

AILEY EXTENSION

AILEY EXTENSION'S KIDS & TEENS SPRING 2021 ONLINE SESSION FEATURES NEW OFFERINGS AND EXPANDED CLASSES FOR AGES 5 TO 17

Junior Broadway Jazz Immerses Pre-Teen Aspiring Performers in Theater Dance

Teen Contemporary Led by Acclaimed Former Ailey Dancer Linda Celeste Sims Features Original Choreography

Students Build Strong Dance Technique Skills in Junior Horton for Tweens, Ballet for Kids Ages 5-12, and Hip-Hop for All Ages



Hip-Hop 4 Kids at Ailey Extension; Horton with Karen Arceneaux; Broadway Jazz at Ailey Extension. Photos by Kyle Froman.

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(New York) March 5, 2020 - [Ailey Extension's Kids & Teens Online](#) workshop is keeping kids moving this spring with a range of classes teaching fun dance techniques in a non-competitive environment. Dancers as young as 5 years old have the chance to learn from in-demand instructors as they develop coordination and individuality with their movements. The Spring 2021 eight-week session – which runs from **March 1 to May 2** – includes hip-hop classes for all ages, ballet for children ages 5-12, Horton for pre-teens, and introduces two new class options – Teen Contemporary and Junior Broadway Jazz.

Acclaimed former Ailey dancer **Linda Celeste Sims** will lead [Teen Contemporary](#), teaching original choreography while focusing on theatrical elements and mastering musicality. This expressive dance style combines elements of modern, ballet and jazz techniques, allowing dancers to explore a wide range of movement and syncopated rhythms. In [Teen Hip-Hop](#), **Keith Alexander** will help students work on coordination and musicality as they learn the fundamentals of the dance style and practice performance quality. Classes for teens allow students ages 13-17 to develop their skills in a judgment-free zone.

Aspiring young performers between ages 10-12 will step into a world of musical theater dance, learning the technique and its vocabulary, in [Junior Broadway Jazz](#) with **Lainie Munro**. Each class will introduce dancers to the history of Broadway musicals as they learn combinations set to popular songs. Students in this age group can also develop their knowledge of ballet technique and terminology in [Junior Ballet](#) with **Linda Celeste Sims** or [Extended Junior Ballet](#) with

Dawn Hillen to experience a series of stretches, ballet positions, and dance movements that will encourage their flexibility, balance, strength, coordination, musicality, and joy of performing. [Junior Hip-Hop](#) with Keith Alexander will teach some of today's most popular dance moves; and **Extended Junior Hip-Hop** offers an additional weekly class for students to further develop their coordination and precision. Tween Ailey fans will love **Karen Arceneaux's Junior Horton**, where they will learn the modern dance technique which serves as the foundation of choreography performed by [Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater](#). Horton aims to correct physical faults and prepare students for any type of dancing they may wish to follow. Each of the diverse techniques available for pre-teens allows students to develop coordination and focus on precision as they expand their dance knowledge.

Kids as young as five years old can join in the dance with age specific hip-hop and ballet classes. [Intro to Hip-Hop](#) will help kids ages 5-7 learn fundamental moves and performance quality from choreographer and instructor **TweetBoogie**. Kids ages 8-9 can learn similar skills as they build on basic body isolations and precision during [Hip-Hop 4 Kids](#) with Keith Alexander. Therese Wendler will help Ailey Extension's youngest dancers practice body alignment and learn ballet terminology with slow and thorough exercises in [Intro to Ballet](#) (ages 5-7) and [Ballet 4 Kids](#) (8-9). These classes help boost confidence in elementary school age children as they learn basic dance skills and develop coordination.

The **Kids & Teens Online** series allows children of all experience levels to dive into dance with highly sought-after instructors. Classes are available for students ages 5-17 and take into consideration the abilities of each age group to create an environment that fosters learning skills and boosts confidence. Students can enroll in the full eight-week session or drop-in to one of the weekly classes. To keep dancing with Ailey without having to leave your home, please visit [alvinailey.org/extension](#) to find further information, including how to register for Ailey Extension's over 30 weekly classes and workshops for children and adults.

VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS FOR KIDS (AGES 5-9)

[INTRO TO BALLET](#) (Ages 5-6) Sundays, 10:00-10:45amEDT

[Therese Wendler](#) will introduce students to the ballet vocabulary while progressing at the barre, developing coordination through combinations.

[INTRO TO HIP-HOP](#) (Ages 5-7) Sundays, 9:00-9:45amEDT

[TweetBoogie](#) will lead your kids through the fundamentals of hip-hop, developing coordination and musicality while building on basic body isolations, precision, and performance quality.

[BALLET FOR KIDS](#) (Ages 7-9) Sundays, 11:00-11:45amEDT

[Therese Wendler](#) will further students' ballet vocabulary while progressing at the barre, developing coordination through combinations.

[HIP HOP 4 KIDS](#) (Ages 8-9) Sundays 10:00-10:45amEDT

[Keith Alexander](#) will lead kids through the fundamentals of hip-hop, developing coordination and musicality while building on basic body isolations, precision, and performance quality.

VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS FOR KIDS (AGES 10-12)

[JUNIOR BALLET](#) (Ages 10-12) Saturdays, 12:00-1:00pmEDT

[Linda Celeste Sims](#) will progress students at the barre, develop coordination through combinations, develop flexibility, and grow their ballet vocabulary.

[EXTENDED JUNIOR BALLET](#) (Ages 10-12) Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4:30-5:30pmEDT

[Dawn Hillen](#) shares the inspiring beauty and technique of ballet with your young people. In every class, the students will experience a series of stretches, ballet positions, and dance movements that will encourage their flexibility, balance, strength, coordination, musicality, and joy of performing to music.

JUNIOR BROADWAY JAZZ (Ages 10-13) Thursdays, 3:30-4:30pmEDT

[Lainie Munro](#) will teach dancers the technique and vocabulary used in theater dance, as well as the history of the song and the musical. From the warm-up to the combination, every song is from a Broadway musical. This fun and energetic online class is ideal for aspiring young performers who love Broadway and want to learn about musical theater dance.

JUNIOR HIP-HOP (Ages 10-12) Sundays, 11:00-11:45amEDT and Tuesdays, 3pmEDT

[Keith Alexander](#) will lead your kids through the fundamentals of hip-hop, developing coordination and musicality while building on basic body isolations, precision, and performance quality.

JUNIOR HORTON TECHNIQUE (Ages 10-12) Saturdays, 1:30-2:30pmEDT

[Karen Arceneaux](#) will teach the fundamentals of the Horton technique using dance exercises to expand on flexibility, strength and musicality. Dancers are introduced to a class format that focuses on posture, placement, and coordination.

VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS FOR TEENS (AGES 13-17)

TEEN CONTEMPORARY (Ages 13-17) Sundays, 12:00-1:00pmEDT

[Linda Celeste Sims](#) will help students find the freedom in the use of movement while developing technique and building a strong foundation. A fusion of modern, ballet, and jazz' this unique style explores a wide range of expressive movements and syncopated rhythms. Each class involves learning original choreography while focusing on theatrical elements and mastering musicality.

TEEN HIP-HOP (Ages 13-17) Sundays, 1:00-2:00pmEDT

[Keith Alexander](#) will build on your kids' understanding of the fundamentals of hip-hop, coordination, and musicality while moving through basic body isolations, precision, and performance quality.

Weekly classes and special workshops from Ailey Extension take place virtually on Zoom

ELECTRONIC PRESS KIT

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 over 25 different dance and fitness techniques such as Horton, Ballet, Masala Bhangra, West African, Samba, Jazz, Zumba, House and Hip-Hop. Over 135,000 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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