

PRESS RELEASE

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The New Jersey State Council on the Arts awards over \$19,000 in funding to the Trenton Education Dance Institute



TEDI Students perform at the 2014 Event of the Year, "Destination: NJ350" at Hedgepeth-Williams School in Trenton.

Trenton, NJ (August 04, 2014) – The New Jersey State Council on the Arts announced the award of a \$19,007 grant to the Trenton Education Dance Institute (TEDI), a program of The Children's Home Society of New Jersey (CHSoF NJ), at their 48th Annual Meeting. This is the third grant of a three year commitment to TEDI by the Arts Council, and represents part of \$15.7 million in grant funding for over 700 arts organizations, demonstrating the Christie Administration's commitment to advancing the arts in New Jersey.

TEDI is a ground-breaking program that teaches Trenton students critical life skills such as confidence, cooperation and pride in personal achievement through the art of dance. Last year, TEDI provided weekly after school dance classes for 204 students in grades 5-10, where they learned dance steps, language skills, and practiced journaling exercises to complement lessons learned in the classroom. The TEDI program works cohesively with the school district to help Trenton youth grow into successful adults and productive members of society, and the NJSCA award allows CHSoF NJ to bring TEDI to additional students and communities in the state of NJ.

“The students enrolled in the TEDI program are given opportunities to succeed in their weekly lessons, writing, and public performances,” said TEDI Coordinator Yolanda Drislane. She continued, “The skills and positive experiences they enjoy through TEDI have such a profound impact on their self-worth and confidence; it truly helps shape their paths to mature, responsible, successful adulthood. The NJSCA grant will enable TEDI to touch the lives of students in other schools and communities, and we are so grateful for this generous award.”

About The Children’s Home Society of New Jersey

The Children’s Home Society of New Jersey is a nonprofit child and family serving agency whose mission is to save children’s lives and build healthy families. Founded in 1894, the agency protects abused or neglected infants and at-risk children by insuring stable, permanent, and loving homes for each and every child it serves. All services are confidential and most are free. For more information, visit our website at www.chsofnj.org.

About Trenton Education Dance Institute

The TEDI program joined with The Children’s Home Society of New Jersey in 2010. TEDI teaches students the art and life lessons of dance that reinforce the skills needed for classroom success, and the skills that enable them to grow into productive adults. If your organization or school is interested in learning more about TEDI or featuring a TEDI demonstration or master class in your community, visit www.chsofnj.org or contact Yolanda Drislane at 609-620-1018 x201.

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