

**“Deliciously buoyant
movement quality and a
natural, organic musicality, as
if the beat were rolling up and
out of every limb”.**

- Washington Post



Quynn L. Johnson

Author . Performing Artist . Teaching Artist

BUZZ

The tap scene continues to grow and amaze, and a trio from a troupe called Sole Defined put on the coolest number of the night.

-Washington Post, Velocity DC Festival

Johnson's choreography is lithe, playful, and intelligent, well-executed little twist in the middle of Uncle Cory's Secret Playtime. The night I saw it, made everyone in the room gasp with delight.

-Washington City Paper, Source Festival

Individual Artist Award for Dance: Choreography

-Maryland State Arts Council 2014

Dance Metro DC Finalist for Outstanding Emerging Group '09

-Dance Metro DC Awards

2006 Maryland State #1 Choreographer Award for youth

-Maryland State Dance Competition

Choreography Excellence Awards 2005, Battle of the Stars

-Starpower National Competition

Outstanding Choreographer Award '03 & '04

-Starpower National Competition

Johnson's entrance is quite sneaky, but brings a fresh take to the piece as she tap dances her way through communicating with the pair. She skillfully mimics the melody of the Jack in the Box music through tap.

-DC Metro Theater Arts, Source Festival

"Quynn Johnson's tap dance is a metaphor for the thunder. And also kind of abstract expression of the emotional turmoil that's going on inside of the characters."

-Metro Weekly, The Great Gatsby by The Washington Ballet

"Quynn Johnson's heated tap dancing actually signifies the ongoing calamity of those caught in the dangerous love square within the plot. It was unprecedented, conceptual, and a breath of fresh air."

-The Pink Line Project, The Great Gatsby by The Washington Ballet

"Tap specialty energetically performed by Quynn Johnson."

-The Maryland Theater Guide, The Great Gatsby by The Washington Ballet

"In 'Aya,' Quynn Johnson had a deliciously buoyant movement quality and a natural, organic musicality, as if the beat were rolling up and out of every limb."

-Washington Post, Tappening, Spotlight The Art of Footwork



Biography



Performing Artist. Teaching Artist. Author.

Quynn Johnson, a graduate of Howard University in Washington, D.C., and native of Flint, Michigan, is a award winning performing & teaching artist and author. She's most recently toured as the tap soloist in the Tony Award Winning Production, *After Midnight*.

Ms. Johnson, a multi-award winning performing artist, has been described as having a "deliciously buoyant movement quality and a natural organic rhythm." In 2014 & 2017, she won the Individual Artist Award for Dance Choreography from the Maryland State Arts Council. Quynn's non-profit performance company, *SOLE Defined* (co-created with Ryan Johnson) is committed to using dance as a tool to bring awareness to social issues and keep dance in the classroom. *SOLE Defined* has been presented at the Italy World Children's Festival, Jacobs Pillow, The John F. Kennedy Center Millennium Stage, and Dance Encore Festival in Quebec, Canada.

Quynn was a featured soloist in The Washington Ballet production of "The Great Gatsby" at The Kennedy Center and at The Source Festival. She's also performed at The Lincoln Center on Broadway, in Cirque du Soliel's "Mosaic" production in Washington, D.C., the National Tap Extravaganza in New York, Tapology Festival for Youth, the International Festival del Folklorico in Buenaventura, Colombia, and the Festival del Pacifico in Cali, Colombia. In addition, Quynn has toured Peru as part of the International Festival de Cajon Peruano. Ms. Johnson has several national awards in recognition for her choreography and was named the #1 Tap Choreographer for youth 12 and under, by the state of Maryland in 2006.

As a teaching artist Quynn has reached over 3,500+ youth through assemblies, residencies, and workshops. In 2011, Quynn became a self-published author of her first children's book "Lucky's Tap Dancing Feet," an exciting story about a horse who wants to learn how to tap dance. *Lucky's Tap Dancing Feet* premiered to sold out audiences in 2013 & 2014 at the INTERSECTIONS Festival in Washington, DC.

Teaching Artist

Award-winning Tap dancer and choreographer, Quynn Johnson enjoys sharing her love for the performing arts through school assemblies and residencies. Each 45-minute assembly is an interactive and rhythmic performance showcasing the traditions and history of tap dance with Quynn's fast paced footwork. The school residency also 45-minutes, offers students a deeper connection to the art of tap dance while reinforcing academics.

SCHOOL ASSEMBLY: Tap Live!

The interactive and rhythmic performance shares the traditions and history of the American art form of Tap dance with Quynn's personal journey of perseverance to overcome life challenges. The performance combines dance and music with storytelling to inspire and impact students through rhythmic expression.

Grade Level: 1st-8th

Connections: History, Dance, and Movement

SCHOOL RESIDENCY: WHERE'S YOUR RHYTHM?

Teaches kids ways to create their own rhythm with Tap dance. Students learn basic tap steps and explore the elements of dance and music. Team building and collaboration are important principles as they perform their own choreography.

Grade Level: 1st-12th

Connections: History, Math, Dance, and Movement

ARTS INTEGRATION RESIDENCY : READING & RHYTHM

Students learn to embody words through the movement of their feet. Tap dance connected to reading principles, adjectives, adverbs, and character traits, offers a deeper understanding.

Grade level: 3rd-12th

Connections: Dance, Literacy, Teamwork, History

ARTS INTEGRATION RESIDENCY : TAP MATHEMATICIAN

Students will connect math concepts like addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division with tap dance.

Grade level: 3rd-8th

Connections: Dance, Math, Teamwork, History

Grade level: 1st- 5th

Connections: Math, Dance and Movement, Teamwork



ASSEMBLY: LUCKY'S TAP & TALES

This storytelling assembly takes students on a journey in Lucky's tap shoes. while introducing students to the importance of basic tap steps and the "Lucky Groove."

Grade level: K- 5th

Connections: Dance, Anti- Bullying, Diversity, Language Arts

RESIDENCY: LUCKY'S TAP & TALES

Using the children's book, Lucky's Tap Dancing Feet, as a guide, students explore problem solving storytelling with tap dance. Students work in groups to build skills in team work and collaboration as they create their own choreography

Artistic Resume

HIGHLIGHTS

Lincoln Center, NYC
After Midnight Tour: Tony Award Wining Broadway Production
Jacobs Pillow, Inside Out Concert
Danse Encore Festival, Quebec, Canada
Cirque du Soleil: Mosaic Foundation Production
World Children's Festival in Italy
Kennedy Center Eisenhower Theater & Millennium Stage
Young Audiences of Maryland Artist Roster
Lucky's Tap Dancing Feet LIVE Production

INTERNATIONAL PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

Zaña Festival and Tour, Lima, Peru 2013
Petronio Alvarez Festival de Musica del Pacifico, Cali Colombia 2012
Internacional Folklorico Festival, Buenaventura Colombia 2010/2011
Annual Internacional Festival de Cajon Peruano, Lima, Peru 2009/ 2011

FILM. NEWS. MEDIA. AWARDS

Individual Artist Award: Dance Choreography, Maryland State Arts Council
Emerging Artist Metro DC Dance Award Finalist 2009
Step Up 2: The Streets, Dance Extra
Fox 5 News, Washington, DC

FESTIVAL & THEATER EXPERIENCE

Dance Africa at BAM, NYC
Atlas Intersections Festival, Washington, DC
National Tap Extravaganza, New York, NY
SOLE Defined Tap Production, Washington, DC
Velocity Festival DC Dance Festival: RAMP Series, Washington, DC
Atlanta Africa Dance and Drum Festival, Atlanta, GA
Maryland Masters of Tap Tribute, Baltimore, MD
DC Dance Festival, Washington, DC
Tapology Festival for Youth, Flint, MI
Maimouna Keita Conference 2010, New York, NY
Urban Contemporary Dance Festival, Baltimore, MD
Artscape Festival, Baltimore, MD
DC Capitol Fringe Festival, Washington, DC
Carelton College Black Arts Festival, Minneapolis, MN
New York Philharmonic featuring Marvin Hamlisch, New York, NY
Djembe of the New Millennium, New York, NY

Height: 5'4"
Weight: 129 lbs
Hair: Black
Eyes: Brown

TRAINING

Savion Glover's Hoofers School of Tap
Flintsont Hoofers Club
Farafina Kan West African Dance & Djembe Orchestra
Creative Expressions Dance Studio

CHOREOGRAPHIC EXPERIENCE

SOLE Defined
Lucky's Tap Dancing Feet
Scena Theater's Public Enemy
Scena Theater's Blue Angel
Roots and Rhythm
Just Tap in Concert
Jones Haywood School of Ballet
Dance Dimensions
Metropolitan Fine Arts Center
Coppin State University BRAVO Dance Program

WORKSHOPS

Nacional Superior Escuela de Bailar Folklorico
Ministerio de Cultura
Tapology Festival for Youth
Delta Gems
D1 Dance of Lima
Carabylo
Step Ahead Youth Program

EXPERIENCE

Joy of Motion Dance Center, Washington, DC

Director of Community Engagement, March 2006-June 2015

- Direct, implement and manage 5 Arts Education Outreach initiatives under the Project Motion Programs with 13 schools and 8 senior citizen organizations in the Washington, DC area. Including separate budgets for each program
- Establish, create, and manage new programs and partnerships with area schools and youth servicing organizations.
- Supervise and maintain 35 weekly dance classes at area schools, youth servicing organizations and senior center locations.
- Lead, organize, and manage the Step Ahead Summer Program, where 50 area DC teens ages 14-18 explore the performing arts as a career opportunity while earning money for 6 weeks.
- Hire, train, and orient 15 faculty instructors for the Projection Motion Program and 10 faculty members for the Step Ahead Summer Employment Program
- Plan and produce 11 Motion Expressions Concerts. Joy of Motion Dance Centers interactive, multimedia dance concert for over 260 youth with our partner schools and youth servicing organizations.
- Create evaluations to implement within 21 Project Motion Programs.

BearingPoint, McLean, VA,

Management Analyst Consultant, January 2005- February 2006

- Maintained the Healthcare Services Research and Management Groups initiative with the Centers for Medicaid Services.
- Worked to improve the information provided by Medicare Part D Drug Plan, State Health Insurance Assistance Program and 1-800-Medicare representatives to Medicare beneficiaries.
- Evaluate the accuracy, completeness, and consistency of the information provided by customer service representatives to Medicare beneficiaries.
- Assist in the development of BearingPoint's Audit Library Database for the OneGlobe SOX

Arts Admin.

EDUCATION

Howard University, Washington, DC 2004
Bachelors of Science in Health Management

TRAINING

Center for Excellence in Youth Development Assessments Concepts in Dance by NDEO Advancing Youth Development 30hr course Navigating Youth Culture and the Street Code Supervisor Training Advancing Youth Development

AWARDS

DC Mayor's Arts Award for Outstanding Achievement in Arts Education
National Summer Learning Association Focus Group Participant
University of Michigan Population Fellows Award

CERTIFICATIONS

CPR/ AED
Food Handler Certification

Footage



Performing Artist

[Click Here](#)

Teaching Artist

[Click Here](#)



Author

LUCKY'S TAP DANCING FEET is an exciting children's story about a horse that wants to dance; but with four huge feet, Lucky is sure to face some challenges.

Performing Artist and Author, Quynn Johnson, is excited to share her children's book with the world. "I want to create a story that teaches a friendly lesson through tap dance," says Quynn.

Lucky's Tap Dancing Feet shares a positive message while teaching kids to believe in themselves, try new things, reach their goals, and have fun.

Follow Lucky and her trusty side kick-Chip, as they overcome obstacles and learn how to tap.

ASSEMBLY: LUCKY'S TAP & TALES

THIS STORYTELLING ASSEMBLY TAKES STUDENTS ON A JOURNEY IN LUCKY'S TAP SHOES. WHILE INTRODUCING STUDENTS TO THE IMPORTANCE OF BASIC TAP STEPS AND THE "LUCKY GROOVE."

Grade level: K- 5th

Connections: Dance, Anti- Bullying, Diversity, Language Arts

RESIDENCY: LUCKY'S TAP & TALES

Using the children's book, Lucky's Tap Dancing Feet, as a guide, students explore problem solving storytelling with tap dance. Students work in groups to build skills in team work and collaboration as they create their own choreography.

Grade level: 1st- 5th

Connections: Math, Dance and Movement, Teamwork

Contact

Please send all booking requests to
info@quynnjohnson.com

For more information on Quynn Johnson please visit
www.quynnjohnson.com

Social Media



@justquynn

**"Dance is not only entertainment, nor is it a skill;
dance is a way of life."**

- Quynn Johnson

