



CONNECTION TO MISSION & PROGRAM INSPIRATION

The José Limón Dance Foundation's mission is to perpetuate the Limón legacy, a humanistic approach to movement and theater, and to extend the vitality of that vision into the future. Central to fulfilling this legacy is our engagement with local youth, developing their minds, imaginations and unique voice, via the cultural education work of the Limón4Kids program. The inspiration and content for Limón4Kids is Limón's works. Each participant in the Limón4Kids program will be able to connect with themselves, their classmates and the world through dance.

RESIDENCY & CURRICULUM

The Limón4Kids residency program focuses on reaching school youth in grades 2 - 12. Taught by chosen faculty stemming from former and current company members, current Limón Institute teaching staff as well as dance professionals who have studied and experienced the Limón movement philosophy and repertory, the Limón4Kids program engages students in residencies of varying length, suitable for each school's needs. Partner schools are focused in the neighborhoods near Limón HQ: the South Bronx and Harlem. The curriculum is broken down into four key areas: choreography, literacy, technique, and performance. Limón's personal story introduces students to such concepts as heritage, community, identity and how we communicate. On the final day of the residency, parents, school administrators and students are invited to visit the studio/classroom to see the dancers in-process. The Limón Dance Company performs matinees during the school day that partner schools are invited to attend.

GOALS

- Provide the opportunity for youth to learn about the Limón legacy of expressive & powerful dance and to discover their own unique voice
- Widely disseminate art instruction to students who may not otherwise have access to a cultural arts curriculum
- Relate to movement as a universal language, through discovery and exploration of rhythm, dynamics, phrasing, space, and form
- Provide support to schools for development of their art programs and encourage innovative teaching practices
- Use Limón's personal story as a way to instill cultural pride and a strong sense of identity
- Inspire in students a desire to continue exploring diverse cultures through dance in an effort to make ongoing, meaningful connections to others within our multicultural world
- Develop an arts-in-education program that meets Department of Education learning standards, including physical, social, cognitive, and aesthetic benchmarks.

GENERAL CLASS FORMAT

Open discussion about the life and impact of the artist José Limón / overarching themes of the Rep
Warm-Up with the use of the Limón Principles
Learn Limón Repertory
In small groups, dancers create their own mini-compositions
Synthesize as a group about the class / what was taken away