

## Destiny Kicks off \$800,000 Special Campaign

Destiny Arts Center is embarking on a three-year effort to double our individual contributions — for a campaign total of \$800,000. The money will be used equally for:

**FACILITIES** — We will be moving from our current 3,000+ sq. ft. facility to a size sufficient to our needs (7,000–9,000 sq. ft.), including dressing rooms, offices, conference/training room, etc. This larger facility will come with significantly increased operational expenses.

**PROGRAMMING** — The new space will have four studios rather than three, allowing for additional classes. Since we will not be sharing space during morning and early afternoon, we can increase our programming offerings.

**RESERVES** — If this economic downturn has taught us anything, it has underscored the need for a healthy reserve fund. Although we currently have a six-month operating reserve, our goal is to increase to nine months, as added insurance.

Given that our lease expires in June of 2010 this first year is focused entirely on securing capital to facilitate a move. This phase of the campaign is called “Raising the Roof for Destiny,” and we are asking those who care about Destiny to get involved in the effort by donating time, talent or money.

**Go to [www.destinyvolunteers.org](http://www.destinyvolunteers.org) to find out the various ways you can contribute!**

PHOTOS: MOJALO



John Stormer, Chair of Marketing and Awareness Committee with Rogéair Purnell, Board Member



David Reimer, Board Vice President and Chair of Special Campaign



Renée Heider, Executive Director

## Bank of America Awards Destiny \$200,000!

Bank of America Charitable Foundation’s signature philanthropy program, the Neighborhood Excellence Initiative, recognizes, nurtures and rewards nonprofit organizations, local heroes and student leaders working to improve their communities. They believe that nonprofit organizations who improve their local communities are the cornerstones of vibrant neighborhoods. The goal of the Neighborhood Builders award is to strengthen the capacity and infrastructure of nonprofit organizations and promote leadership development of their executives. Awardees are provided with not only \$200,000 in core operating support over two years, but additionally, the Executive Director and an emerging leader participate in a leadership development program during the first year of funding.

Given Destiny’s current focus on long-term sustainability and our \$800,000 Special Campaign, this award couldn’t have come at a more opportune time. A million thanks don’t come close to expressing our delight and gratitude for being chosen as an awardee.



Members of the Bank of America Neighborhood Excellence Initiative team with Destiny staff and board.

SAVE THE DATE:  
**“Love in Action”**  
 DESTINY’S EXCITING WINTER CELEBRATION RECITAL

**Saturday December 12, 2009 | 7:00 pm**  
**McClymonds High School, Oakland**

Come watch hundreds of students of all ages from Destiny’s center-based and school-based programs perform dance, martial arts and theater.

**Fun for the whole family!**

**\$3 ADMISSION | FREE FOR KIDS 5 AND UNDER**  
 (No one turned away for lack of funds)



SAVE THE DATE:  
**“Get Your Move On”**  
 DESTINY’S FIRST ANNUAL MOVE-A-THON

**Saturday, January 23, 2009 | 10:00am–10:00 pm**  
**Destiny Arts Center studios**

Twelve hours of back-to-back hip-hop, modern, salsa and hula dance classes, yoga, martial arts classes and a freestyle dance party.  
 All ages welcome!

This event will help Destiny raise money for our move to a new location in July, 2010.

**Go to [www.destinyarts.org](http://www.destinyarts.org) to download a sponsor sheet today.**

# on the **MOVE**

## Destiny Martial Artists Dazzle Interschool Karate Tournament

Destiny Arts Center opened its tournament season early this year with gold, silver and bronze wins. On September 19, two Destiny students Rumi Smith, 10, and Maceo Smith, 6, competed in the First Annual Interschool Karate invitational tournament in Berkeley. Sponsored by the City of Berkeley Parks and Recreation Department this friendship tournament kicked-off Sifu Baron Cope's new martial arts venue designed to bring local schools together in an atmosphere of friendship, sportsmanship and cooperation. Rumi Smith took gold in the beginners 8–11 year old free fighting division and silver in forms and Maceo Smith took third place in the 5–7 year old free fighting division. Both Destiny competitors demonstrated exemplary Warrior's Code spirit.



Members of the Destiny Tournament Team perform high energy martial arts forms.

## New Junior Company Leaps into Action

Tough economic times should not stifle opportunities to expand positive creativity. Therefore, Destiny Arts Center is pleased to announce the creation of the first ever Junior Company for 7–12 year olds. Directed by Natasha Jacobs and Ariel Luckey, the Junior Company is modeled after the Destiny Arts Youth Performance Company (DAYPC), Destiny's premiere teen dance/theater performance troupe. Exuberant auditions took place on Monday, October 5th where 27 enthusiastic participants displayed their dance and theater skills to impressed judges and an animated audience of family supporters. The judges selected 18 talented students to join this new company.



PHOTO: MOUA LO

Left: Cameron leaps and spins in his solo piece

## You Say Good-bye and I Say Hello

The new school year brings changes in staff and board; youth staff graduate from high school and go to college; adult staff make moves into new areas of work and education using the expertise gained at Destiny as a spring board; board members conclude their time of service. Whatever the transition, we send them off with blessings and warmly welcome the newcomers. This year we bid farewell to staff members Sparkle Allen, Simón Hanukai, Rose Huey, Eric Jacobus, Sam Mende-Wong, and Nicole Smith, board members Phillip R. Cryan and Mike Mowery, and board fellow Milli Mittal. We welcome new staff members Arianna Butler, Jamila Jackson, Renysha Franklin, Moua Lo, Ariel Luckey, Salim Rollins, Denice Simpson, Ethan Zatko, Staff Intern Nancy Camacho, board members JoAn McClendon and Dennis Smith, and board fellow Christina Martinez. Annemarie Brown transitioned from the board onto the staff as our new Deputy Director.



PHOTO: MOUA LO

Below: Auditioners play theater games to prepare for solo theater work.

## Destiny's Teen Company goes to Alaska!

This October, four members of the Destiny Arts Youth Performance Company and Co-Artistic Director, Rashidi Omari, traveled afar to Girdwood, Alaska, a place originally called "Glacier City," to perform and lead workshops at the 4-day *Lead ON Peace & Equality Youth Mini Summit* hosted by the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault ([www.andvsa.org](http://www.andvsa.org)). Over a hundred youth from all over Alaska attended. Destiny youth performed for the enthusiastic attendees and led packed workshops bringing Destiny's Five Fingers of Violence Prevention Curriculum alive in articulate and provocative ways.



Members of the Destiny Arts Youth Performance Company pose for applause.

# Destiny's Peaceful Warrior: Kyla Searle

**Kyla Searle** was a dance student and Destiny Arts Youth Performance Company member from 1999–2003. During that time she also participated in the youth leadership program leading violence prevention workshops throughout the Bay Area. Kyla taught in three consecutive Camp Destiny summer programs and managed various Destiny stage productions after graduating from high school. This year Kyla graduated from UCLA with a BA in Metropolitan Studies and is heading to NYU for an MA in Educational Theatre in the spring.



“To grow up in an environment where grown-ups were curious about youth and to be celebrated was incredible. At Destiny I came to know myself, express myself and to be emotionally engaged with the rest of the world. Working on shows at Destiny politicized me. I felt a sense of limitless possibility to contribute to my community. Destiny filled me with a passion for performance art and for working with youth, both of which I have continued to pursue. I constantly return to Destiny for guidance with whatever project I am working on; it remains at the heart of my inspiration.”

## Destiny Reaches Out with New Workshops and Residencies

**D**estiny Arts Center's workshops and residencies bring professional dance, martial arts, theater and conflict resolution instructors to local schools and community organizations. Workshops include single or multiple artistic disciplines during 1–3 hour sessions. Residencies range from 1–3 month sessions held once or twice a week. In addition to our traditional offerings (martial arts, hip-hop dance, modern dance, violence prevention) we are offering a series of new workshops and residencies reflecting the needs of our community. These include Hip-Hop and Beyond: the African roots of hip-hop; Yoga; Peaceful Warriors: violence prevention through dance, martial arts, games & role-plays; Self-Defense; Real Talk/Real Moves: violence prevention for teens and young adults. Programs can be specially designed to accommodate the needs of your organization. For more information please contact Salim Rollins, Outreach Programs Director, (510) 597-1619 ext 107, salim@destinyarts.org.



Destiny instructors lead high energy workshop.

## All New Saturday Cardio Hip-Hop classes for Adults

**F**or the first time in Destiny's existence, we are offering adult dance classes created for the parents and guardians of Destiny youth and other community members. Instructor, Jenay Anolin, breaks the moves down in easy to follow steps. The class, held on Saturdays at 10:00 am and 11:00 am, is for beginners to hip-hop veterans alike.



Drop in rate is \$7 for community members, \$6 for parents/caregivers of current DAC students, or \$50 for a 10-class dance card. For more information contact Ethan Zatkan at (510) 597-1619, ext. 106.

## Partnership with Our Family Coalition

Last spring Destiny and Our Family Coalition ([www.ourfamily.org](http://www.ourfamily.org)) came together to create a workshop series for pre-school aged children and their caregivers called

### Safety Through Movement.

Designed to serve LGBTQ families and their allies and taught by Destiny's founder, Kate Hobbs, the high-energy fun classes built self-defense skills and community. Look out for a new series in the winter semester.

PHOTO: KATHY SIOANE



Kate Hobbs shows proper punching form during Safety Through Movement workshop series.





## Letter from The Executive Director

*"We are continually faced with breathtaking opportunities brilliantly disguised as insolvable problems."*

— JOHN GARDNER

These are such interesting times to be the Director of a nonprofit organization. Many in the sector are wondering when things will return to "normal" and we can get back to "business as usual." Personally, I am of the mind that most likely things will never get "back to normal", but current circumstances will cause us to define a new normal. Thus, it is incumbent on leaders to look for and recognize new paradigms arising from the present upheaval and determine how these new norms will shape our work moving forward. Therefore, I am very grateful to have been invited and sponsored by the Hewlett Foundation to attend the Non-Profit Management Institute at Stanford University on October 6th and 7th.

This conference, sponsored by the Stanford Social Innovation Review and the Association of Fundraising Professionals, featured eight forward-looking speakers over the course of the two days. Topics ranged from negotiating change successfully, to non-profit funding models, to managing the new volunteer workforce, and what form philanthropy might take over the next few years.

As I listened to the presentations, I listened within the context of three words essential to our existence and that have shaped my work over the last year: **Sustainable**: able to be maintained; **Capacity**: the ability to do or experience something, and; **Value**: the worth, importance, or usefulness of something or somebody.

The launch of our \$800,000 Special Campaign will help ensure we remain *sustainable* over the long run. Internal changes to our organizational chart have added to our *capacity*. Recent interviews with 29 community members, as well as a survey of parents and youth confirmed our programs are of *value* — not only to those who avail themselves of our services, but to the community at large. These three concepts are like the three legs to a stool — all equally important and interdependent. They will continue to shape our work for years to come.

Renée

### THANK YOU TO ALL DESTINY'S SUPPORTERS

*We are extremely grateful to the following foundations, corporations, and government agencies for their generous support:*

#### GOVERNMENT / FOUNDATIONS / CORPORATIONS: \$1,000-\$85,000

Alameda County Arts Commission • Bank of America Charitable Foundation • Banks Family Foundation • Margaret A. Cargill Foundation • City of Oakland Cultural Funding Program • City of Oakland – Oakland Fund for Children & Youth • Clorox Foundation • East Bay Community Foundation • Betsy Gordon Foundation • William & Flora Hewlett Foundation • Kaiser Permanente • KALW 91.7 • The Lia Fund of the Randy Weil Trust • Thomas Long Foundation • Piedmont Community Church • Ronald McDonald House Charities/Dancers' Group • San Francisco Foundation • Irene S. Scully Foundation • Shinnyo-en Foundation • Tides Foundation • Y & H Soda Foundation

#### IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

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*...and to individuals who have made donations in amounts ranging from \$5 to \$33,000. Destiny Arts Center survives on the generosity of individuals like you. Each contribution, large, small and in between, is greatly appreciated.*

# DESTINY ARTS CENTER

## STAFF

### Executive Director

Renée Heider

### Artistic Director

Sarah Crowell

### Deputy Director

Annemarie Brown

### Finance/Human Resource Manager

Ellen D. Hamilton

### Development Coordinator

Denise Pate

### Outreach Programs Director

Salim Rollins

### Onsite Program Manager

Ethan Zatko

### Office Manager

Damie Nazapas

### Communications Manager

Moua Lo

### Security Officer

Ellis Jackson

### Martial Arts Head Instructor

Anthony Daniels

### Main Site Martial Arts Instructors

Antonio Castro, Michele Elefante, Nynke Koopmans, Mathew Lucas, Mariana Martinez

### Main Site Dance Instructors

Rossana Alves, Natasha Jacobs, Rashidi Omari, Denice Simpson

### Main Site Theater Instructor

Jujuana Williams

### Destiny Arts Youth Performance Company Co-Artistic Directors

Sarah Crowell & Rashidi Omari

### Destiny Junior Company Co-Artistic Directors

Natasha Jacobs, Ariel Luckey

### Project DESTINY Instructors

Jennifer Anolin, Anthony Daniels, Michele Elefante, Natasha Jacobs, Mathew Lucas, Akimasa Moore, Rashidi Omari, Jelani Prosser, Teyahnee Ridgle, Denice Simpson, Jamila Jackson

### Youth Instructors

Arianna Butler, Briya Daniels, Renysha Franklin

### Youth Intern

Nancy Camacho

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Erica Webber (President), David Reimer (Vice President), Dennis Smith (Treasurer), Felicia Gustin (Secretary), Rick Butler, Melanie DeMore, Karen Hester, Renée Heider (Executive Director), JoAn McClendon, Felix Payom, Rogéair Purnell, Christina Martinez (Board Fellow)

## ADVISORY COUNCIL

Shane Adler, Juana Alicia, Danny Glover, Claire Greensfelder, Rennie Harris, Marc-Bamuthi Joseph, David McCauley, Alice Walker, Akaya Windwood, William Wong, Neil Young

## PROJECT DESTINY SCHOOL & COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Destiny Arts Center runs in-school and after-school programs called

Project DESTINY at the following school sites:

**ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOLS:** Civicorps Elementary, Claremont Middle School, Esperanza Elementary, Korematsu Discover Academy, Lighthouse Academy, Paul Robeson Preparatory High School of Visual & Performing Arts, Peralta Elementary, Santa Fe Elementary, Emiliano Zapata Street Academy High School.

**PRESCHOOLS & CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTERS:** Bella Vista, Brookfield, Yuk Yau, Yuk Yau Annex, International, Golden Gate, Emerson, MLK, Arroyo Viejo, Santa Fe.

**(510) 597-1619 • [www.destinyarts.org](http://www.destinyarts.org)**

1000 42nd Street • Oakland, CA 94608 • E-MAIL: [info@destinyarts.org](mailto:info@destinyarts.org)

Become a FAN of *Destiny Arts Center* on Facebook.

***Destiny Arts Center exists to end isolation, prejudice and violence in the lives of young people.***

# DESTINY ARTS CENTER

YOUTH ON THE MOVE

1000 42nd Street  
Oakland, CA 94608

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