



Forward Momentum Chicago

Dancing toward the future

Sponsorship Proposal

2025

www.forwardmomentumchicago.org



ABOUT FMC

Forward Momentum Chicago (FMC) is a nonprofit organization that provides transformative dance education to children and youth from communities that have historically lacked access to the arts.

Founded in 2013, FMC is driven by the belief that every child, regardless of background or resources, deserves the opportunity to thrive through creative expression. We focus on fostering creativity, building critical life skills, and empowering young people to achieve their full potential.

A group of young girls are dancing on a stage. They are wearing matching pink leotards and short, flared skirts with a white base and pink sequins. The girls are in various dance poses, with some arms raised. The background is dark, and the lighting is focused on the dancers.

MISSION

We empower Chicagoland youth in schools and communities with limited arts access by utilizing dance to build lifelong skills that foster pathways to success.

VISION

To be a leader in arts education, developing children into positive change-makers.

Founder & Executive Director

Pierre Lockett is a trailblazer in arts education, with a distinguished career spanning four decades, including professional dance roles with The Princeton Ballet, Dance Theatre of Harlem, and The Joffrey Ballet. As a former Director of Community Engagement at The Joffrey Ballet, he launched outreach programs connecting youth to the transformative power of dance.

In 2013, Pierre founded Forward Momentum Chicago (FMC) to provide high-quality dance education to children with limited access to the arts. He believes in the life-changing benefits of arts education, and is committed to removing barriers for youth from underserved communities.

Under his leadership, FMC has reached over 38,000 students through in-school, out-of-school, and summer programs, ensuring that children of color have access to world-class dance training and mentorship.



FMC AT A GLANCE

Our programs reach young people where they are—inside their schools and communities—ensuring that dance education is inclusive and accessible. We believe that dance transcends barriers and unites communities, creating opportunities for all Chicagoland youth to thrive. We partner with organizations and individuals who share and actively align with these principles.



PROGRAMS

School Programs

Our in-school, after-school and Residency Programs* are designed to instill a greater appreciation for the art form while developing the whole child. We allow students to explore their creativity and build new skills through culturally relevant instruction, fostering both artistic and academic growth. Our curriculums align with social emotional learning skills, 21st century skills and national dance standards.

**This program is supported in part by the Creative Schools Fund, in partnership with Ingenuity.*

After School Matters

Our partnership with After School Matters allows us to offer an advanced level apprenticeship and mentorship program to Chicago area high school students. This year-long program emphasizes leadership, creativity, collaboration, and decision making, while developing skills for career and college readiness that lead to pathways for success.

Power UP! Dance Classes

Our free Thursday and Saturday Dance Class are designed to give students a chance to explore various dance styles, from Ballet to Hip Hop. These classes allow students to deepen their dance training in a conservatory style environment, while creating a thriving community of young artists across Chicago. Our FMC Dance Ensemble provides performance opportunities for participants at various venues throughout the city.

Summer Dance Camps

FMC's Summer Dance Camp is a six-week dance immersion day-camp for young people ages 5-14. We host camp in the Englewood and Avondale neighborhoods at three locations where we host about 200 students. FMC's Summer Dance Camp costs about \$1000 per child to host the 6-week camp, but we are able to offer this program to families for \$150 per child.

**This program is made possible thanks to the generous support of the Dan J Epstein Family Foundation*



SEL & 21st Century Skills

FMC programs nurture students' growth not just as dancers, but as individuals. Through emotional awareness, relationship-building, and decision-making, students gain skills that support personal development and future success.

Teaching Artist Development

FMC teaching artists receive ongoing training to ensure high-quality instruction. This professional development strengthens their ability to connect with students and supports their growth as educators and artists.

Alumni Success & Post High School Plans

98% of FMC seniors graduate with post-secondary plans. Many students attribute their success to the discipline, confidence, and leadership skills they gained through FMC's dance programs, which extend beyond the studio.

Community Reach

FMC annually partners with over 45 schools and organizations, offering dance programs tailored to meet community needs. These collaborations enrich students' lives and foster engagement, cultural awareness, and pride in their communities.



Meet J'den

J'den joined FMC earlier this year and has quickly excelled to our top performing group. His dedication and talent were showcased in his recent performances at Millennium Park and other key events. Jaylen's growth as a dancer highlights the power of FMC's programs in helping students achieve their full potential, both artistically and personally.



SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Support the Future of Dance Education



FMC Lead Level – \$20,000+

- Supports year-long dance instruction for 50 students
- Recognition on all marketing materials, social media, and event signage
- Verbal and video acknowledgment at all major events
- Admission for 12 to the Relevé Soirée, including VIP seating
- Logo placement on summer camp attire

Soloist Level – \$10,000+

- Supports summer dance camp for 25 students
- Logo featured on marketing materials, event signage, and social media
- Verbal acknowledgment during event presentations
- Admission for 8 to the Relevé Soirée with reserved seating

Company Level – \$5,000+

- Funds a special performance or event for FMC students
- Recognition on all marketing materials and social media
- Video acknowledgment during event presentations
- Admission for 4 to the Relevé Soirée with reserved seating

FMC Star Level– \$15,000+

- Supports a full year of free Saturday dance classes for 40 students
- Featured recognition on all marketing materials and social media
- Video acknowledgment during event presentations
- Admission for 10 to the Relevé Soirée with reserved seating
- Recognition in event speeches and presentations

Artist Level – \$7,500+

- Supports semester-long in-school dance programming for 20 students
- Recognition on marketing materials and social media
- Verbal acknowledgment during event presentations
- Admission for 6 to the Relevé Soirée with reserved seating

Apprentice Level – \$2,500+

- Supports in-school dance instruction for 10 students
- Recognition on marketing materials and event signage
- Video acknowledgment during event presentations
- Admission for 2 to the Relevé Soirée



Logo Placement

Your brand will be featured prominently on all marketing materials, event signage, and our website.

Event Recognition

Verbal and visual acknowledgments at major events, including the Relevé Soirée.

Exclusive Networking

Sponsors receive VIP access to events, offering the chance to engage with other community leaders and supporters.

Social Media Highlights

We will highlight your partnership across all our social media channels, reaching a wide and engaged audience.

IMPACT

Partnering with FMC creates lasting change for students and communities. By supporting Forward Momentum Chicago, you're investing in the future of arts education and empowering youth to develop critical life skills. With your support, we can foster creativity, confidence, and leadership, while bringing dance to underserved communities.

Fostering Growth

Your partnership will support programs that empower students to excel both inside and outside the dance studio.

Community Enrichment

By investing in FMC, you contribute to enriching the cultural fabric of underserved communities.

Measurable Outcomes

Through your support, we've seen 98% of our high school seniors graduate with post-secondary plans.



GET INVOLVED

join us in building a future where every child can thrive through the power of dance. Together we can create opportunities that last a lifetime.

Become a Sponsor

Support our programs and help provide equitable access to high-quality dance education for underserved communities.

Attend an Event

Join us at the Relevé Soirée and witness firsthand the talents and passion of FMC students.

Spread the Word

Share our mission with your network to help expand our reach and influence.

Volunteer

Contribute your time and skills to make a difference in the lives of our students.

Christina Bourné,
Director of Development

Contact Us

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Thank You!

Thank You for Supporting Forward Momentum Chicago!

Your generosity helps us provide life-changing dance education programs to thousands of students each year. Together, we are building brighter futures, one step at a time.