



Summer Steps

with **STEP AFRICA!**

CULMINATING PERFORMANCE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 2026 | 6 PM AT ARENA STAGE



Founder's Welcome

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for joining us for 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 17 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 the outstanding Step Afrika! Board of Directors, our extraordinarily generous funders and sponsors, and, of course, our parents. 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 **Dr. Milen Matthews**, Step Afrika!'s Manager of Arts Education and Community Programs, and **Chrystal "Chrys" Vaughan**, Manager of Events and Special Projects, for their leadership and management of this camp. Along with the talented artists and staff 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 2026-2027 Season!** Be sure to mark your calendars for two amazing performances by Step Afrika!:

The Fruits of Our Labor — a world premiere by Step Afrika! that opens at Arena Stage on September 10, 2026! Annnnnnd... ***Step Afrika!'s Magical Musical Holiday Step Show***, returning December 4-23, 2026.

Tickets are on sale NOW, and I hope to see you there!

Thanks so much for coming, and I hope you will scream and shout as our 108 campers tear up the Fichandler Stage! It is truly **an honor to mentor and train these beautiful young students**. Here's to an amazing school year ahead...

Sincerely,



C. Brian Williams, Founder & Executive Producer



EXPLORE OUR HISTORY

Summer Steps with Step Afrika! 2013 at the National Building Museum



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! 2026:**

Corliss Adams
Ashley Adams
Tahsin Bakar
Andre Barnett
Gene Boxer
Reuben Brigety
Omari Burnside
Lushae Cook
Courtney Dorsey
Dawn Hendricks
Kevin Jenkins
Christopher Montgomery
Kenyattah Robinson
Tiffeny Sanchez



WELCOME

Run of Show

UNITY STROLL

SPECIAL PERFORMANCE BY STEP AFRIKA!

YELLOW TEAM

"THE GOOFY GOOBERS"

BLUE TEAM

"SMURFS!!!!"

RED TEAM

"THE AMAZING SPIDER-RED"

SPECIAL PERFORMANCE BY DEM RAIDER BOYZ

PURPLE TEAM

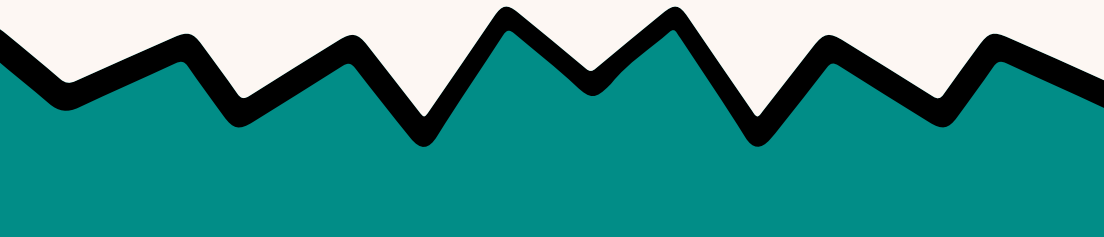
"PURPLE SQUAD"

GREEN TEAM

"THE STUDENTS OF C. BRIAN WILLIAMS HIGH SCHOOL, CENTER FOR THE ARTS"

SENIOR SHOUTOUT

SUMMER STEPS UNITY STEP



STEP AFRIKA!'S MAGICAL MUSICAL HOLIDAY STEP SHOW

RETURNING TO ARENA STAGE
DECEMBER 4 – 23, 2026

USE YOUR EXCLUSIVE
CODE "SUMMERSTEPS26"
FOR 20% OFF OPENING
WEEK TICKETS, THROUGH
AUGUST 16, 2026!

TICKETS

Meet the Teams



Yellow Team



STEP AFRIKA! ARTISTS:

JEROD COLEMAN
KEANU POWELL
ERICKA STILL

TEAM NAME:

**The
Goofy
Goobers**

TEACHING ASSISTANT:

JIN FENG CAO

EXPLORE MORE CAMP PHOTOS

Meet the Teams

Blue Team



STEP AFRIKA! ARTISTS:
KWADJO "ELTON" BEDIAKO
JEMEEMA S. MONTROSE
JOSEPH VASQUEZ

TEACHING ASSISTANT:
DACHEL ACHI

TEAM NAME:

SMURFS!!!!

EXPLORE MORE CAMP PHOTOS

Meet the Teams

Red Team



STEP AFRIKA! ARTISTS:

NYA CHRISTIAN, TERENCE JOHNSON, AND
ROBERT WARNSLEY

TEAM NAME:

***the amazing
spider-red***

EXPLORE MORE CAMP PHOTOS

Meet the Teams

Purple Team



STEP AFRIKA! ARTISTS:

ARIEL DYKES
PELHAM WARNER JR.

TEACHING

ASSISTANT:

JUSTIN JONES

TEAM NAME:

PURPLE
SQUAD

EXPLORE MORE CAMP PHOTOS

Meet the Teams

Green Team



STEP AFRIKA! ARTISTS:

CONRAD R. KELLY II
JAYDEN KING
KEONDRE PASCAL

TEACHING

ASSISTANT:

IRE ADENIRAN

TEAM NAME:

*The Students of
C. Brian Williams
High School
Center for the Arts*

EXPLORE MORE CAMP PHOTOS

THE FUN CREW

NYA CHRISTIAN
KEANU POWELL
ISAIAH O'CONNOR

DJ EXTRAORDINAIRE

JEEDA BARRINGTON

VIDEOGRAPHER

DUANE SAUNDERS JR.

PHOTOGRAPHER

JATI LINDSAY

VOLUNTEER, PHOTOGRAPHER

GEORGE BONE



THE VOTES ARE IN!

WASHINGTON

CITYPAPER BEST SUMMER CAMP

FINALIST FOUR YEARS IN A ROW!

Dem Raider Boys Step Squad

LET'S HEAR
IT FOR OUR
TEACHING
ASSISTANTS!

JIN FENG CAO, **YELLOW TEAM**
DACHEL ACHI, **BLUE TEAM**
JUSTIN JONES, **PURPLE TEAM**
IRE ADENIRAN, **GREEN TEAM**



STEP AFRIKA! STAFF

C. Brian Williams, Founder & Executive Producer

Lamar Lovelace, Executive Director

Mfoniso Akpan, Artistic Director & Camp Director

Conrad R. Kelly II, Assistant Artistic Director

Pascha Barnwell, Company Manager

Margo Cunningham, Senior Marketing Manager

Dr. Milen Matthews, Manager, Arts Education
and Community Programs

Chrystal 'Chrys' Vaughan, Manager, Events and
Special Projects

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Brandon Todd, Board 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

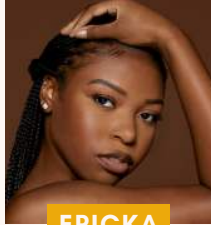
Kebharu Smith

Melanie Trottman

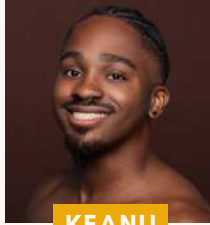
Meet the Step Afrika! Artists Behind Summer Steps



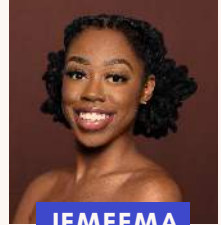
JEROD



ERICKA



KEANU



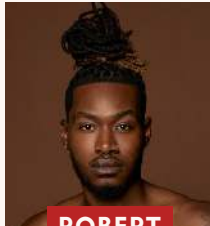
JEMEEMA



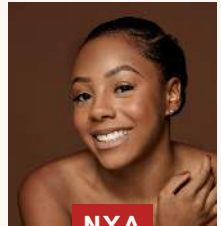
ELTON



JOSEPH



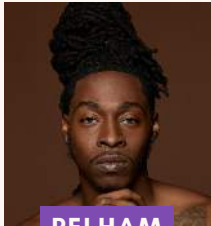
ROBERT



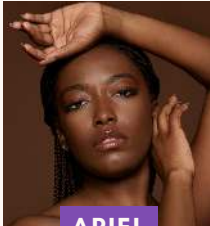
NYIA



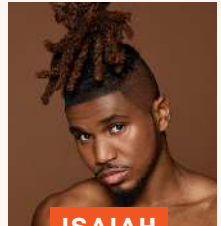
TERRENCE



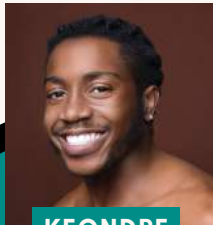
PELHAM



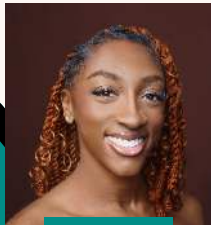
ARIEL



ISAIAH



KEONDRE



JAYDEN



CONRAD

Assistant Artistic Director

STEP AFRiKA!



PC: Jati Lindsay



BEHIND THE SCENES OF CAMP

CELEBRATING OUR SENIORS



MELIA



RYANN



ZOE



KENDALL



NAILAH



CECELIA



CALVIN



ZION

WE ARE PROUD OF YOU!

PC: George Bone

A group of young women, likely members of the Step Afrika! dance troupe, are shown from the chest up. They are wearing bright green t-shirts and have their arms raised in the air, some with their fists clenched in a celebratory gesture. They are smiling and looking towards the camera. The background is dark, making the green shirts stand out. The overall mood is energetic and joyful.

STEP **AFRIKA!**

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www.stepafrika.org