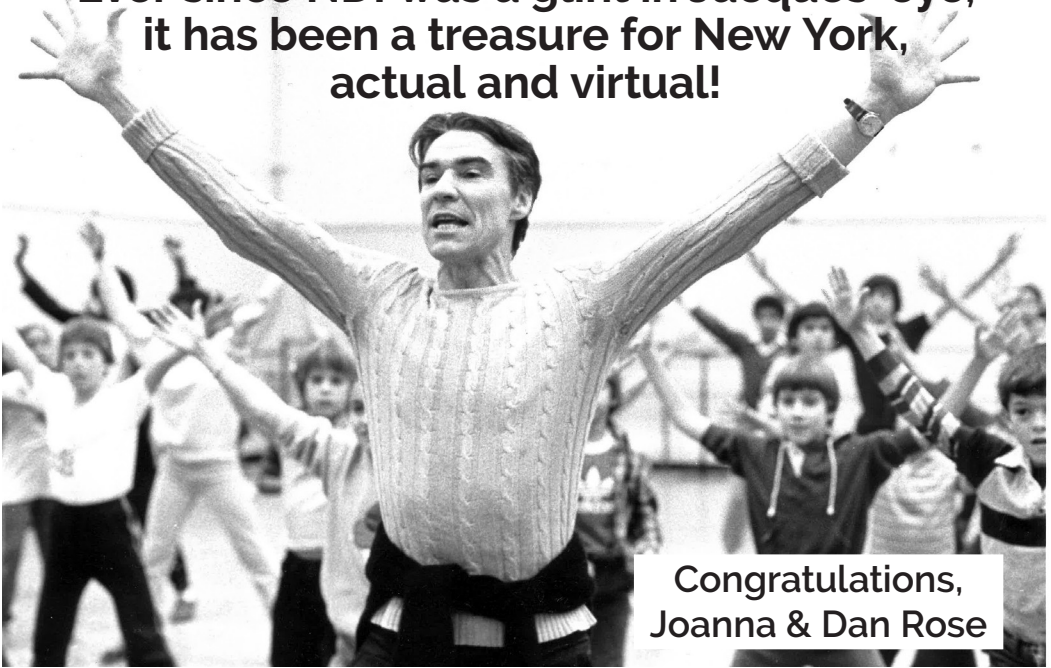
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