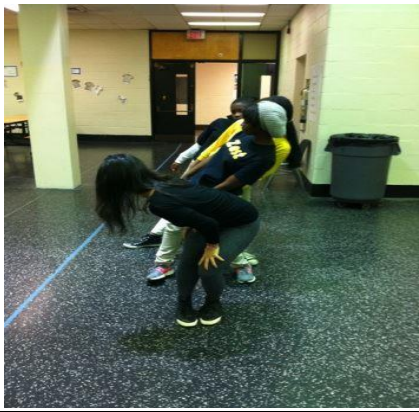


Upcoming events



CityStep's KIPP Classroom choreographs a dance to go along with their show genre—horror!

Holiday Party
December 7

MLK Service Day
January 20

76ers
January 25

NDI Retreat
February 1

Half Day
February 15

Battle of the Dance
March 26

All Day
March 29

Letter from the Directors

Hey CityStep!

We can't believe this semester is already coming to a close! Between our annual homecoming event with our alumni, our fall fundraiser, and our recent choreography cram session, the momentum here at CityStep has been nonstop. As this year's directors, it sometimes feels like things are moving at the speed of light. There was, however, one special moment that stopped us in our tracks.

A few weeks ago, in response to our first issue of our newsletter, we received an unexpected message from a very special person in the CityStep community, Laura Weidman Powers. Since our freshman year, we have always heard the name, but never imagined to come into contact with CityStep Penn's founder. Although it was just a small email, it brought to our attention the powerful legacy and invaluable ties forged by our CityStep community.

Every day, we rely heavily on the ongoing support and kindness that we receive from our community. From our own members who work to produce engaging and educational lesson plans, to our graduate board members who guide and mentor us whenever we meet a problem just outside our grasp, we know that everything this organization achieves is due to the collective goal we share with our friends, family, partners, and alumni.

CityStep is only picking up steam. With so much going on, we want you to be involved in any way possible. Whether it's dropping us a line at citystepboard@gmail.com, donating to our holiday mailer campaign, or coming to support our teachers and students performing at the 76er's Game in January, please don't be shy! We would truly love to connect with each and every one of you.

Happy Holidays and CityStep Love,
Lara & Drew



Fall Events

Homecoming Reunion

During Penn's Homecoming weekend this year, we had the pleasure of reconnecting with CityStep Penn members and alumni for a gathering at Olivia's house. Members old and new shared stories about their favorite classroom experiences, memorable adventures with their students and their funniest moments with their Citystep friends. This was the first time our alumni met our newbies, and it was a great time for everyone to catch up and connect. Overall, it was an afternoon full of CityStep family love and Ride or Die spirit. We are so thankful for our alumni who were able to come back and catch up with us! We love you!



Fall Fundraiser

On Saturday, November 16th, CityStep Penn held its annual fall fundraiser at the Blarney Stone, a local venue frequented by many University of Pennsylvania undergraduate students. This year, Over 100 people came to the event and we raised over to \$300—breaking our personal record! Thanks to the amazingly supportive community at Penn, CityStep can continue to serve the students of West and South Philly. We had a blast this year, singing, dancing, and bonding all night long. This was one of the most exciting nights of the semester and we hope to make next year even better!



This Year's Classrooms!

Samuel Powel Elementary



This year, CityStep is so excited to be teaching Samuel Powel Elementary School's ENTIRE 4th grade!

Powel Mondays are full of energy, talent, and personality! We have been blown away by our students' eagerness to show off their own dance moves, from break-dancing to intricate step routines. Not only can they free-style, but also they are also incredibly fast learners and are already nailing the Signature and the Finale! They have been particularly enthusiastic about our Mystery classroom theme, proudly wearing their

detective badges, making up secret handshakes, and cracking riddles. Their creativity shined through when each student came up with a "Secret Detective Name" that will be their alias for the rest of the year. Their alter-egos include "Little Cheetah," "The Pumpkin Spice," "Foxface" and "Supersleuth." We will continue to explore our Mystery theme throughout the year through activities about famous inspectors and detectives, from Sherlock Holmes to Scooby Doo.

Teachers: Manon Vergerio (head), Maria Guadagnino, Alec Josiah, Lily Kravetz, Josh Park, Eliza Rothstein

Powel Tuesdays are an enthusiastic group, full of energetic students who serve as the perfect wake up routine every Friday morning. The past few weeks, Powel has been learning the CityStep signature and finale and have been participating in activities centered around our theme of Fairy Tales! Our students are an incredibly imaginative and creative group, and have really embraced our classroom's theme. Each of our students has adopted their own fairy tale character, some examples are "Knight Jay", "Princess Jasmine" and "Prince Charming," and in the coming classes our students will be creating dances and skits inspired by their characters. Powel Tuesdays also love the "Family Portrait" game, an activity where our students strike poses in a pseudo "family portrait" of characters found in fairy tales. Our classroom has spent our last few classes talking about the lessons that can be found in fairy tales, and we are looking forward to using these themes to inspire our dances for the rest of the year.



Teachers: Rebecca Hayes (head), Yusef Houamed, Georgia James, Grant Roper, Eliza Rothstein

The two classrooms are taught separately, but we plan to combine both classrooms and teachers for special occasions. Imagine the energy of a room filled with fifty 4th graders, woah!

Keeping up with CityStep!

Final Show Theme!

We are so excited to announce this year's theme, Artistic and Literary Genres! We chose seven different genres to be represented in this year's show, one by each of the seven classrooms. Each classroom will delve deep into their genre, learning about its importance and drawing from many different platforms, including literature, movies, and TV shows. We will teach them many different stories, old and new, classic and contemporary. And what's better than getting kids excited about learning through movement and dance?



Powel Mondays: Mystery

Powel Tuesdays: Fairy Tales

KIPP: Horror

Chester Arthur: Action

Huey: Fantasy

Comegys: Science Fiction

Jackson: Comedy

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THANK YOU!

Interested in joining the Grad Board?

Are you a CityStep grad? Want to stay connected?

Email the Grad Board to get involved in building alumni support for CityStep, contributing professional advice or planning alumni get-togethers: citystepgb@googlegroups.com. Also be sure to join the **CityStep group on LinkedIn**, where you can network with other alumni and current undergrads.