



## **PRESS RELEASE**

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## **MORTON STREET DANCE CENTER DANCING THROUGH A STORM**

**Baltimore** - On Wednesday, April 30, a hard hitting rain storm caused massive destruction in some areas of Baltimore City. The Morton Street Dance Center, a long-established Baltimore cultural institution, located in Meadow Mill at Woodberry Station, was utterly destroyed by the flood waters. The Morton Street Dance Center is home to the Full Circle Dance Company as well as a home away from home for 150 young dancers and has educated thousands of young dancers for more than 20 years.

There is a bright side! Our young dancers--ages 3-18--had been in rehearsals for a production of "Peter Pan," scheduled for May 31 at Towson University. After being informed of the disaster, in an amazing show of support, Baltimore's arts and education institutions rushed in to help and to make sure that the show goes on. The Park School, Coppin State, Yorkwood Elementary School, and others made urgently needed space available to us in their dance studios, libraries and gymnasiums. Because of Baltimore's generous arts and education communities, not a single rehearsal has been missed.

Of course, there were tears to be cried and adjustments to be made, but our young dancers, supportive parents and committed teachers have shown tremendous resilience as we continue to meet this unprecedented challenge. 150 kids are learning the importance of dancing through a storm. They are learning important lessons about overcoming obstacles and how to persevere. Moreover, they have learned the power of community in our great city.

Their desire, determination and of course dancing are inspiring. And in the face of this crisis, we are all determined to make our production of Peter Pan our best performance ever.

We would love to share this heartwarming and inspiring story with your viewers. We invite you to visit a rehearsal to witness our students, teachers, supportive parents and our indefatigable director and staff hard at work. The young and seasoned dancers are glad to talk about the extra challenges they are facing and the solutions they've discovered.

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