

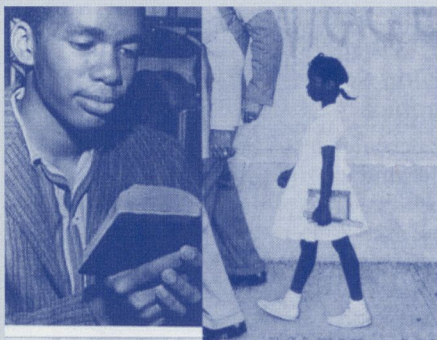


Class Acts Arts

1995 - 2005  
10th Anniversary

2005 / 2006

Artist Directory



Norman Rockwell Museum

Home Base: DC  
Availability: February  
School Fees: \$650/850

### Smithsonian Associates Discovery Theater on Tour

#### *How Old is a Hero? Young People of the Civil Rights Movement*

In this inspiring musical play about the courage and hope of children, meet three young heroes of the integration struggle. Hear their compelling experiences as part of the Civil Rights movement, as told through story and song: Ernest Green of the Little Rock Nine, the first black student to graduate from an integrated high school; Claudette Colvin who, months before Rosa Parks, was the first person to refuse to give up her seat on the bus. And of course, six-year old Ruby Bridges, the little girl who forged a strong bond with her white teacher and won equal rights before she could read. These truly are *The Greatest Stories Never Told!* Written/directed by Raquis Petree, music by Marion Johnson.

*"Children did not take their eyes from the stage or their bottoms from the seat...and talked about the event for days and weeks."*

NANCY SNYDER, COMM. ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL



Home Base: DC  
School Fees: \$850/975

### Step Afrika!

#### *High Energy Percussive Dances*

Step Afrika! presents an explosive and dynamic display of a high-energy art form called stepping, a unique dance style whose roots lie in the African-American fraternity and sorority system. Highlighting stepping's deep ties to college life and academic achievement, this energetic six-member ensemble of college graduates introduces the principle stepping concepts of teamwork, discipline and commitment. Combining chants, songs, footsteps and claps, Step Afrika! artists incorporate African traditions, demonstrated through a lively South African gumboot dance, into this highly percussive and rhythmic American dance style. Students enjoy learning basic step choreography and discover how dance brings people and cultures together. Performance highlights include the Kennedy Center, stages across Europe, South America, Africa, and universities nationwide.

*"Always visually and musically exciting."*

WASHINGTON POST



## Dovie Thomason

### Native Voices

Dovie Thomason celebrates her Lakota Sioux and Kiowa Apache heritage through traditional stories learned from her grandmother - stories that inspire delight in the spoken word and teach respect for values passed on through generations of storytellers. Children laugh and gain insights into Native American culture, held spellbound by Dovie's animated style and character voices. The importance of choices, whether made by a talkative turtle or a bullying fox, are the heart of her stories. A former teacher, Dovie tailors her programs to audiences of all ages and offers specific regional, tribal, or values programs and workshops. Three-time winner of the ALA Notable Recording Award, past performances include the National Storytelling Festival, Kennedy Center, Smithsonian, and the PBS documentary, *The Call of Story*.

Home Base: MD

School Fees: \$425/600

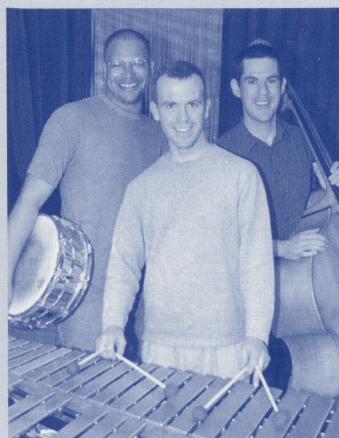
MSAC AiE Performance

Funds available and

Residency approved

*"Her level of commitment, professionalism and dedication is commendable. The public feedback was astonishing... One of our most talked about performances."*

WOLF TRAP FOUNDATION FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS



Daniel Peck Photography

Home Base: MD

School Fees: \$550/700

MSAC AiE Performance

Funds available and

Residency approved

## Unified Jazz Ensemble

### Celebrating America's Jazz Heritage

The Unified Jazz Ensemble is a dynamic trio presenting classic jazz as well as original compositions. *Learning About Jazz* celebrates the birth and development of jazz through different eras: dixieland, swing, be-bop and contemporary, focusing on contributors such as Dizzy Gillespie, Duke Ellington and George Gershwin, and including songs both familiar and new to young audiences. The ensemble draws correlations between rhythm, math, music and memory, with a hands-on exploration of jazz instruments and an emphasis on improvisation and teamwork. With five recordings to their credit, Mike Noonan (trombone and vibraphone), Marty Morrison (drums) and John Pineda (bass) have been featured on national radio and television and have served as artists-in-residence for the National Endowment for the Arts' Rural Residency Arts Initiative.

*"Swinging, seasoned panache...this imaginative and invigorating group packs an abundant emotional wallop."*

JAZZ TIMES MAGAZINE