



Aladdin: Finding the Magic in Dance
Professional Development in Arts Integration for K-5 Teachers

This experiential professional development workshop presents alternative teaching/learning processes that connect teachers, students, and artists through the art form of dance. Teachers will receive training in the elements of dance and in the use of the six-lesson *Finding the Magic in Dance* curriculum that uses ODE Dance and other related Content Standards. Curriculum connections include English Language Arts, Visual Arts, Drama, Math, and Science. Each lesson has been created for K-5 classroom teachers wishing to include arts experiences through co-curricular or integrated instruction in their classrooms. The lesson unit comes with a DVD and music CD and contains embedded MI learning strategies that support differentiated instruction. *Aladdin: Finding the Magic in Dance* was designed to follow BalletMet's Artistic Director, Gerard Charles' choreographic creative process from conception to premiere of *Aladdin*. This curriculum has been developed around two ODE Dance Content Standards: *Creative Expression and Communication* and *Valuing/Aesthetic Reflection*. *Teachers participating in this program will receive two free tickets to a selected BalletMet performance. Workshops participants are encouraged to contact BalletMet to arrange for a discounted movement workshop or a performance viewing opportunity for their students as an extension of the lesson unit.

Descriptions of Lessons:
Aladdin: Finding the Magic in Dance Curriculum Unit

Lesson 1 - ALADDIN: Finding Dance Vocabulary-In this lesson, students are introduced to dance as a specific movement vocabulary that includes determined usage of the elements of time, space and energy. *Aladdin*, a ballet, is a dance form that selects its movement vocabulary and stage setting from an established art form beginning in the French courts of Louis XIV (1667 – 1750). Although ballet dancing has a specific movement vocabulary requiring many years of study to master, this lesson will explore how the basic elements of dance and moving, in general, relate to this art form and allow dancers to express meaning or tell stories through movement.

Lesson 2 - ALADDIN: Characters in Dance and Story-Students will identify and develop contrasting movement vocabulary for each of two main characters in the ballet *Aladdin*; Aladdin, and Baskan Cali. Students will write word descriptions for each character that describe the existing movement portraits provided by the action of the ballet. They then will take specific gestures assigned for each character and abstract specific gestures into dance movement in order to create dance phrases for chosen characters. Students will learn how to use the dynamic qualities inherent in movement to abstract common gesture and make dance.

Lesson 3 - ALADDIN; Three Characters in Dance and Costume-Students will meet a third character in the ballet, one that is not human. Students will discuss the three different characters, and imagine and draw what each might look like. Students will identify and develop contrasting movement vocabulary for each of three main characters in the ballet *Aladdin*: Aladdin, Baskan Cali and the Genii. Students will write word descriptions of their own for each character that elaborate on the existing portraits (provided by the action of the previous lessons). Students will be introduced to the costume designer for *Aladdin*, Linda Pisano, and learn about how she designed the costumes, particularly that of the Genii. They will also learn that the ballet *Aladdin* takes place in the Middle East therefore, the cultural location affects the look and type of costumes used for a ballet.

Lesson 4 - ALADDIN: The Cave: Exploring an Environment-Set design plays a very important part in a ballet. The location and quality of the space transports the viewer into the magic of the performance. In *Aladdin*, there is a scene that includes a mysterious cave that Aladdin must descend into and where he discovers the magic lamp of the genii. In this lesson, students will research the geology of a cave in order to draw a “set design (landscape) for *Aladdin* and to motivate a “Cave Exploration Dance”.

Lesson 5 - ALADDIN; Groups in Motion – Geometry Dances-Geometry and the measured sense of patterns presented in the natural world, guide the choreographer when placing dancers on the stage and moving them in the stage space. Dancers are not placed randomly on the stage, but in carefully planned figures. They move along predetermined pathways. Circles, squares, triangles interspersed with asymmetrical or symmetrical groupings add interest to the positioning of dancers on stage. In this lesson, students will study the stage as a cube and a rectangle. They will measure the space to find the center and divide the stage into halves (right and left, upstage and downstage. They will then create a group dance inspired by the “jewels” discovered in Aladdin’s cave.

Lesson 6 – ALADDIN: A Dance of My Own-This lesson is a lesson designed to allow students to create something new based on the previous learning experiences of the *Aladdin* series of lessons. It is a logical extension of the previous work and may be varied and implemented for a variety of folk tales and stories.

**DATE AND TIME OF WORKSHOP:
MONDAY, APRIL 12, 2010 8:30-3:30 p.m**

PLACE: Educational Service Center of Central Ohio
2080 Citygate Drive Columbus, Ohio 43219

**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION CONTACT:
Amy Davidson**

**ESC OF CENTRAL OHIO
614.542.4117-telephone**