K-12 Program
• Design an Updated Program to fit the needs of schools across the country
• Determine the type of offering by USA Dance and “Value”
• Objectives (Wellness, Social Skills, Respect, Confidence, Team Work and how it can complement academic curriculums
• Create Metrix on a Case by Case Basis
• Develop Framework
• Implement Pilot Program(s)
Objectives

- Improvement of Social Skills and Behavior
- Wellness – Fitness, Mental, Emotional
- Improved Self Awareness
- Enhanced Self-Confidence and Social Comfort Level
- Enhanced Coordination and Balance
- Enhanced Creativity and Expression
- Development of Teamwork and Partnership Skills (applicable to Academics and Community Service Requirements)
- Fun Activity – Socially, Physically and Mentally
Kicking Off Pilot Program
CT Chapter – President, Barbara Baran

- East Catholic High School
- Elective Program – student paid
- After School at on campus dance studio
- Partnered with local studio to provide teachers
- Competitive Program at request of school – based on WDSF syllabus
- End Goal - Competition
• Good Support from School Administration

• Instructors needed background checks and school required safety training

• Partnering with studio – “painful experience”. Instructors were NOT certified to teach, curriculum was NOT followed as stated for USA Dance K-12 program. Incorporated other dance style as primary focus without approval. Ran as Studio Program

• Final Outcome was kids were taught Hip Hop and taken to Hip Hop competition
2nd Pilot Program
CT Chapter

• CT Chapter funded a second program
• Local Public High School
• Experienced Instructor and Educator – Wendy Nielsen
• Followed Curriculum - Wellness/Social and Competitive
• Chapter provided Student Scholarship
• Students performed at Chapter Dance
• Article about program in American Dancer
Additional Pilot Programs

- Seattle, WA
- Atlanta, GA
- Mobile, AL
- Las Cruces, NM
- Orange County, Los Angeles, CA
• Ran program in Everett, WA at Hawthorne Elementary
• Requested – Olga Foraponova with Kym Zion had provided a Dance Wellness Program to the Everett District a few years prior
• School asked for program – Olga taught program as USA Dance K-12 program in November, 2018
• 1 week – Grades 1-5 (all school). Class Unit
• Included Break Dancing Class with David Narvaez. Very well received.
• School had kids with severe behavioral issues – kids enjoyed Breaking. It seemed to be a good outlet.
• Working with Mindi Sheer-Naylor, long time USA Dance competitor
• Mindi – Certified Laban Movement Analyst, Movement Disorders Training
• Goals – working to get Pilot in Arts School in Development
• Additional Goal in other communities including a Woman’s Shelter for children living in the shelter
• Promoting through National Dance Education Organization (NDEO), Advancing Dance Education in the Arts
• Seeking partnership to promote program(s)
Mobile, AL

- Working with Debra Morrow
- No Resources for Teaching in Mobile
- Interested in a “Train” the Teacher Program
- Has Funding – Grant potential
- Needs teachers that will fit demographics
- She would like Introduction to Ballroom
Las Cruces, NM

- Las Cruces School District interest
- Needs Train the Teacher Program
- Guest Instructors NOT allowed by school district
- Las Cruces Chapter – doing workshops and presentations to train teachers
Orange County, CA
Pilot Program

- Sonora Elementary School
- 1 Week Program – taught during school in gym
- Social Dance Program – Latin (high Hispanic community, low income)
- Taught by Leo Cendejas by request (connections with school and done other programs)
- End of Program – Small Competition for kids
- [https://youtu.be/GgvV0b2Xd8Y](https://youtu.be/GgvV0b2Xd8Y)
Los Angeles, CA
Pilot Program – start April 23rd

- School was referred to Leo Cendejas – he agreed to participate under USA Dance K-12 program and volunteer (n/c) for 1 month.
- Miles Avenue Elementary School – (3) schools. Math/Science/Technology, Liberal Arts, Dual Language (Spanish)
- Principal would like ongoing program for all schools – K-5
- No Funding (however, Principal will look to find funding)
- Hispanic and Low Income
- Goals – New Awareness, Enriched, Alternative Experience, Social Skills, Behavioral Improvement, Fitness and Wellness, How to Compete, Leadership
• Pilot Program – 5 classes per week
• Continue Program after Pilot - Rotate Teachers
• Dance at Multi Cultural Fair
• Pride in Community
• How Dance Relates to Academics (such as Math)
• Parent Support
• See the World Differently
• Social and Leadership skills
Overall Challenges

• Resources – Instructors and Funding
• Instructors must be USA Dance members and experienced
• Pass each school requirements
• Support – Administration, Parent, District, Community
• In School vs After School
• Measurables – Define
• Continuation Programs
What Can We Do?

- References – Pilots are starting to provide references and testimonials
- Marketing
- Investment to run programs *in some districts schools are not allowed to “pay” for outside services during school hours
- After School Opportunities (PTA)
- Local Chapter Support - *Talk to Chapters
- Partnering Opportunities with other Organizations
- Assistance with vetting Instructors
- Implementing a Certification Program for Instructors (such as Train the Teacher)
- Athletes are strongly encouraged help invest in teaching and mentoring
Usadance.org

• Kym Zion – Director, K-12 Programs