

EAST BAY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

YOUNG ARTIST
DIPLOMA PROGRAM

2021-2022



MISSION

East Bay Center for the Performing Arts engages youth and young adults in imagining and creating new worlds for themselves and new visions for their communities through the inspiration and discipline of rigorous training in world performance traditions.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

We, at East Bay Center for the Performing Arts, passionately believe in the power of art to create beauty and new ways of seeing the world. We believe in the ability of the performing arts to give voice to the silent, to unite people of diverse backgrounds, and to help realize the fullest potential of communities and the individuals who live in them. We affirm the importance of connecting the creative and uplifting powers of the arts with children and youth who in their daily lives must contend with systemic poverty, violence, and other barriers to peace, justice, and prosperity. We welcome all who find resonance with and are committed to these beliefs.

YOUNG ARTIST DIPLOMA PROGRAM

The Young Artist Diploma Program provides up to six-years of tuition-free study designed to give students a critical set of skills they will be able to use in college and beyond. Through the intensive study of music, dance, theater, filmmaking/digital media arts as well as participation in our community's civic life, the program challenges students to discover their individual gifts and build a vision of their direction in a complex world.

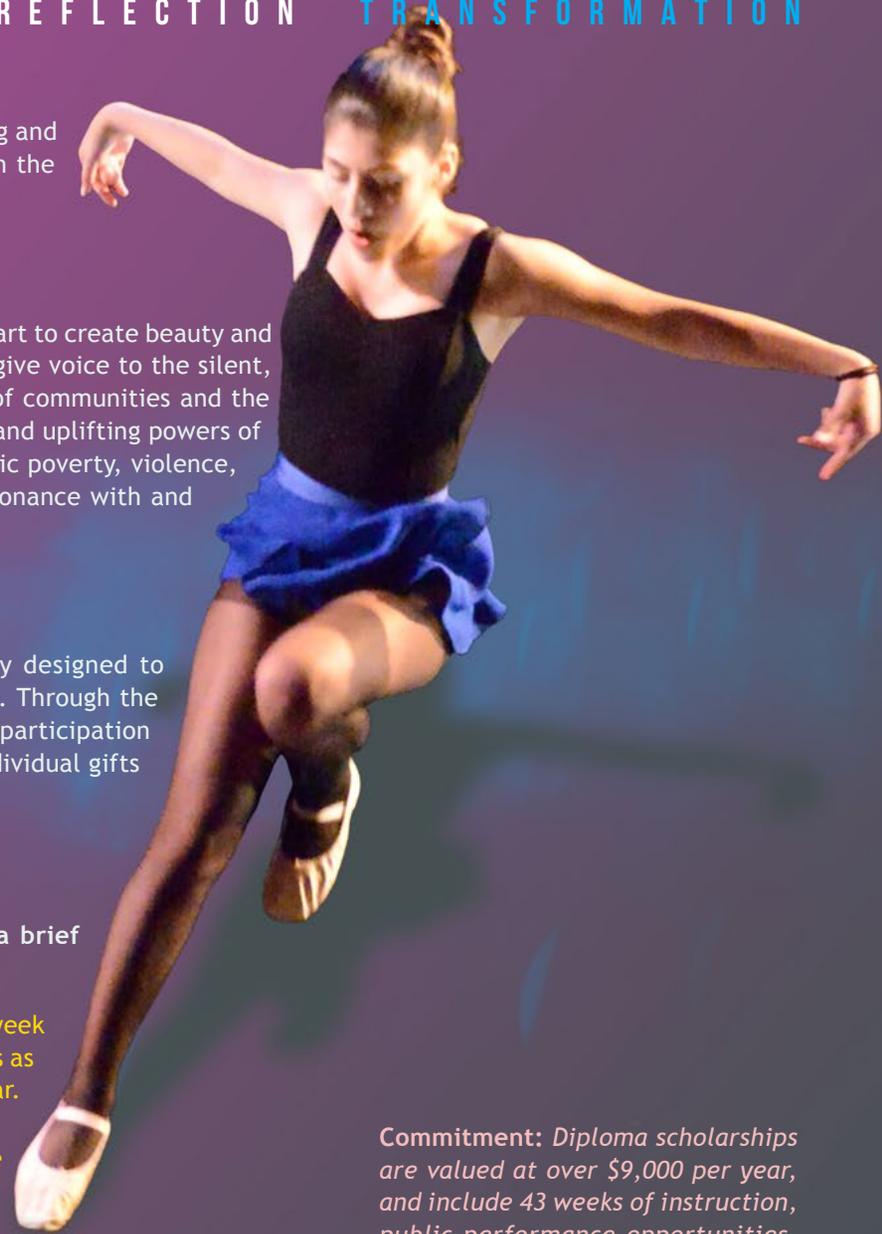
The Young Artist Diploma Program is broken into three 2-year periods. Here is a brief overview:

Years 1 and 2: All Diploma students complete the first two summers of intensive 5 week breadth work and cross training in music, dance, theater, filmmaking and digital arts as well as a minimum of 6 hours of study per week during the rest of the academic year.

Years 3 and 4: In consultation with staff and faculty, students are placed in more advanced courses according to their chosen discipline of study and commitment. Participation in the summer program continues and a minimum of 4 hours of study per week is required during the academic year.

Years 5 and 6: Students who have successfully completed four full years of program work requirements are guided to more advanced level training, college application preparation assistance, peer mentorship and leadership opportunities. If students continue, this will include participation in the summer program and in an ensemble during the academic year.

Commitment: *Diploma scholarships are valued at over \$9,000 per year, and include 43 weeks of instruction, public performance opportunities, college readiness and youth leadership/social justice engagement support. This is an intensive program requiring year-round commitment with important breaks and balance for rest, education and family life.*



ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR ENTERING SUMMER CLASS OF 2021

The Center will accept applications for the Young Artist Diploma Program until Thursday, March 31, 2021.

Entering students will begin the Program on Monday, June 21, 2021 by participating in the 5-week Summer Intensive, which runs from June 21 through July 23, 2021.

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

Due to limited space this year, the Center will prioritize applicants with a love of the arts and who are entering the 7th and 8th grades in the Fall of 2021. However, high school students who are a good match for the program can still apply and will be accepted as space becomes available. High School students at an intermediate level in music, dance, theater, or media, who have a passion to deepen their study of the arts in college and who have not had access to sustained professional instruction are strongly encouraged to apply.

HOW TO APPLY

All applicants must complete the Diploma Program Application Form as well as receive a written nomination by a school teacher, school administrator, artist, or mentor from the community. Applicants who complete their application form and receive a written nomination will receive a personal interview conducted by members of East Bay Center's staff on a first come, first served basis until all available slots are filled. This is a formal interview but not an audition, though the interview includes a request to listen to or watch a few minutes of you sharing your live performance in music, dance or theater. This interview and seeing you perform—even at the very beginning level—enables us to better place students in the most appropriate classes as well as determine if the program is a good match for you at this time. Even though we are not able to accept all applicants, scholarships are available for those who are not accepted, to enroll in group classes in the fall 2021/spring 2022 and they are encouraged to re-apply the following year.

WORK ONE-ON-ONE

WITH WORLD-CLASS

PERFORMING ARTISTS.

GO BEYOND BOUNDARIES

THROUGH CULTURAL

EXPLORATION.

ENGAGE WITH THE LIFE

OF YOUR COMMUNITY

THROUGH CREATION AND

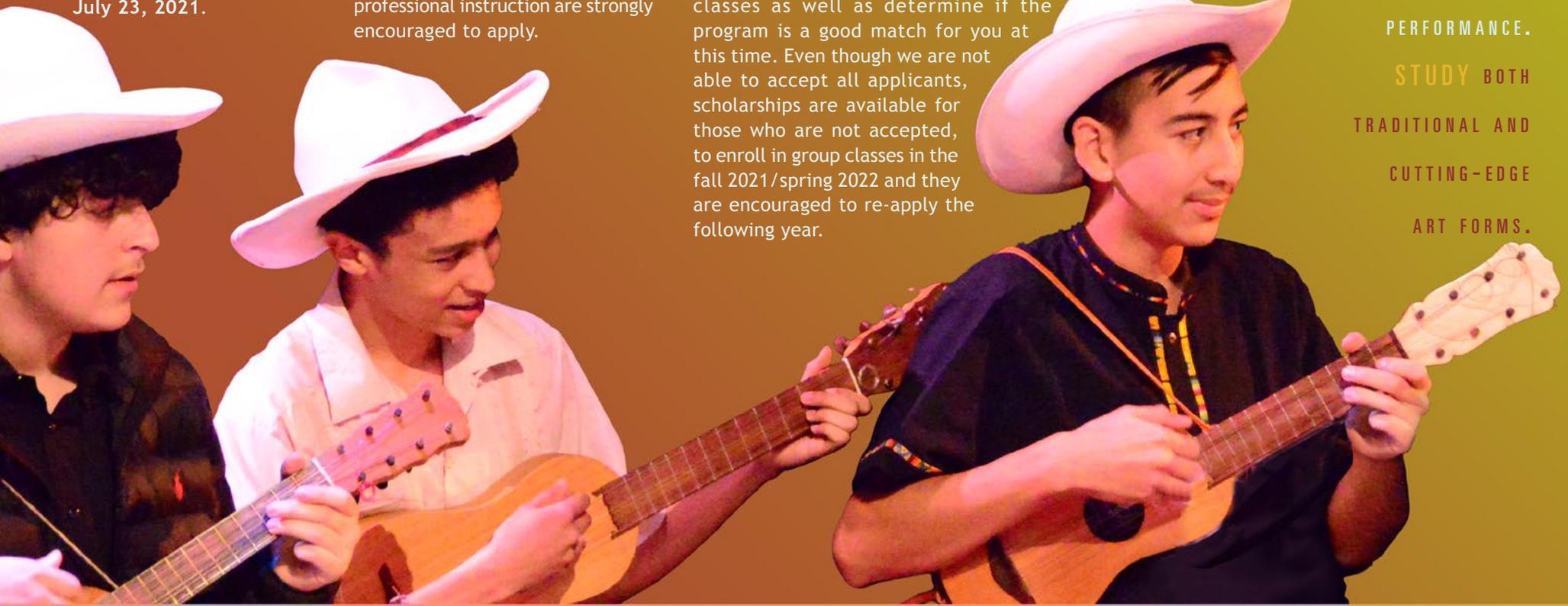
PERFORMANCE.

STUDY BOTH

TRADITIONAL AND

CUTTING-EDGE

ART FORMS.



Application and Nomination forms are available online at www.eastbaycenter.org/diploma/apply

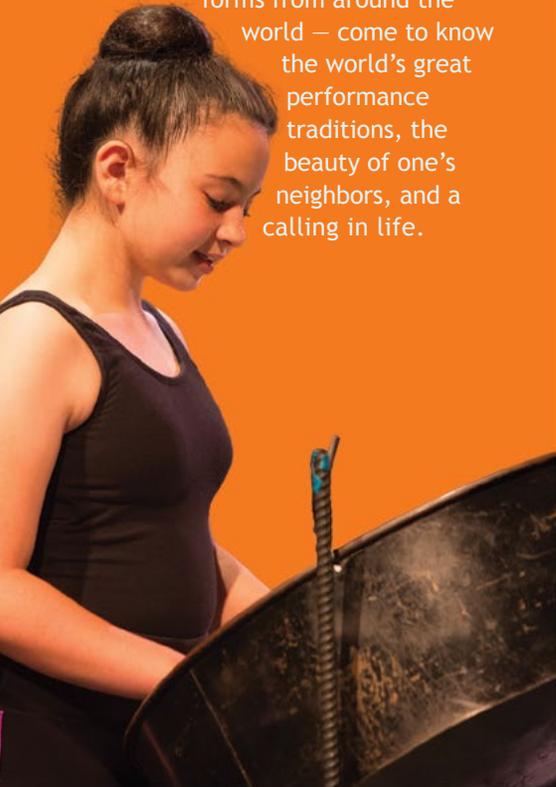
For more information, please contact Kwesi Anku, Director of Student Development and Training, at 510-323-4495 or kwesi@eastbaycenter.org.

Para más información en español, favor de comunicarse con: Lolis García, Directora Asociada de Capacitación y Desarrollo Estudiantil, al 510-323-2019 o lolis@eastbaycenter.org.



HISTORY

Since 1968, in the heart of Richmond, California, more than 50,000 student artists — from all walks of life — found within themselves the means to develop skills that enable them to think, lead, and contribute to the world around them. Here, young artists — through experiencing classical masterworks and cutting-edge performing arts forms from around the world — come to know the world's great performance traditions, the beauty of one's neighbors, and a calling in life.



STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Dedicated staff provide academic support, counseling, and referrals for East Bay Center students and their families.

For our college-bound students, we help research and identify schools, programs, grants, scholarships, and financial aid opportunities. We also assist in creating and editing student personal statements and preparing audition videos/artistic documentation or other admission materials for college/scholarship applications.

Recent graduates have continued their studies at campuses throughout the country, including University of California and Cal State University systems, Barnard College (NY), Columbia College (Chicago), John Hopkins, Peabody Institute of Music, Sarah Lawrence, Stanford, Yale, Wesleyan, Howard, and Berklee College of Music (Boston), as well as other countries, including the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland.



OUR FACULTY

East Bay Center's 60+ faculty members represent a spectrum of performing disciplines and culture-specific art forms. They mirror the richness of the Bay Area's diverse populations, giving vigorous expression to our living artistic traditions. All are working artists, continually refining their own practice and repertoire. Individually, these artists contribute to the Bay Area's rich cultural environment. As a group, they create a regionally unique cross-cultural, cross-disciplinary resource and underscore East Bay Center's historical commitment to quality, equity and access. Representative faculty bios may be found on our website.



COVID-19 IMPACT: WHAT TO EXPECT

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, interviews with Young Artist Diploma Program applicants and their guardians will be conducted virtually via Zoom in April and May.

All Young Artist Diploma Program classes have temporarily transitioned to a virtual platform. The structure of the 5-week Summer Intensive, including whether classes will remain online, will be determined by the CDC and WCCUSD guidelines.

Thank you for your understanding during this time. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

