



BE PART OF THIS STORY

BELIEVE IN THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF THE ARTS
TO MAKE POSITIVE CHANGE



JEAN APOLON EXPRESSIONS

JAE's mission is twofold: to restore and advance Haitian folkloric dance as one of the world's precious cultural resources, and to develop young Haitians as contributing citizens through a high quality and intensive dance program.

Since 2006 Jean Appolon has conducted a successful annual Summer Dance Institute at ENARTS (École Nationale des Artes) in Port-au-Prince. The Institute targets young Haitians who lack financial resources and have limited access to dance education.

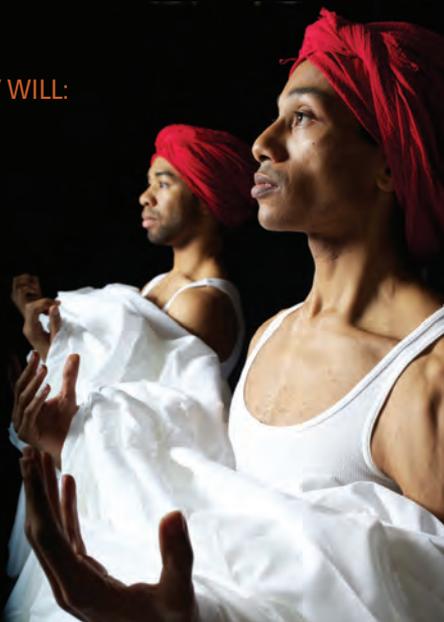
JAE also has a home in Boston as Beantown's beloved Haitian contemporary dance company directed by Alvin Ailey and Joffrey-trained choreographer Jean Appolon.

Our current initiative aims to expand the scope of our activities by further developing our Boston company, and by launching **DANCE HAITI!**, a year-round, after-school dance program that offers wrap-around services in academic tutoring and health education to promote the optimal personal development of young Haitians.



WITH YOUR SUPPORT, JAE'S BOSTON COMPANY WILL:

- › perform and give master classes and workshops as an invited guest at educational institutions, dance festivals and community and private events
- › preserve Haitian folkloric dance at the highest artistic level while advancing the art form from a solid foundation in Modern technique
- › create and tour full-length productions featuring original choreography by Jean Appolon
- › collaborate with **DANCE HAITI!** as guest faculty and guest dancers

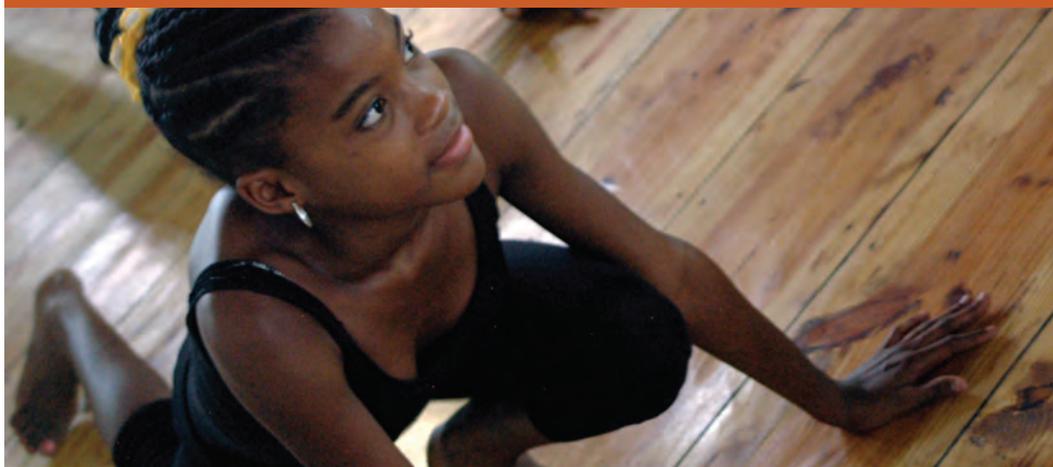


WITH YOUR SUPPORT, DANCE HAITI! WILL:

- › initially focus on children ages 8-13 years old
- › provide each student with 12 hours of group instruction in Haitian folkloric dance and Modern dance per week
- › provide 8 hours of on-site homework tutorial and health education classes per week
- › place a strong emphasis on student performance
- › provide frequent opportunities to invite in family and community members

JAE will build back the type of world-class dance company that once graced Haiti.

Serving as a model of how to use dance to create cultural, social and economic development for communities living in poverty in Haiti, JAE will produce "citizen dancers" who are capable of living healthy, productive and responsible lives no matter what career path they ultimately chose.





WHY INVEST

Because Haiti needs more than housing, food, clean water and medicine.

Haitians' social and cultural needs must also be met. The arts are the food that nurtures the soul and helps one to live a fuller life, and are essential to emotional and psychological healing.

Because Haitian folkloric dance is an untapped resource in the effort to rebuild Haiti.

Haitian folkloric dance is one of the most unique aspects of Haitian cultural capital and it should be tapped for purposes of social and economic development. Investing in the arts and cultural life is essential to rebuilding Haiti's economy and tourist sector.

Because healthy communities are those that offer opportunities for cultural identity to be examined and validated.

Not only is JAE's Boston-based dance company of high artistic and technical quality, it is one of the few companies in the world that synthesizes Haitian folkloric dance and Modern technique. A city's arts and cultural landscape should reflect both artistic excellence and the people who live there.

Because this approach works.

JAE has a successful track record and is based on other programs that use the transformative power of the arts as a vehicle for social change in the U.S., Haiti and the developing world. It is led by a Haitian-American artist who is uniquely qualified and passionate about JAE's mission, and is backed by a supportive infrastructure of other highly skilled professionals.



ABOUT JEAN APPOLON

The Artistic Director and Co-founder of Jean Appolon Expressions, Jean Appolon is also a successful choreographer and teacher based in Boston and Port-au-Prince, Haiti. He received his earliest training and performance opportunities in Port-au-Prince with the Lynn Williams Rousier Dance School, the Viviane Gauthier Dance Company, and the Folkloric Ballet of Haiti. Jean continued his dance education in the U.S. with Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and the Joffrey American Ballet School, graduating with a BA in 2003. Jean teaches regularly at The Dance Complex, Boston Ballet, The Gold School, Wellesley College and UMass Boston, among other locations.

"I really didn't care for dance, I used to criticize men dancing. In light of the prejudices I've had, I learned that folkloric dance has an impact on our psyche; it makes us know our culture better, helps us know our religion, our identity, rituals, rites and traditions. It's not just the dance that we found in this seminar, but who we are. Our roots. It is a very participatory workshop that shows us an ideal society. I could go on to say what this dance has done for me, but one day would not suffice."

Landé Peterson, participant in The 2012 Jean Appolon Summer Dance Institute



HOW TO CONTRIBUTE

Please join us today by using the enclosed envelope or by visiting our website to make a contribution: jeanappolonexpressions.org/support-us/

For questions, please contact Stephanie Scherpf, JAE Executive Director, at JAExpressions@gmail.com

JAE is a 501(c)(3) non-profit tax exempt organization. All contributions to JAE are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

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