



SATURDAY, AUGUST 9, 2025 | 6 PM AT ARENA STAGE

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# FOUNDER'S WELCOME

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for joining the culminating performance of **Summer Steps with Step Afrika!** 

Step Afrika! created this unique summer camp dedicated to the art form of stepping more than 16 years ago, and I am thrilled to see the next generation embrace this beloved tradition and carry it to even higher heights. Summer Steps with Step Afrika! would not be possible without the support of parents, the outstanding Step Afrika! Board of Directors, and our extraordinarily generous funders and sponsors. I also want to give my tremendous thanks to Arena Stage for providing this beautiful space for our flagship arts education program. Arena Stage is a fantastic partner, and I look forward to creating more magic together in the years to come!

Special thanks to **Milen Matthews**, Step Afrika!'s Manager of Arts Education and Community Programs, and **Joe Murchison**, Summer Steps Project Manager, for their outstanding leadership and management of this camp. Along with the talented artists of Step Afrika!, they have worked tirelessly to ensure that your children have an incredible time at Summer Steps.

This evening's performance also kicks off the start of our 2025 - 2026 Season! I invite you to explore our history at **timeline.stepafrika.org** and mark your calendars for **Step Afrika!'s Magical Musical Holiday Step Show**, returning December 5 - 21, 2025, to Arena Stage. Tickets are on sale NOW, and I hope to see you there!

Thanks again for your energy and joy for tonight's brilliant, young steppers! It is truly an honor to celebrate more than 30 years of serving Washington, D.C., and the world.

Sincerely,

C. Brian Williams

Founder & Executive Producer



# STEP AFRIKAL THANK YOU TO OUR SUMMER STEPS DONORS!

Thank you to the following Step Afrika! VIP Gala donors for **providing scholarships to Summer Steps with Step Afrika! 2025**:

Tahsin Bakar Temi F. Bennett LaTese Briggs Colin & Joi Brown Stacy Burnette Lushae Cook Regiuel Days Michele Hagans Catherine Hogan Marlissa Hudson Tanisha James John Kelley Mr. Dwight & Mrs. Dwight Kirk **Amber Lawrence** Paul Mussenden & Curlis Phillip Gina Nisbeth Jaret Riddick Jim Steffes Karen Todd



## RUN OF SHOW

WELCOME
UNITY STROLL
TEAM PERFORMANCES

YELLOW TEAM
"BANANA BOSSES"

BLUE TEAM
"SCREAM TEAM B.L.U."

RED TEAM
"IN-RED-IBLES"

GREEN TEAM
"THAT \$\$ TEAM"

SPECIAL PERFORMANCE BY DEM RAIDER BOYZ
SENIOR SHOUTOUT
SPECIAL PERFORMANCE BY STEP AFRIKA!
SUMMER STEPS UNITY STEP

# STEP AFRIKA!'S MAGICAL MUSICAL HOLIDAY STEP SHOW

RETURNING TO ARENA STAGE **DECEMBER 5 - 21, 2025** 





**STEP AFRIKA! ARTISTS:** 

ARIEL DYKES JEROD COLEMAN TRESHAWN WILLIAMS

**TEACHING ASSISTANT:** 

JIN FENG CAO

#### **TEAM NAME:**





**STEP AFRIKA! ARTISTS:** 

ROBERT WARNSLEY NYA CHRISTIAN KEANU POWELL

TEACHING ASSISTANT: IRE ADENIRAN **TEAM NAME:** 





STEP AFRIKA! ARTISTS: ERICKA STILL

JOSEPH VASQUEZ PELHAM WARNER JR. **TEACHING ASSISTANT:** 

MARCO VAUGHN

#### **TEAM NAME:**





#### **STEP AFRIKA! ARTISTS:**

JEMEEMA MONTROSE CONRAD R. KELLY II TERRENCE JOHNSON

# TEACHING ASSISTANT:

FERNANDO CRUZ

#### **TEAM NAME:**



STEP AFRIKA! ARTISTS:

ISAIAH O'CONNOR KEOMI GIVENS JR. LEANDER GRAY

STEP AFRIKA! VOLUNTEER: GEORGE BONE





LET'S HEAR IT FOR OUR TEACHING ASSISTANTS FROM

# Dem Raider Boys Step Squad

JIN FENG CAO, YELLOW TEAM IRE ADENIRAN, BLUE TEAM MARCO VAUGHN, RED TEAM FERNANDO CRUZ, GREEN TEAM



# MEET THE STEP AFRIKA! TEAM

C. Brian Williams, Founder & Executive Producer Lamar Lovelace, Executive Director Mfoniso Akpan, Artistic Director Conrad R. Kelly II, Assistant Artistic Director Pascha Barnwell, Company Manager Margo Cunningham, Senior Marketing Manager Milen Matthews, Manager, Arts Education and Community Programs Chrystal 'Chrys' Vaughan, Manager, Events and Special Projects

## SUMMER STEPS LEADERSHIP

Mfoniso Akpan, Camp Director Joe Murchison, Camp Project Manager Jeeda Barrington, DJ Extraordinaire George Bone, Program Support

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Brandon Todd, Chair
Kym Taylor, Vice Chair
Natasha Watkins, Secretary
Jeffery D. Kennerly, Treasurer
C. Brian Williams, Founder + Executive Producer

Lamont Akins
Ann Belkov
Dyonicia "Dy" Brown
David Canada
Tiane Doman
Maia Hunt Estes
John W. Hill
Marlissa Hudson

Christopher Montgomery Troy Patterson Kebharu Smith Glenn Eric Singleton Melanie Trottman Conrad Woody

Janel Merritt

# MEET THE STEP AFRIKA! ARTISTS BEHIND SUMMER STEPS:































Assistant Artistic Director





PC: Jati Lindsay







BEHIND THE SCENES OF CAMP



# CELEBRATING OUR SENIORS

KAYLA

CLMAN

MARYLAND



PC: Jati Lindsay, SA!

# STEP AFRIKA!

Stay in touch! <u>Subscribe to</u>

<u>Step Afrika!'s Mailing List</u>



www.stepafrika.org