FORWARD MOMENTUM CHICAGO

DANCING TOWARD THE FUTURE (2022-2023)
FMC AT A GLANCE
MEET THE FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

A passionate arts advocate, Pierre Lockett is a leader among dance educators. With an illustrious career spanning four decades including twenty years as a professional dancer with The Princeton Ballet, Dance Theatre of Harlem, and The Joffrey Ballet, he combines his passion and expertise for dance with his desire to motivate Chicago’s youth through innovative arts programs designed to inspire creativity, critical thinking and nurture the development of the whole child. He served as The Joffrey Ballet’s Director of Community Engagement for ten years and established Forward Momentum Chicago (FMC) in 2013 to bring dance to children that need it most.

Pierre utilizes dance as a catalyst to help students build life skills for career and college readiness, and individual success. As one who has experienced the limitations that economic disadvantages bring, he strongly believes in the benefits of arts learning and that its implementation can yield great success. He is adamant about developing the next generation of black artists, educators, and community leaders. In “paying it forward,” Pierre strives to remove the barriers that limit or prevent youth and adults in brown communities from pursuing dance as a professional trade and actively seeks opportunities to introduce professional black dancers and dance educators to his students. His vision is for students who are underrepresented in certain dance genres to gain an appreciation and mastery for the style while achieving the confidence to accomplish their dreams artistically, academically, and professionally.

Under Pierre’s direction, FMC has provided programming to 38,500 students through weekly in/out-of-school instruction, free Saturday Dance Classes, and three Summer Dance Camps to any child who is interested. Pierre is committed to making sure children of color have access to high quality dance training and guidance while making intentional connections to some of the city’s leading dance establishments both academically and professionally.
MISSION AND VISION

FMC’s mission is to inspire possibilities through dance education programs that strengthen schools and communities with limited arts access and provide high-quality programs through a curriculum infused with Social Emotional Learning and 21st Century Learning. Our vision is to be a leader in dance education by utilizing the art form of movement as a catalyst to help students build life skills for individual success.

At the heart of FMC’s work is a commitment to diversifying the field of dance by creating equitable opportunities for any child – regardless of race, abilities, or financial standing – to learn and pursue dance.
MEETING THE NEED

The primary objective of Forward Momentum Chicago is to use dance to transform the lives of young people. The organization is keenly aware of the limited opportunities for high-quality dance education available in Chicago, particularly for low-income youth. Therefore, its mission is to inspire possibilities through dance education programs that strengthen schools and communities with limited arts access. It brings professionally taught, affordable programs celebrating every dance style, out of the studio, right into Chicago Public Schools and neighborhoods.

FMC believes strongly in the benefits of active participation in the creative arts. While learning dance technique, students also gain the confidence to try new things and are inspired to see possibilities, seize opportunities, and reach their full potential.
CORE VALUES

QUALITY DANCE INSTRUCTION
FMC believes in the importance of teaching the whole child. All teaching artists undergo extensive training annually with the Executive Director and Program Manager to ensure continuity in instruction strategies. FMC believes the very internalization and application of new technical dance skill competencies serves as the catalyst for students to expand their sense of social emotional options for themselves and with others within FMC’s programming.

EQUITY AND ACCESS
FMC focuses on bringing dance programming to communities where access is limited – particularly communities of color and low-income neighborhoods. According to CPS, the students we serve come from communities where 66% of the families fall below the poverty line, 46% are African American, and 33% are Hispanic/Latino.
IMPACT

**SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING**
All FMC programs incorporate five important Social Emotional Learning (SEL) components:
- Self-Awareness
- Self-Management
- Responsible Decision Making
- Relationship Skills
- Social Awareness

**21ST CENTURY LEARNING**
Along with SEL, FMC incorporates 21st Century Learning which focuses on student-centered learning to assist in helping to develop the whole child.

**POST HIGH SCHOOL PLANS**
98% of high school seniors enrolled in FMC dance programs have post high school plans. Many go on to become professional dancers and those who choose to pursue other paths say they use the skills they learned in the studio in their academic and professional lives.

**FORMER STUDENTS WORKING WITH FMC**
Through the course of our existence, we have hired 20+ alumni to assist with programming.
IMPACT

TEACHING ARTISTS
FMC employs 24 Teaching Artists to provide high quality dance instruction. Teaching artists also undergo rigorous training and are provided professional development to hone their skills and steep them in the FMC instructional methodology.

SCHOOL PARTNERS
FMC partners with about 45 schools each year. In each school, our dance curriculum is tailored to compliment and support each school’s individual needs.

CLASSROOMS
FMC provides instruction in nearly 150 classrooms each year. Classes are designed in partnership with the classroom teachers to support the academic and social, emotional learning of the class.

STUDENTS REACHED ANNUALLY
FMC provides transformative dance opportunities for 6000 each year! We are committed to building the next generation of leaders in and out of the studio.
PROGRAMS

Forward Momentum Chicago provides programming in four unique settings in order to increase learning opportunities for children to engage in dance – After School Matters, School Programs, Saturday Classes, and Summer Dance Camp. In each program, students learn technical skills in Ballet, Hip-hop/Contemporary, Latin, and African dance.
Through the Epstein Family Foundation Scholarship Program, FMC offers free Saturday Classes for students who want to deepen their dance learning beyond their school program.

Classes are available from 10am-2pm at two Chicago neighborhood locations – Hamilton Park in the Bronzeville neighborhood and Linne Elementary School in the Avondale neighborhood. There are currently 100 students who benefit from this program annually.

FMC partners with schools, predominately on the south and west sides of Chicago where access to arts education is limited, to bring dance instruction in Ballet/Creative Movement, Hip-Hop, Latin, and African right into the classroom.

Our custom designed curriculum allows our teaching artists to work directly with the classroom teacher and school to address the academic needs of the students.

FMC Teaching Artists provide 60-minute classes over an eight- or ten-week period or for the entire academic school year. We tailor our programs to meet the needs and desires of the schools. Currently we are in over 100 classrooms across the city.
PROGRAMS

FMC partners with After School Matters to offer the FMC Dance Collaborative, an advanced apprenticeship program for Chicago teens. The YEAR-ROUND program serves approximately 100 students annually and is broken up in sessions with Fall, Spring and Summer terms.

With an emphasis on youth leadership and independence, the program is designed to help teens develop dance and life skills.

FMC’s Summer Dance Camp is a six-week dance immersion day-camp for young people ages 5-14. In keeping with our commitment to equitable access to the arts, summer dance camp is held in the Englewood and Avondale neighborhoods at three locations where we host about 250 students.

Campers receive daily instruction in Ballet/Creative Movement, Modern, Hip Hop, African and Latin dance, and take weekly field trips to exciting cultural destinations in and around Chicago.

FMC’s Summer Dance Camp is designed for every child who wants to attend. It costs us about $1000 per child to host the 6-week camp, but we are able to offer this program to families for $125 per child.

AFTER SCHOOL MATTERS
GET INVOLVED!

As an FMC Sponsor – Dance Partner – you are joining a dedicated group of individuals and organizations who believe in the transformative power of FMC’s dance education programs. Your gift allows us to continue to bring the joys and benefits of high-quality dance programming to the students and communities who need it most.
Forward Momentum Chicago is committed to providing young people with access to high quality dance education opportunities – now more than ever. Through in-school and community partnerships, free Saturday Dance classes, and summer dance camp, we support young people to develop the skills to transform their lives as they transform their days – one dance step at a time.

Relevé Soirée is Forward Momentum Chicago's annual fundraiser to support our city-wide dance education programs. Our goal is to raise $100,000 to further our mission to provide quality dance education programs to schools and communities with limited arts access. As an FMC Sponsor, you are providing children with a dance experience where they improve dance skills, develop physically and mentally, and have FUN! Your sponsorship will help us ensure that our most vulnerable and valuable resource – our youth – have a safe and fun summer and can look forward to continuing that learning and personal growth in the school year to come.

Forward Momentum Chicago is committed to remaining a stable part of our young people’s lives. We invite you to partner with us to provide this necessary resource to Chicago’s youth.

Relevé Soirée Details
Date: June 8th, 2023
Time: 6:00PM – 9:00PM
Location: Chicago Cultural Center – 78 E Randolph St, Chicago, IL
Tickets: $125
SPONSORSHIP LEVELS and BENEFITS

FMC LEAD SPONSOR – ($20,000+)
- FMC LEAD Sponsorship recognition on all marketing materials and social media outlets
- Video and verbal acknowledgement in event presentation remarks
- Admission for twelve (12) to Relevé Soirée and reserved performance seating
- Logo recognition on all summer camp attire

PLATINUM – ($10,000+)
- PLATINUM Sponsorship recognition on all marketing materials and social media outlets
- Video and verbal acknowledgement in event presentation remarks
- Admission for eight (8) to Relevé Soirée and reserved performance seating

GOLD – ($7,500+)
- GOLD Sponsorship recognition on all marketing materials and social media outlets
- Video and Verbal acknowledgement in event presentation remarks
- Admission for six (6) to Relevé Soirée and reserved performance seating

FMC STAR – ($15,000+)
- FMC STAR Sponsorship recognition on all marketing materials and social media outlets
- Video and verbal acknowledgement in event presentation remarks
- Admission for eight (10) to Relevé Soirée and reserved performance seating

SILVER – ($5,000+)
- SILVER Sponsorship recognition on all marketing materials and social media outlets
- Video acknowledgement in event presentation remarks
- Admission for four (4) to Relevé Soirée and reserved performance seating

BRONZE – ($2,500+)
- BRONZE Sponsorship recognition on all marketing materials and social media outlets
- Video acknowledgement in event presentation remarks
- Admission for two (2) to Relevé Soirée and reserved performance seating

Your generosity will be recognized by over 5,000 people on our mailing campaigns, website, and social media channels.
THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

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**Making Nonprofit Work with Success**

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“These last two summers with Forward Momentum have truly been amazing. The staff are always friendly and professional. The ASM teens are helpful and pleasant. My Daughter has learned and developed so much in all the dance styles they’ve taught.”

“As a former student Forward Momentum Chicago helped me increase my teamwork and leadership skills, and it also tremendously improved my work ethic. It gave me a healthy environment where I could express myself and work with others, and I will always appreciate it.”

“My daughter was nervous, so was I but the talented instructors the camp provided really blew my mind. My daughter is ready for the fall session. I’m picky and very selective parent but I would recommend this camp as much as I can.”

“Clearly one of the BEST dance programs in the city. The children learn so much and are able to perform at great events thru out the city in a spirit of excellence. The staff is hard working and believe in the children. If your children love to dance, this is where they should be.”

Forward Momentum Chicago
Dancing toward the future
THANK YOU

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