

FUNKADELIC
HIP HOP



STREETS OF FUNK

DIRECTED BY SHAKIA
JOHNSON



FRI APRIL 28 & SAT APRIL 29
7PM • TIX \$9, \$7, \$5

PIONEER VALLEY PERFORMING ARTS
15 MULLIGAN DRIVE • SOUTH HADLEY, MA

Production Credits

Director Shakia Johnson
PVPA Technical Director & Lighting Designer Matt Cowan
Stage Manager Emma Odell
Assistant Stage Manager Owen Sordillo
Lightboard Operator Jay Winter
Sound Technician & Projection Conor Gregersen
Assistant Sound Technician & Follow Spot Ryan Sordillo
Stagehand Olivia Iarossi
Costumes Erin Sprong Murrell
Costume Crew Piper Hauff, Meghan Stenwick, October
Bedore, Megan Squires, Aviwe Himlin-Mayesiko
Program & Poster Design & Photography Lisa Cappello
Student Photographer Jordan Pelletier

Special Thanks

Thank you to Scott Goldman, Ann Biddle, Martin Bridge, Carl Bridge, Felice Santorelli, Bisko Kaba, John Kulas and the Maintenance Staff, Parents of PVPA Dancers - for ALL you do, and the PVPA Community (faculty, staff & students).

Professional Biographies

Shakia Johnson, born and raised in Springfield, MA, is a graduate of PVPA and Dean College. She received her teaching artist certificate from the National Dance Institute in New York in 2009. Shakia has choreographed and directed more than 40 hip hop, modern, African and lyrical works that have been performed at Trenton Educational Dance Institute, Rider University, the Princeton School of Ballet and the Bates Dance Festival. She has performed for numerous hip hop events and has opened for concerts by Fat Joe, Jadakiss, 112, Charlie Baltimore, Kima from "Total" and Omarion. In 2005 she choreographed a hip-hop number for the Celtics/NBA half-time show. She has toured the U.S. and abroad dancing with Face Da Phlave Entertainment and Illstyle and Peace Productions. She currently teaches at PVPA, Mount Holyoke College, Amherst and Smith College. She is part of the dance faculty at Bates Dance Festival and will be teaching the Young Dancers Workshop and the Professional Program this summer.

Remy "Gecko" Fernández-O'Brien is a teaching artist who specializes in Hip-Hop dance and culture. He is a former Associate Lecturer in the Dance Department at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and Co-Director of Express Yourself dance studio. Starting with a background in choreography, Remy has recently been devouring the foundations of Popping, Locking, Breaking, and House. He is excited to have the opportunity to work with Shakia Johnson and Funkadelic – a passionate, explosive community of artists.

Matt Cowan is the lighting teacher and Technical Director at PVPA.

Director's Note

I started this company three years ago as an after school activity. Our performances spurred interest among other students as people responded to the positivity and high energy of the group. I wanted to grow the company and develop it into a class. Ann Biddle recommended that I write a proposal. I am so glad I listened to her. Thank you so much for believing in me. This company has grown tremendously in such a short time. Their dancing has improved and they are confident enough to make their own work. The students have a great understanding and appreciation of the roots of Hip Hop, and that is what matters to me. They are able to teach others and keep the culture alive.

I want to thank the students for listening to all my life lessons and lectures that we have in class. I really appreciate all the hard work and dedication the students contribute to the company. No matter what stress they are under they all pull through at the end.

Thank you to the parents who volunteered their time and energy to Funkadelic. I appreciate your flexibility throughout the year.

My idea for this show was to create a production that highlighted the Hip Hop Culture. I spoke with the entire Art Department and asked for their input. Carl Bridge and I imagined a set that represents the graffiti element of Hip Hop and gives it a street feel. Carl worked with with his class to make this design become a reality and I am so pleased with the outcome.

Matt and I spoke about lighting early in the semester and he helped to bring my vision to life on stage. Thank you so much for putting your time and energy into making this happen and teaching students how to become professional techies.

Thank you Felice for being my sidekick in this process. I am inspired by your ability to put on many productions with a short amount of time.

Thank you Matthew King for putting this amazing band together. The live music puts this show on another level.

Thank you to LisaCappello for creating an awesome logo. The posters you create for every show are always off the hook.

Thank you Melissa and Martin for letting me work with your students in creating some great images and videos for this show.

Thank you for coming, and we hope you enjoy the show!

— Shakia Johnson, Director

Dance at PVPA

In the PVPA Dance Department, we celebrate the many different forms and functions that dance serves around the world. We recognize that dance can communicate and express a wide range of human feelings and experiences! Not only do we train our PVPA dance students to understand that the rigorous study of dance can lead to a professional career, but also that exposure to and exploration of different dance genres and creative processes are key aspects of a healthy, well rounded, culturally and aesthetically aware person.

At PVPA, the dance courses we offer our students are multi-faceted. Our classes blend skill building in technique with creative experiences linked to improvisation and choreography, provide a foundation in theory and history, and draw connections between dance and other disciplines and art forms. We offer a sequence of classes that train students from a beginner through more advanced level in several dance genres, and provide multiple performance outlets through informal showings at PVPA and out in the community, and concerts by our three pre-professional dance companies, Catalyst, WOFA (West African Dance and Drumming), and Funkadelic Hip Hop Company. Our Dance Education Laboratory (DEL) program offers dance students mentoring and teaching opportunities in neighboring elementary schools to promote community service and partnership.

The Dance Education Laboratory (DEL) at PVPA

This is the 5th year that the Dance Department, under the direction of Ann Biddle, has been in partnership with the Dance Education Laboratory (DEL). DEL is a dance teacher training program based in NYC at the Harkness Dance Center at the 92nd ST Y founded by Jody Arnhold and Ms. Biddle. DEL emphasizes a creative approach to teaching dance and choreography to students by making connections to literature, social studies and science. Thanks to a generous grant from Jody Arnhold, the PVPA Dance Education Laboratory was created in 2012 to train middle and high school dancers to become dance mentors for elementary aged students in local public schools. This unique combination of community service, mentoring, choreography, and collaborative teaching and learning has proven to be highly successful with both the PVPA students and their younger mentees. PVPA DEL students also have opportunities to travel to NYC to attend dance performances and participate in choreography workshops led by established New York City choreographers. The younger elementary school children who are part of the DEL program have an opportunity to attend the Dance for Every Child show at the Academy of Music and dance onstage with their dance mentors. PVPA DEL integrated dance residencies have included: The ABCs of Hip Hop, The Underground Railroad, Poetry of Maya Angelou, The Water Cycle and Native American Tales at the Leeds Elementary School in Northampton, Body Systems at the Hilltown Charter School in Williamsburg, Native American Folktales at the Moiser Elementary School in South Hadley, Stormy Weather at the Belcher Elementary School in Chicopee, Pioneer Valley Landforms at Wildwood School, Amherst, and Cycles of the Moon at Plains Elementary School in South Hadley. Shakia Johnson teaches the DEL Program at PVPA.

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Streets of Funk - Funkadelic Hip Hop Company

Stories of Freedom

Music Chance the Rapper
Choreographer Remy Fernández-O'Brien
Dancers: Krystianna Alicea, Vivica Banks, Monica Bodison, Tyler Bozoglos, Anna Cappello, Izzy Cordes, Anna Huggett, Arianna Ketchakeu, Emily Mar, Jacob Matthews, Yoshi Sanders, Tali Sureck, Tiana Vazquez-Ford, Bella Vermes

"I don't make songs for free / I make 'em for freedom" – Chance the Rapper
As an artist, Chance embodies the best of the balances that I'm always looking for as a choreographer: fierce independence with room for collaboration; self-confidence with humility; love of crew with love of family; realism with positivity. His 2016 album *Coloring Book* has not one, but two tracks entitled "Blessings," and this piece is an homage to that abundant sense of gratitude.

Video: After many harsh years of slavery, African Americans were in great need of happiness and celebration. Because of this, a time of fun, art, and music was born. We call this era the Harlem Renaissance. It enabled the African American community to show their abilities for music, art, and literature.

Harlem

Music Benny Goodman, Matt Braun
Choreographers Yoshi Sanders, Bella Vermes
Dancers: Izzy Cordes, Arianna Ketchakeu, Yoshi Sanders, Tali Sureck, Bella Vermes

Juke Box Love Song - by Langston Hughes

"I could take the Harlem night and wrap around you, Take the neon lights and make a crown, Take the Lenox Avenue busses, Taxis, subways, And for your love song tone their rumble down.	Take Harlem's heartbeat, Make a drumbeat, Put it on a record, let it whirl, And while we listen to it play, Dance with you till day-- Dance with you, my sweet brown Harlem girl."
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Taking place from the 1920s to the mid-1930s, the Harlem Renaissance was a literary, artistic, and intellectual movement that kindled a new black cultural identity. The city of Harlem became a hotspot of art and culture, sprouting the work of many well-known artists, such as Louis Armstrong, Jacob Lawrence, Zora Neale Hurston, and Langston Hughes. The Harlem Renaissance was about celebrating life and culture. This poem by Langston Hughes describes the inspiration taken from the city in the way that people dance and move. Through this piece we are celebrating this wonderful art form and the dance culture during the time period, including one of the most popular styles: Swing!

Video: The Lockers (originally named The Campbell Lockers) were a dance group formed by and Don "Campbellock" Campbell and Toni Basil in 1971. They Lockers were considered the pioneers of "street dance".

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Lock-It-Up

Music Galaxy, Hamilton Bohannon
Choreographer Shakia Johnson
Dancers: Monica Bodison, Tyler Bozoglos, Izzy Cordes, Arianna Ketchakeu, Jacob Matthews, Yoshi Sanders, Tali Sureck

Video: KRS One is a MC (Master of Ceremonies), producer, philosopher, and activist. He speaks of another MC named Ruby Dee, who was considered one of the first Puerto Rican MC's. Latinos in the South Bronx played a big role in the Hip Hop Culture from the beginning.

Soul Train 2 The Miami Sound

Music Earth, Wind, & Fire, Gloria Estefan and The MSM
Live Band: Dan Conway, Rocco Desgres, Savita Diggs, Lael Dratfield, Zeno Doleman, Nyasia Garcia, Noah Hornick, Gabe Jackson, Matthew King, Kaihla Laurent, Izzy Oram-Brown, Jackson Silverman, Dillon Zupp
Choreographer Bella Vermes
Dancers: Krystianna Alicia, Vivica Banks, Anna Cappello, Anna Huggett, Tiana Vazquez-Ford, Bella Vermes

Video: The South Bronx was a poor neighborhood isolated from the rest of New York and one cause of this was from the construction of the Cross Bronx Expressway. It created a scenery of rubble in neighborhoods it ran through from all the burning of houses and buildings. People of color were displaced from their homes but found their own way to make these bleak surroundings positive and beautiful. They spray-painted and danced on cardboard they laid on the ground.

Change

Music Hermitude
Choreographer Jacob Matthews
Dancers: Vivica Banks, Anna Cappello, Izzy Cordes, Anna Huggett, Jacob Matthews, Tiana-Vazquez-Ford

Banksy is a graffiti artist and has made many thought-provoking pieces such as this one right here. Usually some of his pieces have a deep meaning beyond a quick glance but the beauty of this piece is the simplicity in its message. The pun "change" he uses refers to money and an evolution in society. It's a powerful message of the future and how coins won't help in the long run but a change in society will. My piece portrays someone who understands the sign and is opened up to a whole world of disgraced and oppressed individuals in the dark.

Rhythm Nation

Music Janet Jackson
Choreographer Tali Sureck, Shakia Johnson
Dancers: Arianna Ketchakeu, Emily Mar, Tali Sureck, Tiana Vazquez-Ford, Bella Vermes

This piece is inspired by Audre Lorde's poem, Now, and the lyrics from Janet Jackson's song, Rhythm Nation. We found connections between these two works of art because they both empower people to come together to fight against injustice. Both Audre Lorde and Janet Jackson use their music and poetry as powerful forms of communication, giving a voice to those who are not being heard. The dancers in this piece are all strong women who are taking action through dance. We are ready to fight for justice. Are you?

Streets of Funk - Funkadelic Hip Hop Company

INTERMISSION

Black Movement

Music Jill Scott, Grandtheft, Spenda C, KRS-One, Michael Jackson
Choreographer Shakia Johnson
Dancers: Vivica Banks, Monica Bodison, Tyler Bozoglos, Anna Cappello,
Emily Mar, Jacob Matthews, Yoshi Sanders

This piece is about the everyday struggles of a black person living in the United States. No matter how hard we try, the system is set up for us to fail. We need to make changes now for our next generation. Remember that Dance is a form of Protest.

This Is How We Do us

Music Montell Jordan, Kehlani
Choreographer Krystianna Alicea, Shakia Johnson
Dancers: Krystianna Alicea, Izzy Cordes, Anna Huggett, Arianna Ketchakeu,
Emily Mar

This dance represents the power we as women hold in the dance world.

Video: Caleaf Sellers, Buddha Stretch and Henry Link was all part of a dance crew called MOPTOP which later became Elite Force. They are some of the original pioneers to come out of New York's dance movement in the late 80's. They heavily impacted the dance world by bridging the gap between old school dance style and new school dance style.

Life on the Red Carpet

Music Missy Elliott, Beyonce, Sharaya J.
Choreographers Yoshi Sanders, Krystianna Alicea
Dancers: Krystianna Alicea, Vivica Banks, Monica Bodison, Tyler Bozoglos,
Anna Cappello, Izzy Cordes, Anna Huggett, Arianna Ketchakeu, Emily Mar,
Jacob Matthews, Yoshi Sanders, Tali Sureck, Tiana Vazquez-Ford, Bella Vermes

Love Finds a Way

Music The Chainsmokers
Choreographer Jacob Matthews
Dancers: Jacob Matthews, Anna Cappello

Riches from Rags

Music Nao
Choreographer Arianna Ketchakeu
Dancers: Vivica Banks, Anna Huggett, Emily Mar, Tali Sureck, Tiana Vazquez-Ford,
Bella Vermes

This dance represents the value that we see in each other regardless of the amount of money that one might have. It is showing that family and close friends have a stronger link than greed regardless of the differences that one might have from you.

Streets of Funk - Funkadelic Hip Hop Company

Hype it Up

Music Sharaya J, Missy Elliott, Fergie
Choreographer Tyler Bozoglos, Shakia Johnson
Dancers: Krystianna Alicea, Monica Bodison, Tyler Bozoglos, Yoshi Sanders

Let Me Clear Throat

Music DJ Kool Herc
Choreographer Imani Moore, Shakia Johnson
7/8 Hip Hop Middle School Dancers: Chloe Charette, Gianna Courtney, Sylvie Cove, Willow Eldridge, Maddox Fornataro, Zenani Himlin-Mayekiso, Amos Kohrman, Logan Lanpher, Anna Long, John Major, Angelys Martinez, Nahamani Morgan, James Noblewolf, Galia Pakman Arrojo, Stella Templin, Leo Tymeson, Jaileen Vargas, Haley Walls, Alarice Wohlers

Decade Mix Part 3

Music . One Way, D-Train, Midnight Star, Erik B. & Rakim, 4Hero, Sharaya J, Chris Brown
Choreographer Shakia Johnson
Dancers: Krystianna Alicea, Vivica Banks, Monica Bodison, Tyler Bozoglos, Anna Cappello, Izzy Cordes, Anna Huggett, Arianna Ketchakeu, Emily Mar, Jacob Matthews, Yoshi Sanders, Tali Sureck, Tiana Vazquez-Ford, Bella Vermes
Info: Each year of Funkadelic we have done a piece that shows dance from the 70's, 80's, 90's and today.

To continue our legacy we bring you part 3! We believe that while progressing hip hop to a bright future it is imperative that we keep our roots sacred. Each style you will see has a back story and history deeply rooted in the culture we call hip hop. So please, sit back as we reminisce to the old school style that shaped hip hop today, the Funkadelic way!

Funkadelic Hip Hop Company Bios

Krystianna Alicea is 16 years old and is a sophomore at PVPA. When she was little she had no rhythm and now she's up on the stage. This performance is dedicated to her grandparents who have never given up on her big and wild dreams. When she's not in Funkadelic you can probably catch her hanging out with her friends or curled up with her kitten Winnie. She just wants to thank all the members in Funkadelic for always believing in her and hyping her up both ON and OFF stage. She will always be there for the many many many prayer circles and she hopes to continue the journey for as long as she's at PVPA. Shoutout to Shakia for giving her all these lovely opportunities. LET'S GO SUMMER 2K17!!! #Longlonglonglong #catchyalife

Vivica Banks is an 8th grader who has been dancing since she was 5 at Dream Studios Inc, and has been in love with it ever since. Dance plays a big role in her life since that is her main focus. This is her first year in the Funkadelic Dance Company and she is very happy she got to meet each and every one of these great people with each of their different personalities. She cannot wait for the future and where dancing will take her in life #dancer4life #hiphop

Monica Bodison is 15 years old and is a sophomore at PVPA. She has been a part of Funkadelic and WOFA for 2 years and has enjoyed every second of it. She'd like to thank Shakia for everything she taught her and hopes you enjoy the show. #Coneofcream

Tyler Bozoglos is a 9th grader at PVPA. He didn't know about his love for dance until he took 7/8 Hip Hop. He has been in love with dance ever since and hopes to continue dancing after his years at PVPA.

Anna Cappello spent years cheering from the audience as Funkadelic tore up the stage, and decided that for her senior year at PVPA, she would like nothing better than to be able to join them. She is extremely grateful that she actually auditioned, and although her time in this company has been short, she has loved every second of learning (and laughing) alongside her Funkadelic family. She hopes you have as much fun watching the show as she is having performing in it! Huge shoutout to Shakia (and Bella, 'cause it wouldn't be a proper bio without one). #outtappocket #thefunkadelix #getfuunked

Isabella Cordes is 15 years old, a freshman, and has been in Funkadelic for 2 years now and is so excited to be a part of the first ever Funkadelic show! Izzy would like to thank Shakia Johnson for all the hard work, encouragement, and pure love that she has devoted to the company. Izzy loves learning new styles of hip hop and dancing with everyone in the company! #homeslice

Anna Huggett is a sophomore at PVPA and has been in Funkadelic since it's first year. She would like to thank Shakia and her fellow Funkadelics for always being there for her and making it a wild and funky ride. She attends Ascendance Inner World Arts dance studio in Northampton, and would also like to thank her parental units for supporting her even though they still don't know how to lock or pop. A big shout out to mom (aka bella) because "mommin' ain't easy." For more information about Annatude follow her on Instagram @annahuggett #riphypcity

Arianna Ketchakeu is a 10th grader at PVPA and has been in Funkadelic for three years. She loves every moment of her time spent with Funkadelic and is so glad she can call them family. She also loves how they will never turn their back on her. She will always treat Funkadelic like family because she loves them and will never be a snake. She is very grateful for everything she has learned from Funkadelic and the support she's received. She also wants you to follow her on Instagram @ariannayk #straightouttappocket

Funkadelic Hip Hop Company Bios (continued)

Emily Mar is 14 years old, an 8th grader at PVPA, the youngest member in the company, and this is her first year being with Funkadelic! She wants to thank Shakia for helping her improve as a hip hop dancer and teaching her to take risks and work hard even if you feel like giving up. Another shout out goes to her parents for letting Emily have the opportunity to dance with the cast even with the tight schedule. Emily wants to lastly give a huge shout out to the funky fam – you all helped her through this stressful yet amazing experience preparing for the first Funkadelic show! Emily says, "I am truly glad to be part of something that has impacted my dance life forever and I'm very happy I made some great friends and one amazing family." #StreetsOfFunk#FunkyFam

Jacob Matthews is a freshman and has been in Funkadelic since the very beginning. He has been dancing for 13 years at Hackworth School of Performing Arts. As well as Hip Hop he trains in various other dance styles including Tap, Jazz, Ballet, Contemporary, Modern and Musical Theatre. He would like to thank Shakia for having his back and holding it up straight in the rough patches he's had. She has been an amazing mentor to him helping beyond the classroom with choreography and opportunities to grow. He says that Funkadelic has worked very hard to achieve their goals for the last 3 years and is proud that they've made it! He is excited to be sharing his love of dance with you and hopes that you enjoy the trip on Funk Street!

Yoshi Sanders is a freshman and is so excited to present the first ever Funkadelic show! He has been a part of Funkadelic since day one, and knows how much the company has evolved and grown to the point where it is today. While not messing around in the dance studios at school, Yoshi attends Hackworth School of Performing Arts in Easthampton. He would like to thank Shakia Johnson for challenging and pushing everyone to grow and be the best dancer they can be. He would also like to give a huge shout out to the amazing Bella Vermes for keeping this wild group in check when Shakia is not around. Enjoy the show! #circleonme #circleonyou #riphypcity

Tali Sureck (also known as Tal-EEE by Shakia) is a sophomore at PVPA and has been fortunate enough to learn and grow as a dancer in Funkadelic for the past three years! When Tali is not dancing in Funkadelic or around her house, she dances at Ascendance Inner World Arts in Florence. Tali would like to thank Shakia for collaborating on a piece in the show, which is Tali's first ever Funkadelic choreography. Tali would also like to thank her amazing parents, family, friends, and all the members of the Funkadelic family whose love and support she holds deeply in her heart! #dawwwwwwww

Tiana Vazquez-Ford is a freshman at PVPA. She is 15 years old and has been in Funkadelic for 2 years. Tiana has been dancing for 9 years, and she is so excited to be in the very first Funkadelic show ever! She would like to thank all her dance instructors for providing her with love and knowledge. Tiana loves the experience she has gotten in Funkadelic the past couple of years, and loves dancing with everyone. #gogetyourlife

Bella Vermes is a senior and is 18 years old – don't be fooled by her height! She's been a member of Funkadelic for 2 years and is extremely sad, yet privileged, to be one of the very first seniors to graduate from Funkadelic. She would like to thank Shakia Johnson for being more than a teacher and director, but a role model and giving Bella an experience and opportunity she'll never forget. She would also like to thank Matthew King and every one of the musicians and vocalists for taking her piece and turning it into something far better than her expectations. Like the rest of the cast (who take on a role of her family, more like her kids), she's extraordinarily excited to debut Streets of Funk tonight after endless months of preparation and dedication so with that: please enjoy the show! #thatshowburnitup #yomama