



# MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP ARTS-IN-EDUCATION PROGRAMS



The Mark Morris Dance Group (MMDG) provides meaningful artistic experiences sharing the joy and lifelong benefits of dance and music through its arts education programs. Defined by both accessibility and integrity, these robust programs share a vision of artistic excellence and progressive instruction for all children throughout New York City.

[markmorrisdancegroup.org/arts-in-education](http://markmorrisdancegroup.org/arts-in-education)



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# PROGRAMS

MMDG collaborates with each partners' administration and faculty to tailor residencies, workshops, and classes to meet the needs and aspirations of its students. The collaborative nature of the partnership ensures the success of the program.

The curricula for these arts-in-education programs address the City and State Learning Standards in the Arts, meet all five strands of the New York City Department of Education's Blueprint for Learning in Dance, and are Common Core aligned.

## IN-SCHOOL RESIDENCIES

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**Elementary School**  
**Grades: 1-6**

### ▲ **Dance, Music, and Literacy Project**

**Live Music:** Yes  
**Duration:** 1 hour  
**Minimum # of Sessions:** 11  
**Student min:** 10  
**Student max:** 40  
**Instructors:** 1 teacher/1 musician

This residency introduces young students to the performing and visual arts using one of Mark Morris' most acclaimed evening length works - *L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato*. Based on the music of George Frideric Handel, the poetry of John Milton, and the art of William Blake, this work is a perfect starting point to learn about the interplay of words, music, and dance. An MMDG teaching artist who has performed in the piece, accompanied by a live musician, guides students through the poems, music, and choreography of *L'Allegro*. Students learn to dance sections of this work and create original dances. The residency culminates with a visit to the Mark Morris Dance Center for a private performance and conversation with members of the Dance Group.

**Middle and High School**  
**Grades: 6-12**

### ▲ **American Dance Project**

**Live Music:** Partial  
**Duration:** 1 hour  
**Minimum # of Sessions:** 11  
**Student min:** 10  
**Student max:** 40  
**Instructors:** 1 teacher/1 musician

Students learn, analyze, and compare select styles of dance and music, from 17th century Europe through the African Diaspora, gaining knowledge of their combined influence on the creation of American dance forms as the Lindy Hop, the Cakewalk, and the Charleston. The study continues through time to contemporary jazz and hip-hop of today and culminates with an informal performance/showing of a final hip-hop routine that incorporate ssteps and styles learned over the course of the residency.

**Middle and High School**  
**Grades: 6-12**

### ▲ **L'Allegro Project**

**Live Music:** Yes  
**Duration:** 1 hour  
**Minimum # of Sessions:** 11  
**Student min:** 10  
**Student max:** 40  
**Instructors:** 1 teacher/1 musician

Students use choreographer Mark Morris' most acclaimed evening length work - *L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato*, inspired by George Frideric Handel's eponymous oratorio, John Milton's libretto, and William Blake's watercolors, to deeply explore the relationship between music, poetry, visual art, and movement, and the work's central themes of joy, melancholy, and moderation. Students learn excerpts from sections of the dance, watch the DVD of the performance, and join in discussions led by a teaching artist who has performed the work. With Mr. Morris' use of gestural language as a point of reference, students will research other works of poetry, music, and visual art and develop original dances. The residency will include a visit to the Mark Morris Dance Center for a private performance and conversation with members of the Dance Group.





**All Levels**  
**Grades: Pre K-12**

### ▲ Skill Building Technique Classes

**Live Music:** Optional  
**Duration:** 1 hour  
**Minimum # of Sessions:** 5  
**Student min:** 5  
**Student max:** 40  
**Instructors:** 1 teacher/1 musician

MMDG offers a wide range of dance technique classes including Jazz/Hip-Hop, Modern, Ballet, Afro-Haitian, West African, Bolly-X, Zumba, Yoga, Creative Dance (Pre-K through 2nd grade only), and more. All are offered with live or recorded music. Classes are available on a per-session basis, with a five-session minimum, and can be scheduled for one to three times per week throughout the year.

**All Levels**  
**Grades: Pre K-12 (and adults)**

### ▲ Adaptive Dance Program

**Live Music:** Optional  
**Duration:** 1 hour  
**Minimum # of Sessions:** 5  
**Student min:** 5  
**Student max:** 20  
**Instructors:** 1-2 teachers

MMDG provides classes in Creative Dance, Dance Fundamentals, Tap Dance, and Singing for students with disabilities. These classes are available on a per session basis, with a five-session minimum, and can be scheduled for one to three times per week throughout the year. Adaptive Dance classes can culminate in a showing/performance for friends and family at the partnering school.

**Middle and High School**  
**Grades: 6-12**

### ▲ MMDG Repertory Workshops

**Live Music:** Yes  
**Duration:** 1-3 hours  
**Minimum # of Sessions:** 2  
**Student min:** 10  
**Student max:** 30  
**Instructors:** 1 teacher/1 musician

Repertory workshops bring the Mark Morris Dance Group into the classroom. Working directly with Dance Group members, students gain first-hand knowledge and insight into the work of Mark Morris. Access to this work informs, inspires, and develops the talents of young choreographers and dance artists. The repertory workshop has a minimum of 2 sessions. Repertory residencies can culminate in a showing/performance for friends and family at the partnering school.

In lieu of a workshop, a one-time, three-hour master class may be booked for up to 30 students.



## DANCE WITH MMDG

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All Levels  
Grades: Pre K-12

**Live Music:** Yes  
**Duration:** 1 hour  
**Sessions:** 1  
**Student min:** 50  
**Student max:** 150  
**Instructors:** 3 teachers/1 musician

### ▲ Dance with MMDG: Lecture-Demonstration:

This interactive lecture-demonstration invites students to the Mark Morris Dance Center to learn selections of Mark Morris repertory and then watch those same dances performed by the Dance Group. The hour-long class begins with a short warm-up accompanied by live music to introduce students to the basic fundamentals of dance technique. Students work with company members to gain insight into the work of Mark Morris. The class concludes with an opportunity for students to ask company members questions about their careers as professional dancers.

## DANCE INTEGRATION

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All Levels  
Grades: Pre K-12

**Live Music:** Yes  
**Duration:** 1-4 hours  
**Sessions:** 1  
**Student min:** 10  
**Student max:** 30  
**Instructors:** 1 teacher/1 musician

### ▲ Dance Integration:

This program approaches core curriculum from a kinesthetic perspective. Teaching artists and musicians work with classroom teachers to create programs that explore core content and concepts in multiple subject areas such as Mathematics, Science, and English Language Arts in a fun and creative environment. Each workshop is tailored to address grade level work and the school's / teacher's needs.

## FIELD TRIPS

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The Mark Morris Dance Group offers several options for school field trips to the Mark Morris Dance Center, located in the heart of the Brooklyn Cultural District. Learn more and plan your trip at [mmdg.org/field-trips](http://mmdg.org/field-trips).

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

MMDG offers professional development for both dance and non-dance educators using Mark Morris' choreography as the lens for exploring and creating movement. Learn more at [mmdg.org/professional-development](http://mmdg.org/professional-development).

In addition, prior to the start of each residency, MMDG's teaching artists and administration hold an educators' night at the Mark Morris Dance Center for public school educators/facilitators. The evening allows educators to experience a condensed version of the residency through a participatory dance class and discussion of the material to be covered. Educators are given a study guide with audio and video content and a list of resources for students to access materials for the further advancement and study.

## EVALUATION:

MMDG conducts on-going assessment of students' achievement in learning, and programmatic evaluation to measure the quality and effectiveness of the program throughout each residency.



**For additional details, pricing, and applications contact:**

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