



## **Janssen Pharmaceuticals Funds Trenton Education Dance Institute**

The Children's Home Society of New Jersey received a \$3,000 donation from Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc. to support the popular Trenton Education Dance Institute, known as TEDI.

"TEDI is an arts-centered youth development program that provides weekly dance classes for 5<sup>th</sup> grade students in the Trenton public schools," explained Richard Bilotti, president of the TEDI Board of Directors who also serves on The Children's Home Society of New Jersey's Board.

TEDI is an associate of the National Dance Institute which was founded in 1976 by Jacques D'Amboise, former principal dancer with the New York City Ballet. The program introduces students to a vocabulary of dance movements, phrases, and sequences which they learn to combine into fully-formed dances.

Donna C. Pressma, President and CEO of The Children's Home Society of New Jersey commented, "Critical funding for our TEDI program is needed, and we are grateful to Janssen Pharmaceuticals for their community leadership through this donation." Pressma acknowledged, "Janssen has made a vital investment in the children of our communities by ensuring that they have sufficient opportunities to learn life skills will keep them on a path towards continued success."

All fifth graders at Mott School and Hedgepeth/Williams School participate in weekly TEDI dance classes through the academic year. Classroom teachers support TEDI by incorporating TEDI into classroom writing assignments; the TEDI Artistic Director reinforces concepts and skills that students learn in mathematics, geography and social studies. Parents learn to dance with their children "the TEDI way" at Family Fun nights, and students in grades 6-10 audition for the 30-member TEDI Celebration Team which performs more advanced choreography at community events.