

BOSTON UNIVERSITY DANCE PROGRAM'S

# REACH

*Summer Outreach/Teen Apprenticeship  
Dance Program*

Founded/operated by Dance Collective (1990 - 2005)



# 2016

*Final Report*

## Contact Information

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# Table of Contents

Introduction to Organization and Programs . . . 2

Comments from the BU Director of Dance . . . 4

Staff . . . . . 6

Evaluation . . . . . 8

Media Placements . . . . . 9

Tour Sites. . . . . 10

Budget . . . . . 11

Donor Recognition . . . . . 12

# 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

Left: *Reach* 2016 teen apprentice Emma Beaumont-Smith dances with college intern Stacey Badgett, Jr. in “Court Jesting,” a pas de deux choreographed by professional instructor Janelle Gilchrist for the duo.

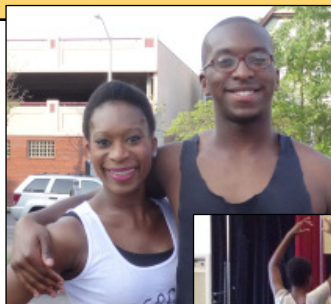
# REACH

*Celebrating 26 Years of Making a Difference through Dance*

## Introduction to Organization and Programs



Above: Micki Taylor-Pinney directs the *Reach* 2016 company during a rehearsal of "The Daily News," originally from Dance Collective's repertory.



## 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 1,800 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.

“What I like the best about the Reach: Summer Outreach Dance Program is being able to create my own choreography [and] then seeing the piece I created on stage...I’m so amazingly grateful for having this experience.”

-Jennifer Cinicola, teen apprentice

“I think we inspired lots of kids in the show, and the workshops got some quiet kids to break out of their shells.”

-Asa Hamot, teen apprentice



## 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.



### Introducing the 2016 *Reach* ensemble!

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 22 local sites enjoyed the company's performances this summer. The intergenerational company held 11 performances and 23 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 eight workshops for a total of 31 workshops in the community. Three apprentices joined them.

This year's teen apprentices, ranging in age from 13-19, were from Boston and Cambridge neighborhoods as well as area suburbs, and all have participated in dance programs in their communities. They are: Alexis Ask, 16, of Belmont; Asa Hamot, 15, of Brookline; Brandon McCrory-Joseph, 19, of Cambridge; Emma Beaumont-Smith, 15, of Cambridge; Gabby Glaz, 13, of Needham; Jasmine Wong-Wynot, 17, of Brighton; Jennifer Cinicola, 15, of Sudbury; Kayla Reid, 16, of Dorchester; Kyla Frieden, 15, of Cambridge; Lian Bruce, 14, of Newton; Mary Craig, 17, of Waltham; Pingting Yan, 15, of Fenway-Kenmore; Sanji Harrison, 16, of Everett; Simon Chernow, 13, of Jamaica Plain; and Xavier Thomas, 17, of Lowell. In addition, Angelina Haynes returned to the program as a high school intern. Haynes, 16, of Norwood, participated as a teen apprentice in 2014 and 2015.

Reach's professional dancers were Janelle Gilchrist, of Watertown; Meghan Riling, of Cambridge; Hanna Stubblefield-Tave, of Newton; and Brian Washburn, of Boston. Both Stubblefield-Tave and Washburn are former Reach college interns and teen apprentices. These professionals were supported by college interns Adam Lokken Barrameda, of New Jersey; and Stacey Badgett, Jr., of Cambridge.

*"Before joining Reach I didn't have much technique, and I wasn't expecting to learn much technique. But I underestimated this program."*

-Brandon McCrory-Joseph, teen apprentice

*"I love how connected and bonded everyone in Reach is even when we are not in the studio."*

-Simon Chernow, teen apprentice



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

One of our guest teachers this summer was Frantz Louizia, a former Reach teen apprentice who was also a college intern and professional staff member. Frantz started with the Reach program in 2001 when he was a freshman in high school. He now lives in LA and is working as an actor and freelance video director. I invited him back not only to teach a couple of classes, but to critique the pieces and coach the dancers. He was tough! He didn't hold back from letting the teens know they needed to put more into their performances if they were going to inspire the campers. His "tough love" talk was much more pointed and animated than anything they had heard to date. His firsthand knowledge carried weight, his tone was emphatic, and it was a pleasure to watch him in action!

At the heart of Reach's core is the celebration of multi-generational collaboration. For 26 years, generations of dancers have participated as apprentices, college interns, teachers, choreographers and mentors. All have benefitted from the two-way exchange of information between student and teacher, dancer and choreographer, mentor and company member. Reach stays vital and relevant by building on the traditions of training, choreography and teaching, while incorporating new styles of movement and practices to engage young audiences.

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

Each year I ask founders Dawn Kramer and Martha Armstrong Gray, as well as other supporters and alumni, to visit us during the three week rehearsal period to see the pieces as they are being created and give feedback. Their presence and critique prepares our company for going on tour and affirms Reach's goals of mentorship and community-building.

This summer, I also invited Ashton Lites, a former apprentice, to teach as a guest teacher for Reach. And as I do with many of our guest teachers, I also had him teach a class for the Dance Arts Camp I direct here at BU during the summer. It was such fun to see how he has incorporated and built on some of the activities Reach uses for their Motion Art workshops to design his own class and style.



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

We thank Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts for their generous grant and to the Associated Grantmakers' Summer Fund for subsidizing the performances and workshops. We also owe special thanks to our fundraiser hosts, the Bodmans, and to the host committee members Bethany Allen, Ann Brown Allen, Judy Cohen, Jerry Cathey, Martha Gray, Bryant and Tina McBride, Harvey Nosowitz and Markus Pinney. The generosity of these more than 60 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.

*-Micki*

## Looking Ahead: Goals for 2017

- Work with our network of urban school and community leaders to identify qualified teen apprentices.
- Continue to improve and codify the teacher/apprentice training for the community workshops.



Our 2016 Reach teens & staff collaborate with Boston's youth through dance!



*"We came together as a company to provide energy and support, which made me excited to wake up early every morning... We had to find the energy and passion to perform every day."*

—Mary Craig,  
teen apprentice

# STAFF

## 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 has been an 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. She was a performer with Dance Collective

beginning in 1986 before she became an artistic director from 1998 to 2006, during which time she performed and choreographed for the company and directed its 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. Micki is the director of Mass Movement, Inc. which provides 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 the 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- Adam Lokken Barrameda, Brian Washburn, Hanna Stubblefield-Tave, Meghan Riling, Janelle Gilchrist, Micki Taylor-Pinney, and Stacey Badgett, Jr.

## Professional Instructors

**Janelle Gilchrist**, originally from Stoneham, MA, developed her dance skills at Harriet Hctor Ballet School, Boston Ballet School, Jose Mateo Ballet Theatre, Broadway Theater Project, Concord Academy and Dance Theater of Harlem. She earned a BFA in Dance at the Hartt School in Connecticut. Janelle's training led to roles as a company and/or lead dancer at the Hartford Ballet, the New Jersey Ballet, José Mateo Ballet Theatre, and in the "Urban Nutcracker" of Boston where she made her debut as the Sugar Plum Fairy. Outside of ballet, Janelle showcased her versatility in other dance forms with Legends in Concert, Celebrity Cruises, Anna Myer, David Parker, and Island Moving Company. Janelle served as choreographer and casting director of two flash mob performances for Media Direct Productions in Boston and Las Vegas. While teaching dance at Moses Brown in Rhode Island, she choreographed for the musicals "Hello Dolly," "The Music Man," and "Cabaret." Janelle was the director of in-school programming with BalletRox for Boston Public Schools. She also flew to Riga, Latvia with BalletRox to perform and teach the "Urban Nutcracker" to the Dzirnas Dance Troupe. Currently, Janelle is a company dancer and teacher at José Mateo Ballet Theatre. She also teaches ballet at Tony Williams Dance Center, Step by Step, and Angel Dance. In her off season from Jose Mateo Ballet Theatre, Janelle leads her own troupe called Janelle Gilchrist Dance Troupe. Janelle choreographs original works for the troupe that have been performed throughout the Boston area.

**Meghan Riling** grew up dancing in Connecticut and moved to Boston to study at Boston University, where she joined the Dance Theatre Group. Since graduation, she has worked with the Harvard-Radcliffe Modern Dance Company, the CRLS Modern Dance Company, and Luminarium Dance Company. She is currently a company member of the contemporary-Haitian dance company Jean Appolon Expressions. She also co-directs Calamity Co Dance, which performs and produces casual art variety shows. Besides dance, she teaches math and programming at Watertown High School.

*"It's an experience to have making a show with people you've just met. You need patience and [you have to] be able to bounce back from situations... I'm extremely glad I decided to do Reach and am planning to do it again next year!"*

-Lian Bruce,  
teen apprentice





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.



**Hanna Stubblefield-Tave** has been dancing in the Boston area for 15 years, and recently graduated from Columbia University in New York City. She participated in *Reach* during high school and was a college intern for three years before becoming one of the professional instructors this summer. She has trained in many styles of dance, but has a focus in hip-hop under the direction of EnMotion, Inc. and in tap with Sean C. Fielder's The Boston Tap Company. Hanna continued to study a variety of dance forms at Columbia and is moving to New York this fall in order to pursue a career in arts administration.

**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. He has also been 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.

## Student Interns

**Adam Lokken 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.

**Stacey Badgett, Jr.** recently graduated from the American Musical and Dramatic Academy (AMDA) in New York with a certificate in Dance Theatre. He plans to earn his BFA at the AMDA campus in Los Angeles following a gap year working for Disney Cruise Lines on the Disney Wonder, a role which he enthusiastically accepted this summer. Stacey began his dance training here in the Greater Boston area, where he studied modern, jazz, contemporary, and ballet. Along with dance, Stacey found a love for musical theatre at the Cambridge Rindge and Latin School as well as a passion for theatre at the Central Square Theater, where he attended Youth Underground. He was an apprentice dancer in both Jean Appolon Expressions (JAE) and Adrienne Hawkins' Impact Dance Company, both based in Boston, and he participated in *Reach* as a teen apprentice for two years before joining the program as a college intern. Already beginning his professional career, Stacey is excited to see what is in store for him!

*Reach* college interns Adam Lokken Barrameda and Stacey Badgett, Jr.

*"After one of our performances, a camper came up to me and said this day started out bad, but [Reach] made it the best day. When I heard this, it really made me realize what this program is about."*

-Gabby Glaz, teen apprentice

*"I think I have improved as a performer by using facial expressions... not only to connect myself to my piece, but also to engage the audience to my piece."*

-Xavier Thomas, teen apprentice

# Evaluation

## A few words from our teen apprentices . . .

*“There were many times—at almost every workshop—where at least a few little kids would run up to me and say they wanted to dance and wear a tutu like I did in the show. The interactions we have with the kids really impact them, and you can see that they’re impressed, inspired, or both when we walk out of the performances or workshops.”*

—Emma Beaumont-Smith, teen apprentice

*“What I like the best about the Reach: Summer Outreach Dance Program is bonding with others and creating new memories with everyone, including staff. And I really enjoyed going on tour as well...All of our hard work paid off.*

*Performing for campers and seeing their faces made my days better.”* —Kayla Reid, teen apprentice

*“What I like the best about Reach is that I had the opportunity to choreograph and get feedback and critique on how to improve [my choreography]...it was awesome that I got to perform and collaborate at the same time.”*

—Alexis Ask, teen apprentice

*“The campers benefitted from having us perform and teach workshops by seeing different types of dancing, besides what is ‘new’ or ‘hip’ (e.g. the whip and naenae)...I benefitted from going on tour by seeing the smile on the children and inspiring them to go home and become dancers themselves.”* —Jasmine Wong-Wynot, teen apprentice

*“I think the campers were more engaged seeing as how we’re younger and closer to their age, but also seeing us have fun made them want to do the same...they were happy seeing us happy.”* —Sanji Harrison, teen apprentice

*“I found it rewarding to join Reach yet again for a third year and relive the experience...What I like the best about the Reach: Summer Outreach dance Program is being able to teach workshops to children and increasing the [number] of dancers in the community.”* —Angelina Haynes, high school intern

## A few words from our staff . . .

*“I think campers benefitted by seeing a live dance performance. Young people watching movement and dance is eye-opening and inspiring. In my four years of being a professional at Reach, I found that the campers seemed to really enjoy the shows and workshops the most this year...They were focused and engaged, which was nice to see.”*

—Janelle Gilchrist, Professional Instructor

*“The apprentices that Reach recruits are usually limited to performing in studio exhibitions and competitions (for mom and dad) - our tour relocates that talent to local children who benefit enormously from our show, which is essentially an interactive demonstration of how having fun [and] doing hard work improve people.”*

—Adam Lokken Barrameda, College Intern

*“It’s great to have a chance to perform so regularly! It’s also wonderful to perform for kids, who can be such a responsive and enthusiastic kind of audience...Dance is an intrinsically accessible art form in some ways, but this might be the only time these kids were shown the first steps to making dances.”* —Meghan Riling, Professional Instructor

*“I love seeing all of the growth throughout the five weeks. It’s really something special to see a group of people expose themselves to so many styles of dance, choreography, and teaching methods in just five weeks and succeed without fail year after year.”* —Stacey Badgett, Jr., College Intern

# A few words from the groups we performed for . . .

*“Everyone was so wonderful and engaging with the campers. Fun was had by all, including the staff...[The teen apprentices] were great role models for our younger children! One of the best dance companies ever!”* –Linda MacMaster, Ohrenberger Community Center

*“The campers were very respectful during the performance...[and] excited to participate in the workshop. They enjoyed it!”* –Somerville YMCA

*“Having [the teen apprentices] there made the process run more smoothly. The children were able to break up into smaller groups. When the children were in those groups, they were productive, which indicated the teens were well-versed in the content at hand.”* –Moise Michel, Cambridge Community Center

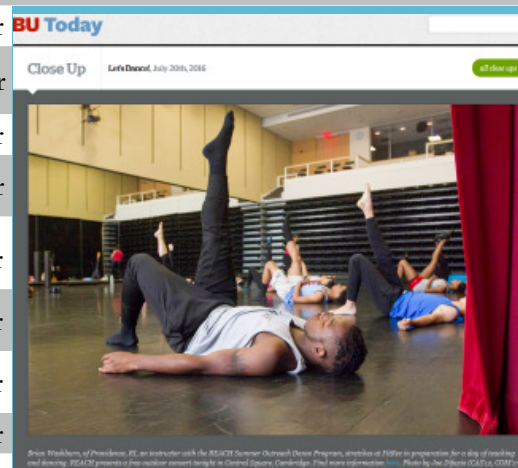
*“[The teen apprentices] engaged our campers in a fun and positive way. We love having Reach here every year!”* –South Boston Boys & Girls Club

*“The Reach professional staff members were professional, engaging, and excited about what they taught. All of my students wanted to dance because the apprentices were encouraging them...Everyone participated!”* –IBA Summer Learning

*“The Reach professional staff members were flexible, patient, creative, and motivational. The weaving of writing themes and movement and dance was a rousing success. Full participation of teens – first time ever!”* –Ric Kahn, WriteBoston

## Reach Media Placements 2016

Date	Publication	Description
20-Jul-16	BU Today	Close Up feature on Cambridge performance with rehearsal photograph and event listing for Cambridge performance on calendar
15-Jul-16	Boston Globe	Cambridge performance included in The Ticket: Dance and event listing included on calendar
11-Jul-16	CBS Boston	Cambridge performance included in list: Best Live Dance Performances Coming To Boston!
08-Jul-16	MetroWest Daily News	Article featuring Jennifer Cinicola, Teen Apprentice of Sudbury
23-Jun-16	Belmont Citizen-Herald	Article featuring Alexis Ask, Teen Apprentice of Belmont
21-Jun-16	Cambridge Chronicle	Article featuring Emma Beaumont-Smith, Brandon McCrory-Joseph, and Kyla Frieden, Teen Apprentices of Cambridge
21-Jun-16	Patriot Ledger	Article featuring Emma Beaumont-Smith, Brandon McCrory-Joseph, and Kyla Frieden, Teen Apprentices of Cambridge
17-Jun-16	Dance Media	Event listing for Cambridge performance on calendar
17-Jun-16	Edge Boston	Event listing for Cambridge performance on calendar
14-Jun-16	Boston Central	Event listing for Cambridge performance on calendar
14-Jun-16	Boston Dance Alliance	Event listing for Cambridge performance on calendar
14-Jun-16	BU Arts Initiative	Event listing for Cambridge performance on calendar
14-Jun-16	BU Calendar	Event listing for Cambridge performance on calendar
14-Jun-16	Dig Boston	Event listing for Cambridge performance on calendar
14-Jun-16	Wicked Local	Event listing for Cambridge performance on calendar



BU Today Close Up feature on Cambridge performance, 7/20/2016: Let's Dance!





Students at WriteBoston's Teens in Print participate in a *Reach* Motion Art workshop at Northeastern.

## REACH TOUR SITES

### 2016

Date	Camp Name	# of Campers	# of Staff	Type of Visit
7/18/2016	Boys & Girls Club of Dorchester	60	10	Performance/Workshop
7/19/2016	Alliance for Inclusion & Prevention (AIP) Summer Spot	100	10	Performance/Workshop
7/19/2016	WriteBoston's Teens in Print at Northeastern	33	2	Workshop
7/20/2016	Outback Summer Program (Agassiz Neighborhood Council)	120	20	Performance/Workshop
7/20/2016	Cambridge Community Center	50	6	Performance/Workshop
7/21/2016	Somerville YMCA	60	10	Performance/Workshop
7/21/2016	College Bound Dorchester	30	4	Workshop
7/22/2016	BCYF Ohrenberger Community Center	85	25	Performance/Workshop
7/22/2016	Youth Enrichment Services (YES) GOAL	10	2	Workshop
7/25/2016	South Boston Boys & Girls Club (Summer Collaborative)	30	3	Performance/Workshop
7/25/2016	IBA Summer Learning	40	6	Workshop
7/26/2016	BCYF Kent Charlestown Community Center	56	12	Performance/Workshop
7/26/2016	BCYF Leahy-Holloran Community Center	26	5	Workshop
7/27/2016	Camp Cedar Hill Girl Scouts of Eastern MA	250	30	Performance/Workshop
7/28/2016	Mazemakers: Fourth Presbyterian Church Summer Meals Program	110	25	Performance
7/29/2016	Sr. Mary Hart Children's Program at St. Katherine Drexel	30	10	Workshop
7/29/2016	Dorchester YMCA	150	25	Performance
8/1/2016	Jordan Boys & Girls Club	20	3	Workshop
8/1/2016	Sunrise Summer Camp (Franklin Park Tenants Association)	20	8	Workshop
8/4/2016	PBHA Keylatch Summer Program	20	4	Workshop
8/9/2016	Youth Enrichment Services (YES) GOAL	10	2	Workshop
8/9/2016	Margaret Fuller Neighborhood House	30	4	Workshop
8/11/2016	Roxbury YMCA	30	4	Workshop
TOTAL Population Served in Camps		1,370	230	
7/22/2016	Free Outdoor Performance in Cambridge	200		Performance
TOTAL Population Served		1,800		

# Reach Summer Outreach/Teen Apprenticeship

is funded through donations and grants from:

## Businesses, Corporations and Foundations

*Special thanks to...*

Agnes Lindsay Trust

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Boston University Dance Program

Boston University Dance Theatre Group

Boston University Fitness and Recreation Center

Hi-Tide Boat Lifts

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Paul Cronin & Ellen Raphael Charitable Trust

The Shannon Family Fund



*Additional thanks to...*

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The Hawthorne

Hotel Commonwealth

Island Creek Oyster Bar

Karen Hilliard & Associates

World Music/Crash Arts

and Peter Smokowski, Office of the Vice President, Auxiliary Services

Reach apprentices and professional staff. enjoy a freestyle dance cypher with campers at the Kent Charlestown Community Center.

## Individual Supporters and Volunteers

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Laurine & Ralph Verilli  
Albert & Barbara Wolcott



*“I loved the performance last night! I am blown away by the fact that some of those pieces are choreographed by high school students.”*

—Nancy, *Reach* funder



Supporters listen to a presentation at the April 2016 *Reach* Fundraiser.





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