

AILEY® EXTENSION

REAL CLASSES FOR REAL PEOPLE

Learn International Dance Styles and Rhythms at Ailey Extension's World Dance Celebration

Eight-Week Performance Workshop Series Begins Saturday, April 21

Three Showcases at the Ailey Citigroup Theater on Saturday, June 23 & Sunday, June 24



Left to right: Sabar with Babacar M'Baye; West African with Vado Diomande; Samba with Quenia Riberio. All photos by Christian Miles.
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(New York) April 5, 2018 — Dance lovers of all experience levels are invited to learn traditional dance styles and rhythms from around the globe at Ailey's annual [World Dance Celebration](#). This popular eight-week workshop series – **beginning on Saturday, April 21 and culminating with on stage performances** – combines folkloric dance styles and live accompaniment native to Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East into a “life-affirming celebration” (*W42St* magazine).

Taught by Ailey Extension's internationally renowned instructors, World Dance Celebration allows participants to share the rich heritage of indigenous cultures, learning their unique expressions through dynamic costumes, acoustic instruments, and folkloric movements. The workshop culminates with three performances for family and friends at the **Ailey Citigroup Theater on Saturday, June 23 at 2pm and 7pm, and Sunday, June 24 at 2pm**. Performance tickets go on sale Tuesday, May 1.

After in-depth rehearsals and performing center stage, New Yorkers will gain a new perspective on world dance and, according to *W42St*, “the rewards are life-changing.” Workshops are offered in the following eight styles:

- **Sabar with Babacar M'Baye (Saturdays, April 21 – June 16, 8-10pm)**: A traditional dance performed to the Sabar drum from Senegal, West Africa that combines arm swinging, knee lifting, and hip twisting.
- **West African with Maguette Camara (Fridays, April 27 – June 15, 8-10pm)**: An energetic union of music, dance, and oral tradition of West African people with live djembe and dundun drumming.
- **Samba/Afro-Brazilian with Quenia Ribeiro (Sundays, April 29 – June 17, 2-4pm)**: One of Brazil's most popular cultural expressions, samba incorporates the country's Afro-Brazilian dance roots with live drumming and rhythms.
- **West African with Vado Diomande (Sundays, April 29 – June 17, 5-7pm)**: With live drumming, this workshop teaches students the fundamentals of West African dance.
- **Afro-Latin Fusion with Sekou McMiller (Tuesdays, May 1 – June 19, 7:30-9:30pm)**: Experience Latin rhythms and techniques deeply rooted in the Caribbean, while blending urban dance, modern jazz, and contemporary styles.

- **Salsa with Baila Society (Tuesdays, May 1 – June 19, 7:30-9:30pm):** Learn the fundamentals of salsa footwork and partnerwork, while moving to Latin rhythms.
- **Afro-Cuban with Noibis Licea (Wednesdays, May 2 – June 20, 8:30-10:30pm):** Learn traditional Afro-Cuban movements that represent African deities brought to Cuba (called Orishas), and their cultural context, while being energized by live drums.
- **NY Style Mambo with Katherine Jimenez (Wednesdays, May 9 – June 20, 7:30-9:30pm):** Participants will learn NY Style Mambo, a flirtatious partner dance with humble beginnings at the infamous Palladium Ballroom that features points, kicks, exaggerated hip movements, and sharp quick steps.

Beyond these exciting workshops, Ailey Extension offers 100 classes per week in over 25 diverse dance and fitness techniques. Traditional dance styles like hip-hop, Horton, ballet, jazz, and tap are offered as weekly classes, in addition to most of the world dance styles listed above. Recently featured in [The New York Times](#), **Afro Flow Yoga workshops** occur bi-weekly on Sunday afternoons, exercising “peaceful and high-energy, meditative and pulsating, spiritual and earthy” dichotomies simultaneously.

To view the complete class schedule or to register, visit www.aileyextension.com.

SPRING HIGHLIGHTS

Adult Workshops

[Afro Flow Yoga® with Pilin Anice](#)

Meditative yoga infused with African diaspora movements and live drumming
Sunday, April 8 & 22, 2-3:30pm / \$20

[Body Shop Class Series](#)

Learn strategies to prevent and manage common injuries
Sunday, April 8, 4-6pm / Single Class \$40, Full Series \$175

[Move Your Curves with Pretty BIG Movement](#)

Empowers women (and men) of all shapes and sizes
Saturday, April 21, 7-9pm / \$20

[Sunday Ballet Intensive with Finis Jhung](#)

Center class teaching basic ballet steps and choreography
Sunday, April 22, 4-6pm / \$30

New Weekly Class

[Afro Contemporary with Will Brown](#)

Contemporary movements inspired by the African diaspora
Fridays, 7-8:30pm / \$20

[Limón with Becky Brown](#)

Modern dance technique that emphasizes the dynamics of body weight and weightlessness
Saturdays & Sundays, 1-2:30pm & 3-4:30pm respectively / \$20

ABOUT AILEY EXTENSION

Since its inception in 2005, Ailey Extension has fulfilled Mr. Ailey’s life-long commitment of bringing dance to everyone by offering “real classes for real people.” Ailey Extension offers 100 classes a week in 25 different dance and fitness techniques such as [Horton](#), [Ballet](#), [Masala Bhangra](#), [West African](#), [Samba](#), [Jazz](#), [Zumba](#), [House](#) and [Hip-Hop](#). Over 125,000 people have taken classes at Ailey’s home, New York’s largest building dedicated to dance, where dancers of all levels and walks of life can learn and be inspired – body, mind, and spirit! For additional press materials, including photos, videos, and class descriptions, visit pressroom.alvinailey.org.

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