September 2017

Dear Friends of the Center,

Summer is winding down! But, you can relive the sights and sounds of our Summer Intensive by watching the short video above.

You can also look for us at your local public schools, as we launch our after-school and in-school programs throughout WCCUSD, as the new school year begins. The School Partnerships Department is excited about the upcoming 2017/2018 school year working with over 30 after school and community center programs, providing classes ranging from Samba and Capoeira to preschool enrichment. We’re especially excited to be developing new in-school music programs in both Nystrom Elementary School and Richmond College Preparatory School.

We are grateful for all of our partners who continue to support the Center’s efforts in our community. Thank you for your commitment to our work, which makes all of this, and more, possible.

UPCOMING HIGHLIGHTS + EVENTS

September 2 - Richmond Museum of History Family Free Day
September 9 - September Fandango
September 11 - Fall Group Classes Begin
October 14 - Urban Tilth Autumn Harvest
October 21 - 7th Annual Fall Gala
FALL CLASSES START SEPTEMBER 11!
REGISTER BY SEPTEMBER 8TH FOR A 25% DISCOUNT

Check out the fall class schedule and register today!

All Center faculty artists are passionate about helping every student to evolve through step-by-step growth in fundamental skills, and not by adhering to rigid notions of age and grade proficiency levels. Here at the Center, we challenge ourselves to meet each student where they are when they walk through our doors, to guide them to discover their own strengths.

Register Today!

SEPTEMBER FANDANGO
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2017
9:00AM-12:00PM
Son de La Tierra (one of the Center’s nine Resident Companies), led by Maestro Artemio Posadas and co-director Lolis García, continues to host monthly regional Fandangos and warmly welcomes members of the public of all ages to join (no experience necessary). Fandangos are improvised community celebrations in the son jarocho genre from Veracruz, Mexico that combine Afro-Caribbean, Spanish and indigenous traditions. September’s Fandango Jarocho, features traditional music from the Sotavento region of Mexico. We hope to see you there!

View Event

URBAN TILTH - AUTUMN HARVEST
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2017,
TIME AND LOCATION: NORTH RICHMOND FARM,
TIME TBA
Come celebrate Urban Tilth’s Annual Harvest
Festival at the North Richmond Farm – including a Pumpkin & Sweet Potato Pie Bake Off! To celebrate this site on the Richmond Living Map, the Center’s African Music and Dance instructors will be performing a unique harvest dance to celebrate the spirit of nature’s bounty!

2017 FALL GALA
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2017

On the evening of Saturday, October 21, East Bay Center will celebrate its 49th year of artistic achievement and social development in Richmond’s Iron Triangle neighborhood with our 7th Annual Fall Gala. Traditionally co-chaired by culinary legend Alice Waters and jazz virtuoso Stanley Clarke, with world-class cuisine inspired by Chez Panisse, the Gala features performances by dozens of students, many of whom also dine with 140 of our most committed donors. Don’t miss this memorable evening! Click here to learn more about being a sponsor or to purchase tickets.

RMAP
RICHMOND LIVING MAP PROJECT

Over the summer, the Richmond Living Map team and Center artists have been busy collaborating with our RMap partners to create unique performances...
that activate their spaces. We began with Juneteenth at Nicholl Park where Jamar Welch (aka Jammer, co-founder of “Housin’ Authority”) engaged Richmond youth in a hip-hop dance battle. In July, our resident company, Son de la Tierra, led the CeaseFire Walk from North Richmond to Pogo Park and then wrapped up at Saint Mark’s Catholic Church. Then, in August, our collaboration with Urban Tilth’s summer apprentices came to life on stage at their North Richmond Farm as part of their graduation ceremony with a performance piece that highlighted the importance of food sustainability and the struggles that Richmond youth face.

The Center is "a home away from home, but you get to be 100% you."

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: ARTURO AMENDARIS

5th YEAR YOUNG ARTIST DIPLOMA STUDENT

Arturo has been a part of our East Bay Center family since he was 5 years old, when he began taking classes. Currently in his 5th year as a Young Artist Diploma student, Arturo’s areas of focus are traditional Mexican music and dance and steel pans. During the Center’s 5-week Summer Intensive cross-cultural and cross-disciplinary training, he discovered a new passion for modern ballet as well. Looking ahead, Arturo hopes to expand his training in theater, learn to play the ukulele and further his skills in upright bass. Arturo feels that his life would be much different had he not had the opportunity to be involved with the Center, as it encouraged him to try new things and helped him to grow both musically and as a person. As for future plans? Arturo aspires to one day work for NASA as an astrobiologist while continuing to pursue music and dance, fearing that if he stopped, “it would leave a big hole in who I am as a person.”

MEET OUR NEW STAFF

MOLLEE BEKELE, JULIA CHANIN AND SARA RADER

East Bay Center is delighted to welcome three new staff members to the team. You can read their bios and learn more about Center staff here. We asked each of them what they are most excited about as they begin their work at the Center. Here is what they had to say:

Mollee Bekele
Director of School Partnerships

“I am excited to connect with youth from Richmond and continue to build bridges utilizing the rich musical and performance traditions our amazing teaching artists bring.”
Julia Chanin
Program Associate:
School Partnerships, Student Development and Training

"I am so excited to support kids in finding joy, confidence, and their unique voices in the classroom and at the Center!"

Sara Rader
Director of Individual Giving

"I am excited to join a team of talented and passionate individuals who deeply believe in the mission and work of the Center, and I look forward to the joy of watching the youth in our programs grow and continue to shine."

We welcome all members of the community — businesses, residents, other community-based organizations and friends in the greater Bay Area and beyond — to visit us at our Iron Triangle home, the Winters Building.

You are receiving this email because you've expressed interest in the programs affiliated with East Bay Center for the Performing Arts. We appreciate your participation in our community.

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