

# AILEY EXTENSION

## CELEBRATE PRIDE AND JUNETEENTH WITH SPECIAL WORKSHOPS AT AILEY EXTENSION

Get a Taste of NYC's Ballroom Vogue Scene During Voguing with Pride MiniBall on June 23

Celebrate Juneteenth in a FREE West African Class on June 19

Expand Your Dance Skills in New Intermediate Ballet and Afro'Dance Weekly Classes

Kids and Teens Online Summer Session June 5 - 27



*West African Class at Ailey Extension; Vogue Class at Ailey Extension; Ballet Class Ailey Extension. Photos by Kyle Froman.*

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(New York) May 26, 2021 – [Ailey Extension](#) is jumping into June with plenty of opportunities for people around the world to join in the Pride festivities. All are welcome to learn moves from NYC Ballroom Vogue Icon and Pioneer **Cesar Valentino** during an **Online Vogue Workshop & Mini Ball** on **Wednesday, June 23** and weekly **All Styles Vogue** classes. In addition to celebrating Pride, Ailey is hosting a FREE **Online Juneteenth Celebration: West African Class** on **Saturday, June 19** inviting dancers everywhere to commemorate the anniversary of the liberation of African Americans from slavery in the US. Two new weekly **Intermediate Ballet** and **Afro'Dance** classes let dancers expand their skills. Young dancers are also welcome to usher in summer with the **Kids & Teens Online Summer Session** from June 5 – June 27. All classes and workshops at Ailey Extension are virtual and designed for students of all experience levels.

Put on your brightest clothes and join **ballroom vogue icon and pioneer Cesar Valentino** for an **[Online Voguing with Pride Workshop & Mini Ball](#)** on **Wednesday, June 23 at 7pm EDT**. This 90-minute class will focus on vogue basics as well as classic and current trends in runway modeling. Participants will get a taste of ballroom culture at the end of the workshop when they have the chance to put their new skills to the test and compete for prizes during a miniball. Students are encouraged to dress in bright colors and wear heels (not required). Vogue lovers can also pop, dip, and spin into Cesar's weekly **[All Styles Vogue](#)** class on **Saturdays at 4:30pm EDT** where they'll learn the fundamentals of vogue dancing and classic runway as well as current trends with special attention paid to voguing's rich history. Students will also practice incorporating graceful hand and body movements.

All are welcome to join Ailey for a **FREE [Online Juneteenth Celebration](#)** with Maguette Camara on **Saturday, June 19 at 12pm EDT**. Featuring live drumming, this 75-minute class will dive into West African culture while teaching the fundamentals of traditional West African dance and rhythms. This special class celebrates Juneteenth, recognized each June 19<sup>th</sup> to commemorate the day in 1865 when slavery ended in America. Dancers can also practice [West African](#) dance with Maguette during regularly scheduled 60-minute classes each **Thursday at 6pm EDT** and **Saturday at 12pm EDT**.

Ailey Extension adds two new classes to its diverse weekly schedule that will help dancers of various levels expand their skills – [Intermediate Ballet](#) with **Noriko Hara** on **Wednesdays at 11am EDT** and [Afro'Dance](#) with **Angel Kaba** on **Mondays at 7pm EDT**. Noriko will help dancers build on their existing skills and terminology during Intermediate Ballet while Angel will introduce dancers to a fun and free-spirited urban street style while teaching students how to move to the latest music trends coming from West Africa.

In addition to these exciting new workshops and classes, dancers can keep moving during **La Mora's** monthly [Afro-Cuban Live](#) workshop on **Saturday, June 26 at 2pm EDT**. Filmed with live music accompaniment in the beautiful Ailey Studios, this workshop embraces an accessible path to understanding dance through the quality of movement and cultural context. As a special bonus, an [Afro-Cuban On-Demand](#) class will be made available from **June 27 – July 3**.

Young dancers ages 5-17 can also join in the dance during the [Kids & Teens Online Summer Session](#) from **Saturday, June 5 – Sunday, June 27**. This four-week series allows children to learn basic dance skills during age-appropriate [Intro to Hip-Hop](#) and [Intro to Ballet](#) classes for ages 5-6; or [Hip-Hop 4 Kids](#) and [Ballet for Kids](#) classes for ages 8-9. Older children (ages 10-12) can explore different styles during [Junior Ballet](#), [Junior Broadway Jazz](#), [Junior Hip-Hop](#), or [Junior Horton](#) classes. Teens (ages 13-17) can work on their skills during [Teen Contemporary](#) or [Teen Hip-Hop](#) in a judgment-free zone surrounded by their peers. Students are welcome to enroll in the full session or drop-in to one of the weekly classes.

**Share the joy of dance with your loved ones by purchasing a gift card as a present for Father's Day, graduations, birthdays, anniversaries, or any other special occasion.** Gift certificates can be purchased online, personalized with a message, and sent directly to the recipient at a date of your choosing. Options are available for a single class, 5 classes, 10 classes, or can be customized for a specific amount.

With more than 30 weekly classes and special workshops each month Ailey Extension's online offerings allow students all over the world to explore different dance styles seven days a week. For more details about Ailey Extension's variety of class options – which include hip-hop, ballet, Horton, West African, Zumba®, samba, contemporary, Pilates, Broadway Jazz and more – students can visit [alvinailey.org/extension](http://alvinailey.org/extension).

## **VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS & NEW WEEKLY CLASSES FOR ADULTS**

### **JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION with MAGUETTE CAMARA**

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater was born out of the Civil Rights Movement when visionary founder Alvin Ailey saw the need to celebrate the lives and stories of African-Americans and understood the power of dance as a weapon for social change. Ailey said that one of America's richest treasures was the African-American cultural heritage — "sometimes sorrowful, sometimes jubilant, but always hopeful." In celebration of Juneteenth, a day recognized annually on June 19 to commemorate the full abolishment of slavery, we at Ailey Extension are pleased to present a FREE West African dance class with Maguette Camara. With live drumming, this class will dive into West African culture while teaching the fundamentals of traditional West African dance and rhythms. **Saturday, June 19 at 12pm EDT**

### **VOGUE WITH PRIDE WORKSHOP AND MINI BALL with CESAR VALENTINO**

Join ballroom vogue icon and pioneer Cesar Valentino for this special vogue workshop in celebration of Pride Month. This workshop will focus on vogue basics, classic and current trends in runway modeling designed for all levels. Students will gain a better understanding of vogue fundamentals while popping, dipping, and spinning with grace and precision. Whether you are LGBTQIA+ or an ally of the community, an experienced dancer or a dance-lover without formal training, this workshop is for everyone and focused on inclusivity, empowerment, and body positivity. For the pride mini ball at the end of the workshop, students can put what they've learned to the test and bring it to the runway while getting a taste of ballroom

culture. There will be trophies awarded for the best runway, best vogue and best dressed in Pride colors. The focus is to help build confidence and have a great time in a non-judgment and welcoming environment. The theme is voguing with pride, participants are encouraged to wear pride or very bright colors and heels but not mandated. *No vogue or dance experience necessary—the workshop is open to everyone.* **Wednesday, June 23 at 7pm EDT**

#### **[AFRO-CUBAN WORKSHOP with LA MORA](#)**

This workshop is intended to create a movement environment that explores the various forms of Afro-Cuban dance tradition. While practicing different movements representing the Orishas (deities from the African traditions brought to Cuba), La Mora will discuss the form's history and its importance to each movement. Based on each dancer's skill, knowledge, and experience, La Mora allows participants to embrace an accessible path to understanding dance through the quality of movement, and cultural context. **Saturday, June 26 at 2pm EDT or On-Demand June 27-July 3**

#### **[INTERMEDIATE BALLET with NORIKO HARA](#)**

This class is designed for students to continue their developing knowledge of ballet terminology with slow and thorough exercises to ensure a better understanding of proper body placement and positioning. Most of the barre exercises will be done at the barre. It is recommended to wear ballet shoes or socks along with clothing like a leotard or tank top that allows the instructor to view body alignment. Students can use a countertop or furniture like a chair in replacement of a barre. **Wednesdays at 11am EDT starting June 2**

#### **[AFRO'DANCE with ANGEL KABA](#)**

Afro'Dance class is a mixture of the new generation of African influences and street dance. In the class, dancers will work on musicality heavily influenced by the rhythm and musical trends from the Congo, Ivory Coast, Angola, and beyond. Urban street styles are incorporated into the backdrop of this heavily African based technique. The cultural, social, and free-spirited side of this class creates an environment where students dance, learn, have fun, and feel free. **Mondays at 6:30pm EDT starting June 7**

### **VIRTUAL CLASSES FOR KIDS & TEENS**

#### **KIDS & TEENS ONLINE SUMMER SESSION**

Kids & Teens Online is open to children of all experience levels. Each class takes into consideration the abilities of the age group to create an environment that fosters learning skills and boosts confidence while being taught by the city's top instructors. **Summer Session runs from June 5 – June 27**

- **[INTRO TO BALLET \(Ages 5-6\)](#)** Sundays, 10:00-10:45am EDT  
[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, 9:00-9:45am EDT  
[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, 11:00-11:45am EDT  
[Therese Wendler](#) will further students' ballet vocabulary while progressing at the barre, developing coordination through combinations.
- **[HIP HOP 4 KIDS \(Ages 8-9\)](#)** Sundays 10:00-10:45am EDT  
[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.
- **[JUNIOR BALLET \(Ages 10-12\)](#)** Saturdays, 12:00-1:00pm EDT  
[Therese Wendler](#) will progress students at the barre, develop coordination through combinations, develop flexibility, and grow their ballet vocabulary.

- **[JUNIOR BROADWAY JAZZ \(Ages 10-13\)](#)** Saturdays, 10:45-11:45am EDT  
[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, 11:00-11:45am EDT  
[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, 1:15-2:15pm EDT  
[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.
- **[TEEN CONTEMPORARY \(Ages 13-17\)](#)** Sundays, 12:00-1:00pm EDT  
[Jessica Amber Pinkett](#) will help students find 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, 1:00-2:00pm EDT  
[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](http://pressroom.alvinailey.org).

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