

Quynn L. Johnson

Official Press Kit

Artist + Author + Educator



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.

The 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 **CITYPAPER**

Source Festival

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

The Washington Post

"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."

METROWEEKLY

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 Post

QUYNN L. JOHNSON

Quynn L. 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*.

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 t the Italy World Children's Festival, Jacob's Pillow,



The John F. Kennedy Center's Millennium Stage, and Dance Encore Festival in Quebec, Canada.

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.

Individual Artist Award for Dance: Choreography

-Maryland State Arts Council 2014

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-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

DANCE TRAINING

Savion Glover's Hoofers School of Tap

Flintsont Hoofers Club

Farafina Kan West African Dance & Djembe Orchestra

Creative Expressions Dance Studio

HEIGHT: 5'4"

WEIGHT: 129

HAIR: Black

EYES: Brown

CHOREOGRAPHY 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

DANCE 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

PERFORMANCE 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

DANCE FESTIVALS

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

FILM + TV

Step Up 2: The Streets, Dance Extra
Fox 5 News, Washington, DC

INTERNATIONAL PERFORMANCES

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

EDUCATION

Howard University, Washington, DC 2004
Bachelors of Science in Health Management
Harvard University, Master of Fine Arts, 2022

ARTS EDUCATION 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 IN ARTS EDUCATION

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

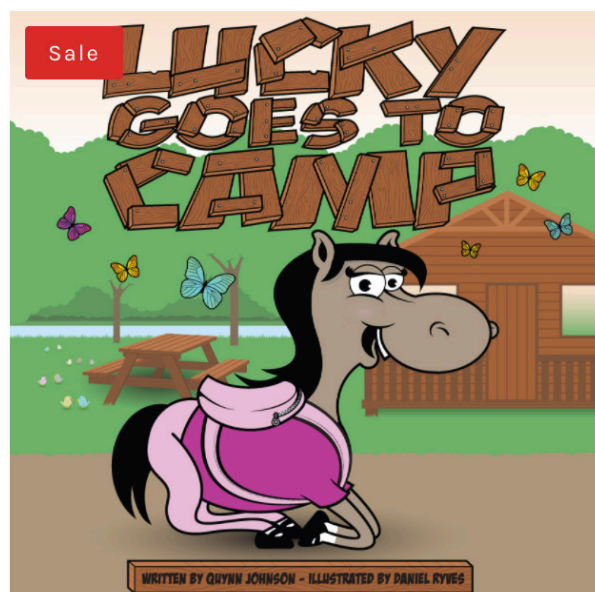
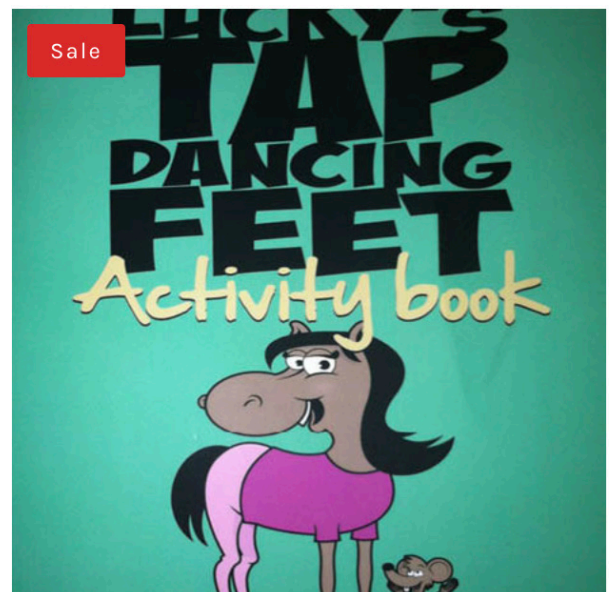
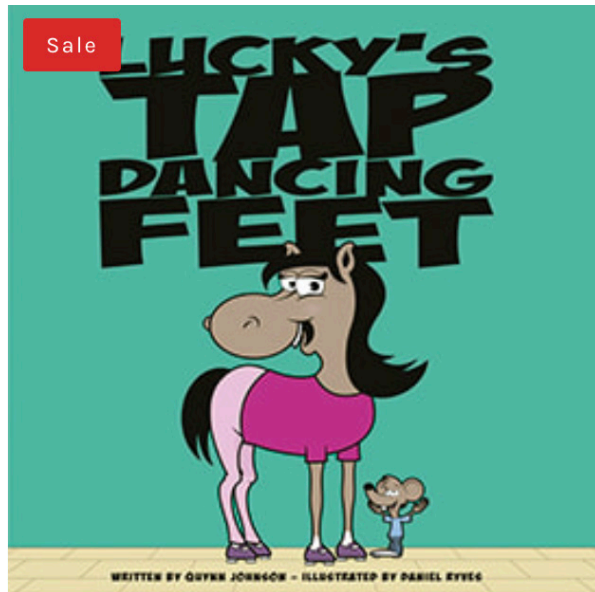
WORK EXPERIENCE

2006 - 2015 Director of Community Engagement, Joy of Motion Dance Center

- 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.
- Establish, create, and manage new programs and partnerships with area schools and youth servicing organizations.
- Supervise and maintain 35 weekly dance classes are 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.

BOOK SERIES

Lucky's Tap Dancing Feet is a story about a horse that wants to learn how to tap dance, but with four huge feet, Lucky is sure to face some challenges. Follow Lucky and her side kick, Chip, as they overcome obstacles and learn to tap.



AUTHOR

BOOK ASSEMBLY

This storytelling assembly takes students on a journey in Lucky's tap shoes. Students are introduced to the importance of basic tap steps and the Lucky Grove.

Grade level: K- 5th

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

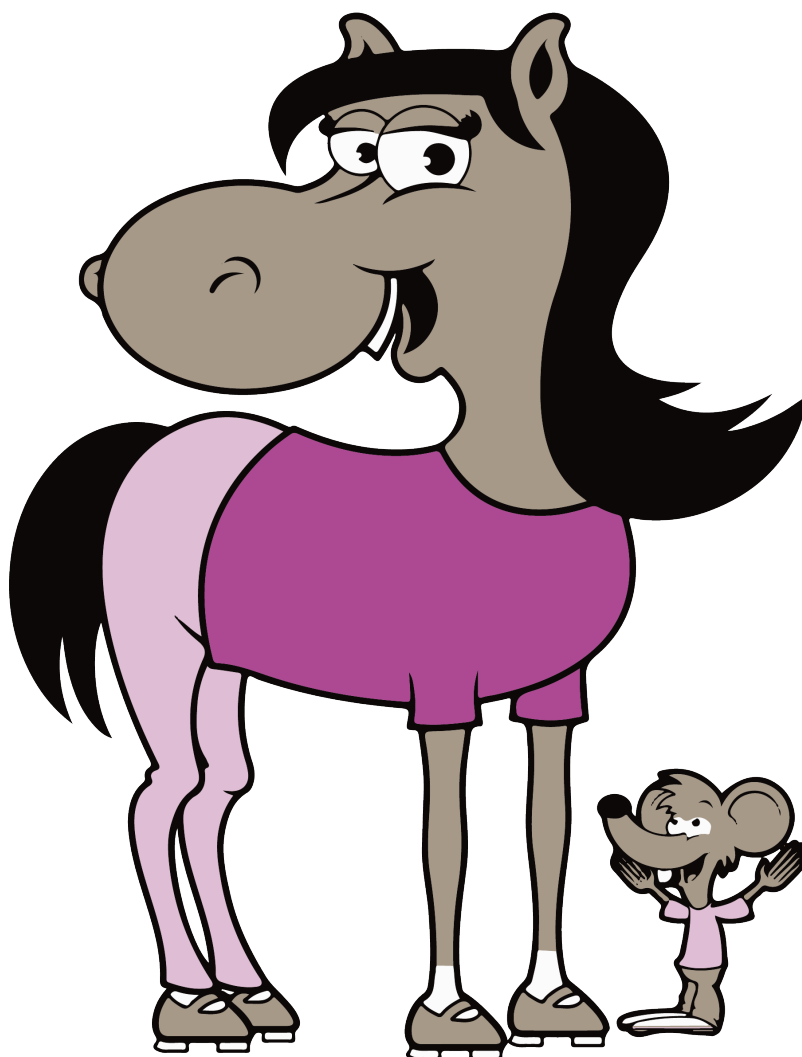
SCHOOL RESIDENCY

Using 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

**"QUOTE ABOUT
THE RESIDENCY
GOES HERE"**



BOOKING REQUESTS

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WEBSITE

quynnjohnson.com

FOLLOW QUYNN EVERYWHERE

[@justquynn](https://www.instagram.com/justquynn)

