BOSTON UNIVERSITY DANCE PROGRAM'S

Summer Outreach/Teen Apprenticeship Dance Program

Founded/operated by Dance Collective (1990 - 2005)

2015



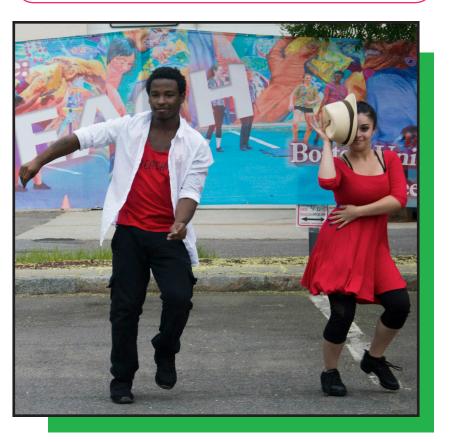
Final Report

Contact Information

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Left: *Reach* 2015 teen apprentice Maria Fuentes dances with professional Brian Washburn in "Cha Cha," a Latin piece choreographed by Fuentes for the duo. Photo Credit: Mickey West Right: Micki Taylor-Pinney and family after the free performance in Cambridge.

Our Mission:

• To present dance as a practice that improves physical well-being, cultural and artistic expression, and life skills such as cooperation and community-building

• To empower and mentor our teen apprentices to develop essential skills for success in a structured, supportive, educational setting

• To provide a positive, quality art experience to thousands of urban youth using the universal language of movement

• To provide a community service by bringing our cost-effective, contemporary dance performances and workshops into Greater Boston neighborhoods



Organization

Boston University Department of Physical Education, Recreation and Dance Executive Director: Timothy Moore Director of Dance: Micki Taylor-Pinney Reach Program Director: Christina Piscitelli *'What I like* best about the Reach program is the diversity in styles, students, and backgrounds, and the supportive community we build together.''

-Colette Chien, teen apprentice

"I think. I have improved in my confidence and knowledge of other dance styles."

-Maria Fuentes, teen apprentice

REACH

Celebrating **25** Years of Making a Difference through Dance Introduction to Organization and Programs

History of Reach

Reach was founded as The Summer Outreach Program and Intergenerational Company in 1990 by two of Dance Collective's co-founders and Artistic Directors, Martha Armstrong Gray and Dawn Kramer. Micki Taylor-Pinney joined Martha and Dawn as a co-director in 1998. When Dance Collective disbanded in June of 2006, Micki, who is also Director of Dance at Boston University, encouraged the program's move to the university. This year Reach trained 16 student apprentices and performed for over 1,300 individuals in areas with limited access to the arts. Today, Reach remains true to the mission and goals of its founders-to bring quality arts experiences to under-served areas. The program is sponsored in part by the Boston University Department of Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.



Reach 2015 company performs "The Daily News" during the annual free performance in Cambridge.



Top to bottom and left to right: *Reach* 2012 performance, *Reach* 2009 concert, *Reach* 2011 show, *Reach* 2008 performance, *Reach* 2010 concert, *Reach* 2007 rehearsal, *Reach* 2007 show.

The Company

This summer, 16 teen apprentices from the Greater Boston Area served as emissaries of the arts. They experienced the rigors of being professional dancers working alongside four professional artists/educators and two college interns. Over the course of the summer, these apprentices were transformed from strangers into friends from a group of young dancers into an active and vibrant dance company.

The Reach program was divided



into three parts. The first three weeks included intensive daily classes and rehearsals to create a 45-minute show. Two of the pieces were from Dance Collective's repertory, which the company adapted to fit the strengths of the apprentices. The remaining seven pieces were created by company members themselves, working collectively.

For the next two weeks, *Reach* went "on tour." All told, over 1,800 children and adults at 20 local sites enjoyed the company's performances this summer. The intergenerational company held 11 performances and 16 workshops for summer camps and community groups, including one performance for the public. In addition to performing, apprentices assisted instructors and served as role models to other neighborhood youth, sharing their knowledge and skills by teaching interactive workshops. Each day, the company returned to BU for instructional and recreational programs including master classes with guest artists, a meeting with the Dean of Students to discuss college preparation, and assessment and evaluation sessions.

For the sixth and seventh weeks, staff members were contracted to teach an additional ten workshops for a total of 26 workshops in the community. One apprentice joined them.

This year's teen apprentices, ranging in age from 12-18, were from Boston and Cambridge neighborhoods as well as area suburbs, and all have participated in dance programs in their communities. They are: Adam Wertheimer, 15, of Brighton; Angelina Haynes, 15, of Norwood; Asa Hamot, 14, of Brookline; Ashton O'Brien, 17, of Arlington; Cheyenne Wade, 17, of Cambridge; Chloe Johnson, 18, of Newton; Colette Chien, 16, of Boston; Emily Goodrich, 14, of Webster; Jasmine Wong-Wynot, 17, of Brighton; Maria Fuentes, 16, of Dedham; Maria del Carmen Rodriguez Garrido, 17, of Guatemala; Nina Taylor-Dunn, 15, of Jamaica Plain; Sarah Mullin, 16, of East Boston; Simon Chernow, 12, of Jamaica Plain; Talia Roland-Kalb, 17, of Brookline; and Xavier Thomas, 16, of Lowell.

Reach's professional dancers were Christina Piscitelli, *Reach* Program Director, of Onset; Janelle Gilchrist, of Watertown; Brian Washburn, of Boston; and Jacob Regan, of Boston. Both Washburn and Regan are former *Reach* college interns. These professionals were supported by college interns Adam Barrameda, of New Jersey; and Hanna Stubblefield-Tave, of Newton.

"When I got to learn the dances, it inspired me to learn more, and performing them helped me improve." -Simon Chernow, teen apprentice

"My favorite part of the Reach program was creating friendships that have blossomed into a big family." -Xavier Thomas, teen apprentice

Director of Dance



It has been a pleasure to guide and witness the continuation of Dance Collective's outreach program under the umbrella of Boston University.

When a camper exclaims, "This is the best day of my life," you know you've touched on something. You never know when you'll inspire or delight someone, but each of our company members had that experience somewhere along the line. And they are part of Reach to share that experience with others.

S now days last winter forced us to change our schedule a bit. Since some schools were still in session when we were supposed to begin, we delayed the start date to July 1 so we could all start together. We added a pre-session class open to anyone available early – a great way to prepare for the intense workout that daily classes and rehearsals provide. We lengthened the session days with an earlier start time in order to fit in all the hours necessary to create and rehearse a 45 minute performance in time to go "on tour."

Reach delivers arts education to Boston's neighborhoods and empowers our teens to become leaders in the community.

This was the 25th anniversary of the start of Dance Collective's urban outreach program. Although it has changed shape and form, it is our good fortune that the co-founders, Martha Armstrong Gray and Dawn Kramer, are still involved in fundraising and mentoring the choreography for our program. The feedback sessions with staff, co-founders, and friends of Reach helped our choreographers create sophisticated and polished work. From the sassy Cha Cha duet created by Maria, a teen competition dancer, with Brian, one of our professionals, to the lovely piece that Janelle, a staff member, created for three teens who adore ballet, to the two hip hop pieces created by teens themselves, our program shows all the different ways to be in love with dance. Our young urban audience saw a diverse group of teens, of all ethnicities, working together with college interns and professionals. The dance pieces were interspersed with performers talking about creating dances and training to be a dancer. The workshops were fun, engaging and designed to inspire kids to get up and get moving. The feedback from the campers and their counselors tells us that Reach provides an educational and entertaining activity that the camps would not otherwise experience.

We also owe special thanks to our fundraiser hosts, the Bodmans, and to the host committee members Ann Brown Allen, Judy Cohen, Jerry Cathey, Martha Gray, Tina McBride, Lynn Modell and Harvey Nosowitz. The generosity of the over 50 individuals is crucial to our success. We appreciate their shared belief that Reach delivers arts education to Greater Boston neighborhoods and empowers our teens to become leaders in their community.

-Míckí

We are grateful that the **co-founders** are still so involved in the program, from fundraising to mentoring the choreography:

Dawn Kramer had this to say after coming to an early rehearsal of our small group pieces the second week of the program: "It was great to be able to see those dances so early during the program. I really don't believe how together each piece was after only six hours of rehearsal. It is wonderful to see so many boys in the program as well as such diversity of age, gender, ethnicity and neighborhoods represented. There are some lovely dancers and a great group spirit in the program. The kids look great and make me feel older each time I see them! Brava!"

Matha Armstrong Gray came to the dress rehearsal, the outdoor performance and one of our community performances: "I took my two granddaughters ages 5 and 7 to the *Reach* show at the Hennigan School in JP yesterday and they LOVED it! Both said they wanted to come back next year and see it again. The company was very confident and extroverted in their performing. Their energy and commitment to the task of performing for the children in the audience was wonderful. They gave their audience a gift of joy through this art form. What a treat!"

Looking Ahead: Goals for 2016

- Work with our network of urban school and community leaders to identify qualified teen apprentices.
- Improve and codify the teacher/apprentice training for the community workshops.
- Create video to accompany post-performance lesson plan on One Way to Make a Dance



Micki Taylor-Pinney provides hands-on feedback during a rehearsal with the 2011 *Reach* company.



'I found it rewarding to have a schedule every day and to be motivated to wake up early... We all were going through the same experiences each day and supported each other."

-Ashton O'Brien, teen apprentice

"Reach shows different forms of expression to people who may not receive access to these opportunities otherwise." -Cheyenne Wade,

BU Director of Dance

Micki Taylor-Pinney has directed the dance program at Boston University in the Department of Physical Education, Recreation and Dance and served as faculty advisor to the student dance company, Dance Theatre Group, since 1985. She is advisor and mentor for the dance minor program in the College of Fine Arts since 1999 and administrator for Reach since 1998. She teaches courses in modern dance, dance history, composition, and aesthetics, as well as Ideokinesis and pedagogy as a guest lecturer in the School of Education. A performer with Dance Collective beginning in 1986, she became an artistic director from 1998 to 2006 during which time she performed and choreographed for the company and directed the educational/outreach programs. She has choreographed over 50 dances for BU's Dance Theatre Group and over 30 dances for professional dancers and companies. She has served as a dance education consultant and taught residencies for schools and colleges in Vermont, Rhode Island and Massachusetts. She is director of Mass Movement, Inc. providing educational outreach in schools and after-school programs through Young Audiences. She co-directed a teacher training grant in the Boston Public Schools and co-authored a manual for teachers. For 12 years, she was the dance director for creative arts summer programs in Dover and Brookline. Micki was president of Boston Dance Alliance for two of the eight years she served on the board. She holds a BS from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst and an MFA from the University of North Carolina, Greensboro.



The Reach professional staff and college interns. From left to right- Back row: Adam Barrameda, Janelle Gilchrist, Hanna Stubblefield-Tave; Middle: Micki Taylor-Pinney, Christina Piscitelli, Jacob Regan; Front: Brian Washburn.

Reach Program Director

Christina Piscitelli received her BFA in dance from Emerson College and an Associates in Music from Dean Junior College. She performed and taught for Dance Collective's educational programs from 1998 – 2006 and continues to teach residencies for Mass Movement, Inc. and Young Audiences of Massachusetts. Christina has received grants from the Wareham Cultural Council to teach dance to 7-13 year old children. Christina began as co-director of the Summer Outreach Program in 1999, before becoming director of the program in 2005. She was previously on the faculty of the Ipswich Middle School, where she taught drama and dance, and also taught for many years at the Topf Center for Dance Education in their programs for public schools. Other teaching credits include Emerson College Youtheatre, Lexington School of Ballet, and the Ipswich Moving Company. For seven seasons she was choreographer for The Freelance Players and Freelance Troupe. She has performed with American Dance Heritage, MJT/Tslila Dance Company, and Choreo. Christina has been performing at King Richard's Faire since 1993 as a Gypsy Dancer, and for two seasons performed in the show "The Village Gossips," a self-written show. Christina also works with production companies doing corporate events and comic improvisation.

Professional Instructors

Janelle Gilchrist, originally from Stoneham, MA, developed her skills and expertise through studies at Harriet Hoctor Ballet School, Boston Ballet School, José Mateo Ballet Theatre, Broadway Theater Project, Concord Academy, and Dance Theater of Harlem, and earned her BFA in Dance at the University of Hartford, CT. Currently, Janelle is a company dancer at Jose Mateo Ballet Theatre. She also is the director of in-school programming for Balletrox, Boston and teaches ballet at Tony Williams Dance Center and Step by Step in Waltham MA. Prior to that, she taught dance for 3 years at the Moses Brown School in Providence, RI. Highlights of Ms. Gilchrist's professional career include her role as company dancer, performing in leading roles at the Hartford Ballet, New Jersey Ballet, Island Moving Company, and BalletRox. In addition, Janelle has performed with Legends in Concert, Celebrity Cruises, Anna Myer, and David Parker. She has also held small roles in several major movie productions, including '27 Dresses' and 'What's Your Number.' Ms. Gilchrist has recently served as choreographer and casting director of two flash mob performances for Media Direct Productions, in Boston and in Las Vegas, NV.



Left: *Reach* professional Brian Washburn engages the crowd during audience participation at the free Cambridge performance.

Right: *Reach* college intern Adam Barrameda introduces the audience to gestural movement and understanding dance as communication.



Brian Washburn is a former *Reach* apprentice and college intern, and he has been dancing since the age of seven. He graduated from Northwest School of the Arts in 2011 where he studied ballet,

modern, and jazz to broaden his dance repertoire. He now teaches dance throughout Boston at multiple studios, such as Tony Williams Dance Center and Urbanity Dance, as well as being an active member in dance companies such as Boston Urban Ballet, UrManity, and Jo-Me' Dance. Brian continues to dance while pursuing a career in entrepreneurship.

Jacob Regan recently graduated from East Carolina University in Greenville, North Carolina, where he studied Dance Performance. He grew up in Charlotte, North Carolina, where he attended Northwest School of the Arts. Jacob's first introduction to dance was through Capoeira, the Brazilian martial arts/dance form, which kept him active as a child. He was introduced to other forms of dance including modern and release techniques,



Reach professionals Christina Piscitelli and Jacob Regan take a moment to thank our funders during the performance.

ballet and break dancing. Since moving to Boston, Jacob has become a professional dancer with Urbanity's Daytime professional company, and he works with Contact Improvisation Boston.

Student Interns

Hanna Stubblefield-Tave has been dancing in the Boston area for 15 years and is currently a student at Columbia University in New York City. She participated in *Reach* during high school and was one of the program's college interns for the third time this summer. She has trained in many styles of dance, with a focus in hip-hop under the direction of EnMotion, Inc. and in tap with Sean C. Fielder's The Boston Tap Company. Hanna continues to study a variety of dance forms at Columbia, and she is considering a career in arts administration after graduation.



Adam Barrameda is an actor, dancer, musician, thinker, activist, and *Reach* College Intern. Originally from New Jersey where he began dancing at age 17, Adam moved to Boston the following year to join Boston University as a BFA Acting candidate. He has since studied ballet, modern, contemporary, jazz, hip hop, contact improvisation, yoga, aerial, and many disciplines of theatre, most notably at BU's School of Theatre, Cambridge's Dance Complex, and with Double Edge Theatre in Ashfield, MA. He is inspired by the enriching endeavor of physical creativity, and looks forward to creating and teaching in the future.

Reach professional Janelle Gilchrist helps children during a Motion Arts workshop.

"What I like best about the Reach program is continuing to strengthen my body and technique. Also I loved being able to create choreography."

-Chloe Johnson, teen apprentice

"The most rewarding aspect was dancing the same dance a bunch so you can perfect it more and more."

-Adam Wertheimer, teen apprentice

Evaluation

A few words from our teen apprentices . .

"I think the campers learned how to be more attentive and respectful from the workshops and more accepting of different art forms from the performance." –Angelina Haynes, teen apprentice

'I saw a little boy cheering really loudly during our finale, and so I went to bring him up to dance at the end... [H]e said no, but then he did end up coming up to dance, and he volunteered to solo in our dance 'battle' during Brian's workshop!" – Talia Roland-Kalb, teen apprentice

"What I found really rewarding from the tour was strengthening our adaptability skills. We could be performing in small and crowded spaces, concrete and grass, and we had to give an equally great show every time." —Colette Chien, teen apprentice

"I think the campers benefited from having us perform and teach workshops...so that [they could learn] how to perform and express themselves through dance."—Sarah Mullin, teen apprentice

"The most rewarding part of the program was to share the same passion for dance with my teammates and to learn from the different kids' experiences."-Maria del Carmen Rodriguez Garrido, teen apprentice

"Having a young camper tell you that you were the best part of their summer is really motivating! Additionally it shows me that by doing something small, such as working with a child in a workshop, can make their day." —Emily Goodrich, teen apprentice

"My favorite part of the Reach program is seeing the smiles of joy we bring to these children as a company...[T] he campers are the next generation, and if they feel inspired, they are capable of achieving so much." —Jasmine Wong-Wynot, teen apprentice

A few words from our professionals . . . "There are a lot of children who do not have the opportunity to dance, whether it is because of financial issues or

"There are a lot of children who do not have the opportunity to dance, whether it is because of financial issues or accessibility. This program remedies that even if only a little bit. Sometimes a little inspiration is all it takes." —Brian Washburn, Professional Instructor

> "I am always impressed by the teens' innovation and their ability to create entertaining dances!" –Hanna Stubblefield-Tave, College Intern

"I got to experience teaching and working with kids and teens of all ages, learning devices to teach that do and don't work." –Jacob Regan, Professional Instructor

"Going on tour helps me keep my organizational skills fresh. It is always a great experience to dance with the next generation of dancers in a show." –Christina Piscitelli, Reach Program Director

"[The teens] are more generous and generative than I would expect of their age group, and taking class with them teaches me a lot about what does and doesn't work as a teacher." –Adam Barrameda, College Intern

A few words from the groups we perform for ...

"Our boys got to see great role model in the many talented and confident young men in the company! We always want to highlight role models for girls too, but your show was a great opportunity to highlight male artists... Site Directors mentioned they overheard kids talking about dance all day yesterday—the kids who have shown very little interest in dance previously!" —Molly Juhlin, Director of Children's Programs at Agassiz Baldwin Community

"The teen apprentices danced with the students, especially those who were reluctant at first. Their presence made the students more comfortable." –Sr. Mary Hart Summer Camp

"Some kids who have attention issues/ special needs were engaged during the entire performance...The workshop was amazing. Incentivizing participation with the fun game is awesome!" –Mystic Learning Center

"[The teen apprentices] did a great job leading and pulling kids in to participate, including those who were trying to hide." —South Boston Boys & Girls Club

"Thank you so much for performing for our summer school group. The students really enjoyed the whole performance. They were engaged and focused. You did a great job connecting with the students. It was everyone's favorite Friday, even their favorite day in the whole program! Many students now dream of joining the Reach Team." – April Penn, BELL

Date Publication Description Event listing for Cambridge performance in calendar and listing in Sunday Globe Boston Globe 1-June-15 Dance section in print on July 19 1-June-15 Boston Dance Alliance Event listing for Cambridge performance in calendar 1-June-15 ArtsBoston Event listing for Cambridge performance in calendar Boston Central Event listing for Cambridge performance in calendar 1-June-15 1-June-15 Cambridge Arts Council Event listing for Cambridge performance in calendar Event listing for Cambridge performance in calendar and listing in upcoming events 1-June-15 BU Today in daily e-newsletter on July 22 1-June-15 BU Calendar Event listing for Cambridge performance in calendar 1-June-15 BU Arts Initiative Event listing for Cambridge performance in calendar 1-June-15 Wicked Local Event listing for Cambridge performance in calendar 1-June-15 **Dig Boston** Event listing for Cambridge performance in calendar 19-June-15 Webster Times Article in print featuring Emily Goodrich, Reach Teen Apprentice from Webster 6-July-15 Arlington Advocate Article in print featuring Ashton O'Brien, Reach Teen Apprentice from Arlington 15-July15 Dedham Transcript Article in print featuring Maria Fuentes, Reach Teen Apprentice from Dedham 16-July-15 Cambridge Chronicle Article in print featuring Cheyenne Wade, Reach Teen Apprentice from Cambridge 22-July-15 Arts Fuse Cambridge performance included in weekly dance picks Close Up feature on Cambridge performance with photograph 3-August-15 BU Today

Reach Media Placements 2015

"This is my dream come true!" and "This is the best day of my life!" -Campers at Boston Police Campership at Roxbury YMCA

Webster teen to perform with professional dancers at BU

BOSTON — This summer, Webster youth Emily Goodrich will serve as an emissary of the arts along with 14 other suburban and urban teens from the Greater Boston area as well as Lowell, Norwood and Guatemala as the Reach: Summer Outreach Dance/Teen Apprenticeship Dance Program celebrates its 25th anniversary. For five weeks in July, Boston

For five weeks in July, Boston University's Reach program will allow these talented students to experience the thrills and rigors of dance training year's professionals include Janelle Gilchrist, Christina Piscitelli, Jacob Regan and Brian Washburn, along with two college interns Hanna Stubblefield-Tave and Adam Barrameda. Through three weeks of intense daily class and rehearsal with Reach staff, the teens prepare for the company's summer tour. The tour, which begins July 20 and lasts two weeks, includes 11 performances and 23 workshops, serving over 1,500 kids and adults at more than a dozen local camps and community centers in Dance Collective, moved the program to Boston University, where she is the director of dance. "We all benefit from Reach's success –

Summer Learning

"We all benefit from Reach's success – the teens, the community and those who strive to bring the power and beauty of dance to a wider audience," Taylor-Pinney said.

Reach is primarily funded by charitable grants and through private donations. For more information, visit http:// www.bu.edu/fitrec/dance/reach/ or call 617-353-1597.

REACH TOUR SITES



2015 Reach teens perform at a local summer camp.

Boston Police Campership at Roxbury YMCA Outback Summer Program (Aggasiz NeighborhoodCouncil) Sr. Mary Hart at St. Katherine Drexel Mazemakers: Fourth Presbyterian Church Summer Meals Program WriteBoston's Teens in Print at Northeastern Somerville YMCA BCYF Leahy-Holloran Community Center South Boston Boys & Girls Club (Summer Collaborative) Sunrise Summer Camp Dorchester Boys & Girls Club	30 60 150 50	30 15 10 30 2 11 40	Performance/Worksho Performance/Worksho Workshop Performance Workshop Performance/Worksho
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South Boston Boys & Girls Club (Summer Collaborative) Sunrise Summer Camp	50		Denfermente /W/r 1
Sunrise Summer Camp		1 /	Performance/Worksho
*	25	14	Performance/Worksho
Dorchester Boys & Girls Club	25	12	Performance/Worksho
	200	30	Performance
Somerville Mystic Learning Center	26	13	Performance/Worksho
Boston Nature Center	120	25	Performance/Worksho
BELL Summer Program	70	9	Performance
3CYF Roslindale Community Center	30	5	Workshop
3CYF Gallivan Community Center	18	5	Workshop
ordan Boys & Girls Club	30	10	Workshop
St. Mark Wainwright Park Youth Program	30	10	Workshop
BCYF Roslindale Community Center	30	5	Workshop
College Bound Dorchester	30	5	Workshop
Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center: Red Oak	50	16	Workshop
ГОТАL Population Served in Camps	1,359	297	
Free Outdoor Performance in Cambridge	225		Performance
I'OTAL Population Served	1,881		
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Reach Summer Outreach/Teen Apprenticeship

is funded through donations and grants from:

Businesses, Corporations and Foundations

Special thanks to ...

Agnes Lindsay Trust Associated Grant Makers' Summer Fund Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Boston University Dance Program Boston University Dance Theatre Group Boston University Fitness and Recreation Center Hi-Tide Boat Lifts Mass Movement, Inc. The Shannon Family Fund The Josephine & John Somerville Charitable Trust

Additional thanks to...

Agganis ArenaBertuccisEastern StandardAndy LeBeau/Boston Beer CompanyHotel CommonwealthPaul Taylor Dance CompanyBoston Conservatory Dance ProgramKaren Hilliard & AssociatesBarnes and NobleKaren Karen Kar



Reach apprentices and professional staff. finish "The Daily News," choreographed 20 years ago by Judith Chaffee.

Individual Supporters and Volunteers

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Supporters listen to a presentation at the April 2015 *Reach* Fundraiser.

James & Carol Kinlan Rachel Lacasse Dawn Lane Ruth Levin Ilyse Levine-Kanji & Shamez Kanji Raymond Levy Olivia London Patrice London Cynthia Loud Lois Mazzola Bryant & Tina McBride David & Susan Mirsky



Lynn Modell Tim & Carrie Moore Heather Multhaupt-Riley Harvey Nosowitz & D'Anne Bodman Gracie Novikoff Cheri Opperman Nicolette Overton Craig & Alorie Parkhill William & Margot Parsons Markus Pinney Helene Platounoff Mindy Pollack-Fusi Holly Rickert Meghan Riling Melissa Rimpel Rebecca Rivkin Colleen Roddy Steven & Michelle Roderick Sammuel Rubin Anna Schechinger Natalie Schiera Steven Schteckinger JoAnne Sedgwick Donna Sessa-Carter Elaine Shannon Frank & Victoria Solomon April Stone Holly Thompson Elizabeth Wheeler Albert & Barbara Wolcott Kara Wood Karen Zenteno











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