

Residency: "Tap LIVE!"



Quynn Johnson is an award winning tap dancer, choreographer, and author known for her innovative fusion of tap dance with rhythms from around the globe. Not only was Ms. Johnson named the #1 Tap Choreographer for youth 12 and under, but she was awarded the 2014 & 2017 Individual Artist Award for Dance: Choreography by Maryland State Arts Council.

Using tap dance to inspire audiences of all ages, the Tap LIVE! residency teaches students ways to create their own rhythms and beats through tap dance.

My students absolutely enjoyed it and so did I. We appreciate you coming in to work with us, being patient with us, and sharing your love of tap with us. I couldn't have asked for a better experience

*-Ebony Smith
Benjamin Foulois Performing Arts Academy*

QUYNN JOHNSON PERFORMER + TEACHING ARTIST + AUTHOR



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PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Students naturally enjoy learning ways to creating their own rhythm with tap dance. In this residency, students learn basic tap steps while exploring the *Four Elements of tap dance*. The residency begins with the class learning to create rhythms using four hand-clap styles followed by each small group creating and presenting their own hand rhythm.

The tap experience deepens with the introduction and practice of basic tap movements allowing students to move around the classroom practicing the steps. As class progresses each day so does the learning of tap steps. The residency culminates with each small group performing their own tap dance choreography as well as an artist created choreography.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:

- Students will learn how to express themselves creatively with tap dance
- Students will practice teamwork and collaboration with each session
- Students will learn the four elements of tap dance and the history of the art form
- Each small group will practice and perform a group choreographed tap phrase



ARTIST BIO: Quynn Johnson is a award-winning performing artist, choreographer, and author. Ms. Johnson has performed tap dance on national and international stages including: The Kennedy Center, Jacobs Pillow, Dance Encore Festival in Quebec, Canada and the International Festival de Cajon in Lima, Peru. She also completed a tour of the Broadway Production *After Midnight*. Quynn is the co-director of SOLE Defined, a percussive dance company based in Washington, DC. Having received the 2014 & 2017 Individaul Artist Award: Dance Choreography from Maryland State Arts Council, Ms. Johnson has self-published 2 children's books, *Lucky's Tap Dancing Feet* and *Lucky Goes to Camp*.

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COMMON CORE STANDARD:

Maryland State Curriculum Standards for Fine Arts

Standard 3.0- Creative Expression and Production: Students will demonstrate the ability to create and perform dance.

Indicator 3: Develop knowledge and execution of performance competencies in dance

Objective b: Execute movement with technical proficiency and demonstrate performance competencies

List of additional resources:

Books

- Lucky's Tap Dancing Feet, by Quynn Johnson
- Tap Dancing America: A Cultural History, by Constance Valis Hill
- Brotherhood in Rhythm, by Constance Valis Hill
- The Souls of your Feet, by Acia Gray

Links

- Quynn's In-school arts in education reel.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6i1nEIPVUhY>
- The Acrobatic Tap Duo- The Nicholas Brothers.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_8yGGtVKrD8
- Quynn's tap dance performance reel.
<https://vimeo.com/54211692>
- SOLE Defined performs HOT!
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=viWtDSUqmXY>

Background/ Additional Information:

History of Tap Dance: Tap dance is a percussive dance style where dancers strike the floor using tap shoes to create sound. Tap dance is an American art form, but has its roots in African dance and Irish dance.

Culminating Examples:

- Students will use the Tap skills chart as a guide to creating their own choreography. This chart also serves as a self-assessment tool for students to recall what they know.
- Students will perform the group choreography in front of an audience.
- Students can write a reflection on the class comparing how they felt about tap dance in the beginning and in the end.

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TEACHER PREP:

Students will need comfortable shoes to practice in for the first two residency sessions; no prior dance knowledge needed. Please make sure that chairs are pushed back to create an open space.

PLEASE SHARE THE FOLLOWING WITH THE TEACHING ARTIST PRIOR TO THE RESIDENCY:

- Classroom management style and/or strategies used with the students
- Possible students with special needs
- Available dance space
- Number of students in each class

MATERIALS NEEDED FROM TEACHER:

- Large Post-it Paper or Chalk Board
- Scrap paper
- Pencils
- Wood floor or open space

Professional Development Strategies:

- Ability to create a tap rhythm that connects to a lesson on language.
- Ability to connect tap sounds and patterns to math equations
- Ability to use the tap rhythms as a call and response for classroom management

Inclement Weather: DON'T WORRY! Artists will follow school closings/delays, and will work with you to reschedule the performance if necessary.

Young Audiences Contact Number: 410-837-7577

After Hours / Emergency Number: Call 410-837-7577 and follow the prompts to be connected with a staff member on call.



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