



EDUCATION GUIDE



**Tuesday, January 22, 2019
9:30am and 12:30pm**

Tickets: \$6.00 per person

Recommended for Grades 1 through 12

ABT Student Matinee series sponsored by



Alberta Bair Theater for the Performing Arts
2801 Third Avenue North • Billings, Montana 59101
406-256-8915
www.albertabairtheater.org

“BREAKIN’ BACK TO SCHOOL”

Where bustin’ moves take on decades past.

Four male dancers perform their special contemporary mix of choreography to the popular music of the decades... ranging from Vivaldi to Michael Jackson.

OUR HISTORY

Soul Street, a company from Houston, TX (Spring Branch) which is created by former members of Fly Dance Company, is unique for their way of incorporating different styles of street dance. Under the direction of Javier Garcia, George Casco, and Rock Williams, Soul Street presents a new era in dance. While pushing the artistic boundaries in street dance they maintain the true essence of the culture.

The history of the company dates back to 1997 as a self-taught street crew competing for recognition in the Houston areas. They quickly caught the attention of the artistic director for FDC. This is where they

became the company’s principal dancers and helped turn them into a national and international touring sensation.

Soul Street concerts consist of high-energy movement that will keep you at the edge of your seat. The music is combined with an eclectic mix ranging from hip-hop to classical. It’s a show that will make you laugh and keep audiences of all ages entertained.

In conjunction with our concerts, Soul Street offers educational outreach performances that have taken 300,000 + audiences across the country by storm.



CURRICULUM CONNECTION GUIDE

Takin It to the Streets

Soul Street Performance, Grades 1-12

About the performance:

They fly through the air with the greatest of ease! They dance on beat while moving effortlessly in high-top sneakers! Catch the excitement of Street Dance as these energetic performers demonstrate varied styles and discuss the distinctive features and origins of each dance. From Brazil's capoeira to New York's break dance and the multi-component form of hip-hop, students learn how these styles developed and evolved. In addition to some exciting participatory activities, students find out what happens when today's diverse dance styles meet classical music by 17th century composer Antonio Vivaldi.



WAY 2 MUCH



WAY 2 MUCH

RESOURCES:

- Soul Street: www.soulstreetdance.com
- Hip hop: www.breakcheck.com
- Hip hop music: <http://www.buckwheatzydeco.com/>
- Vivaldi (biography and music samples): <http://w3.rz-berlin.mpg.de/cmp/vivaldi.html>
- DVDs: *Breakn', Breakn'2, Beat Street, Freshest Kids*

LANGUAGE ARTS:

- Write a song, rap, poem, story or essay about hip hop.
- In an essay, compare hip hop and classical music.

MATH:

- Use a rap to help remember tables and formulas in mathematics.
- Create a hip hop composition about an important idea in mathematics, such as probability.

SOCIAL STUDIES:

- Research non-violent means to deal with conflict between groups or individuals.
- Find out more about the origins and culture surrounding hip hop, capoeira, and other forms in the performance.
- Create a rap about an important person or event in history.

SCIENCE:

- Create a hip hop composition about an important idea in science, such as the theory of relativity.

- *The Vibe History of Hip Hop* by *Vibe Magazine*, 1999, Three Rivers Press.
- *Hip Hop Files: Photographs* by Martha Cooper, 2004, From Here to Fame.
- *Urban Art*: www.j78design.com

NO BONES ABOUT ABOUT IT

Soul Street Performance, Grades 1-5

About the performance:

When we see dancers perform seemingly super-human leaps and bends, we often ask, “How do they do that?” The dancers of Soul Street exhibit ways in which the body accomplishes these features through combinations of bone, muscle, and commands from the brain! Demonstrating with props and dance segments, skeletal features such as hinged joints and ball-and-socket joints, Soul Street shows how our bodies move. Tracing movements to their source, the dancers reveal how signals from the brain tell muscles to stretch or contract, allowing our bodies to move the way we want them to. Combine all this with a dance fantasy of how we might move if we had no bones, and you have a performance that must be seen to be believed!



WAY 2 MUCH
DANCE COMPANY



WAY 2 MUCH
DANCE COMPANY

Vocabulary:

- **bones** — the rigid connective tissue that makes up the skeleton of vertebrates
- **hinged joints** — permit motion only on one plane, forward and backward, such as the two outermost joints of the fingers
- **ball and socket joints** — one bone has a rounded end that fits into the cup-like end of another bone; allowing a wide range of motion; like the hip or shoulder
- **pivot joints** — allow rotation around an axis; like the neck
- **brain** — the control center of the central nervous system

CURRICULUM CONNECTION GUIDE

MATH:

- Compare the number of bones in the hand and foot to those in the rest of the body.
- Create a hip hop composition about an important idea in mathematics, such as probability.

SOCIAL STUDIES:

- Find out more about the origins and culture surrounding hip hop, capoeira, and other forms in the performance.
- Discover how to maintain healthy bones.

SCIENCE:

- Create a hip hop composition about an important idea in science, such as treaty or interdependence.
- Learn more about the skeletal system and how the muscles are connected to the bones.



RESOURCES:

- Soul Street: www.soulstreetdance.com
- Hip hop: www.breakcheck.com and www.tribalgear.com
- Music: <http://www.buckwheatzydeco.com/>
- DVDs: *Breakn'*, *Breakn'2*, *Beat Street*, *Freshest Kids*
- The Vibe History of Hip Hop by *Vibe Magazine*, 1999, Three Rivers Press.
- Hip Hop Files: Photographs by Martha Cooper, 2004, From Here to Fame.

THE HISTORICAL ELEMENTS OF HIP-HOP

BREAKIN':

Breakin', (break dancing) or what was originally known as b-boying and b-girling was the second recognizable element of Hip Hop to come into existence. Once it became a fad battling was established. Dancers would go to Harlem World on The street to battle. When the term "Battling" came out it was a different way to say competition. People went to these and watched and cheered on. Break dancing was simpler then, they had less moves. It modified over time like everything else in history and evolution.

DJ-ing:

DJ-ing (Turntablism) came about in the late 1970s and early 1980s. A DJ in the Bronx named Kool Herc noticed that dancers liked the breaks in the music, or the percussion solos. He began experimenting with making the breaks in music longer, which allowed the dancers more time to create new moves.



MC-ing:

MC-ing began as a variation on the toasting found in reggae and dub music, mixed with influences from radio DJs and playing the dozens. Also of influence were the works of The Last Poets and Gil Scott Heron and Bob Dylan's Subterranean Homesick Blues (1965). The original MCs (from "Master of Ceremonies") would improvise rhymes over the beats created by the DJs. Early raps were frequently merely a sequence of boasts, or attempts to upstage the other MCs.

GRAFFITI:

Graffiti was the first recognizable element of hip-hop culture to exist. It was used primarily by political activists to make statements to mark territory. It wasn't till the late 1960s that the writing's current identity started to form. Writing started moving from the streets to the subways and quickly became competitive. At this point writing consisted of mostly tags and the goal was to have as many as possible. In short, graffiti in the form of spray can art is art like any other work that might be found in a gallery or a museum.



Member Bios



JAVIER GARCIA

Javier Garcia – Co-founder/Director: Known for his creative b-boyin’ tricks, power moves and blowups, Javier also portrays a witty comedic side on and off the stage. He has more than 10 years of performance experience and has toured extensively throughout the U.S. and many other countries. He has performed at some of the most prestigious theatres and festivals worldwide with some of Hip Hop’s biggest musical acts. Last but certainly not least, he has been Captain of the Launch Crew for the NBA’s Houston Rockets for the last eight years.



ROCK WILLIAMS

Rock Williams – Co-founder: Rock is an outstanding dancer and a highly energetic performer with 24 years of experience. Through poppin’ n’ lockin’ and house footwork he can make you believe that you are seeing impossible things. He has also traveled across the U.S. and Europe as a principal dancer.



CEDRIC D. HICKS

Cedric D. Hicks – aka “Ced”: At age 22, Ced is the youngest and newest member of Soul Street Dance. He has appeared with The Houston Rockets Launch Crew, Houston Comets, Southern University Dance Company and has danced as a featured guest with local artist Paris House and numerous hip-hop teams.



ROY RAMIREZ

Roy Ramirez: is a well-rounded b-boy, with skills including power moves, blowups, footwork, uprock and toprock. He has won Red Bull battles in Houston and throughout Texas. He is also a member of United B-Boys and dances for the Houston Rockets.