



*Forward Momentum Chicago*

*Sponsorship Opportunities*  
**2026**

[www.forwardmomentumchicago.org](http://www.forwardmomentumchicago.org)



# ABOUT FMC

Forward Momentum Chicago (FMC) is a nonprofit organization that provides transformative dance education to children and youth from communities that have historically lacked access to the arts. Founded in 2013, FMC is driven by the belief that every child, regardless of background or resources, deserves the opportunity to thrive through creative expression. We focus on fostering creativity, building critical life skills, and empowering young people to achieve their full potential.

A group of young girls are performing a dance on a stage. They are wearing matching pink leotards and skirts with a white and pink floral pattern. The girls are in various dance poses, with some arms raised and hands open. The background is a dark, solid color, possibly a stage backdrop. The lighting is focused on the dancers, creating a dramatic effect. The overall mood is energetic and joyful.

# MISSION

We empower Chicagoland youth in schools and communities with limited arts access by utilizing dance to build lifelong skills that foster pathways to success.

# VISION

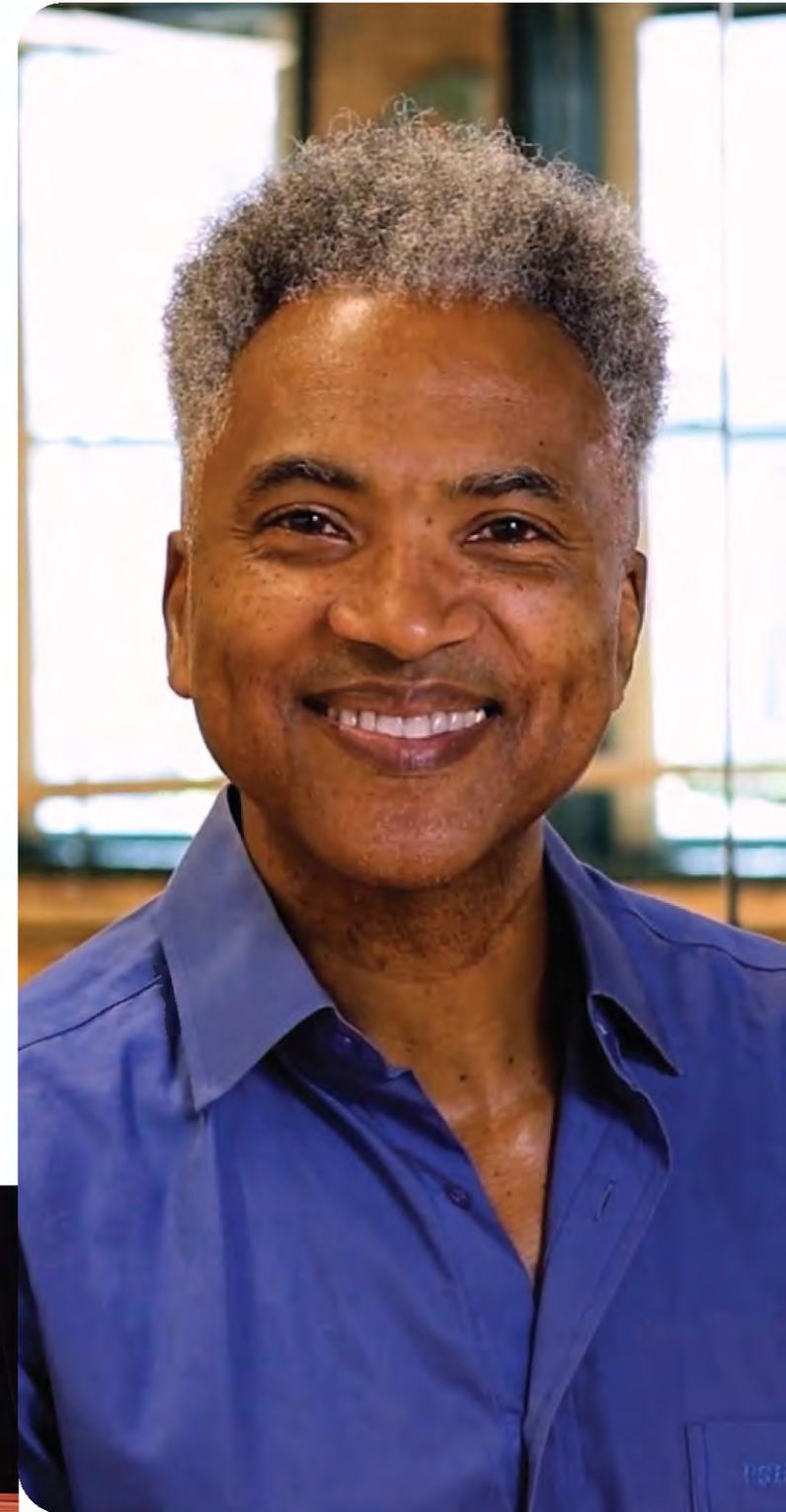
To be a leader in arts education, developing children into positive change-makers.

# Founder & Executive Director

**Pierre Lockett is a trailblazer in arts education, with a distinguished career spanning four decades**, including professional dance roles with The Princeton Ballet, Dance Theatre of Harlem, and The Joffrey Ballet. As a former Director of Community Engagement at The Joffrey Ballet, he launched outreach programs connecting youth to the transformative power of dance.

**In 2013, Pierre founded Forward Momentum Chicago (FMC) to provide high-quality dance education to children with limited access to the arts.** He believes in the life-changing benefits of arts education, and is committed to removing barriers for youth from underserved communities.

Under his leadership, FMC has reached over 38,000 students through in-school, out-of-school, and summer programs, ensuring that children of color have access to world-class dance training and mentorship.



# FMC AT A GLANCE

Our programs reach young people where they are—inside their schools and communities—ensuring that dance education is inclusive and accessible. We believe that dance transcends barriers and unites communities, creating opportunities for all Chicagoland youth to thrive. We partner with organizations and individuals who share and actively align with these principles.

Teaching  
Artists

29

Partnerships

50

Classrooms

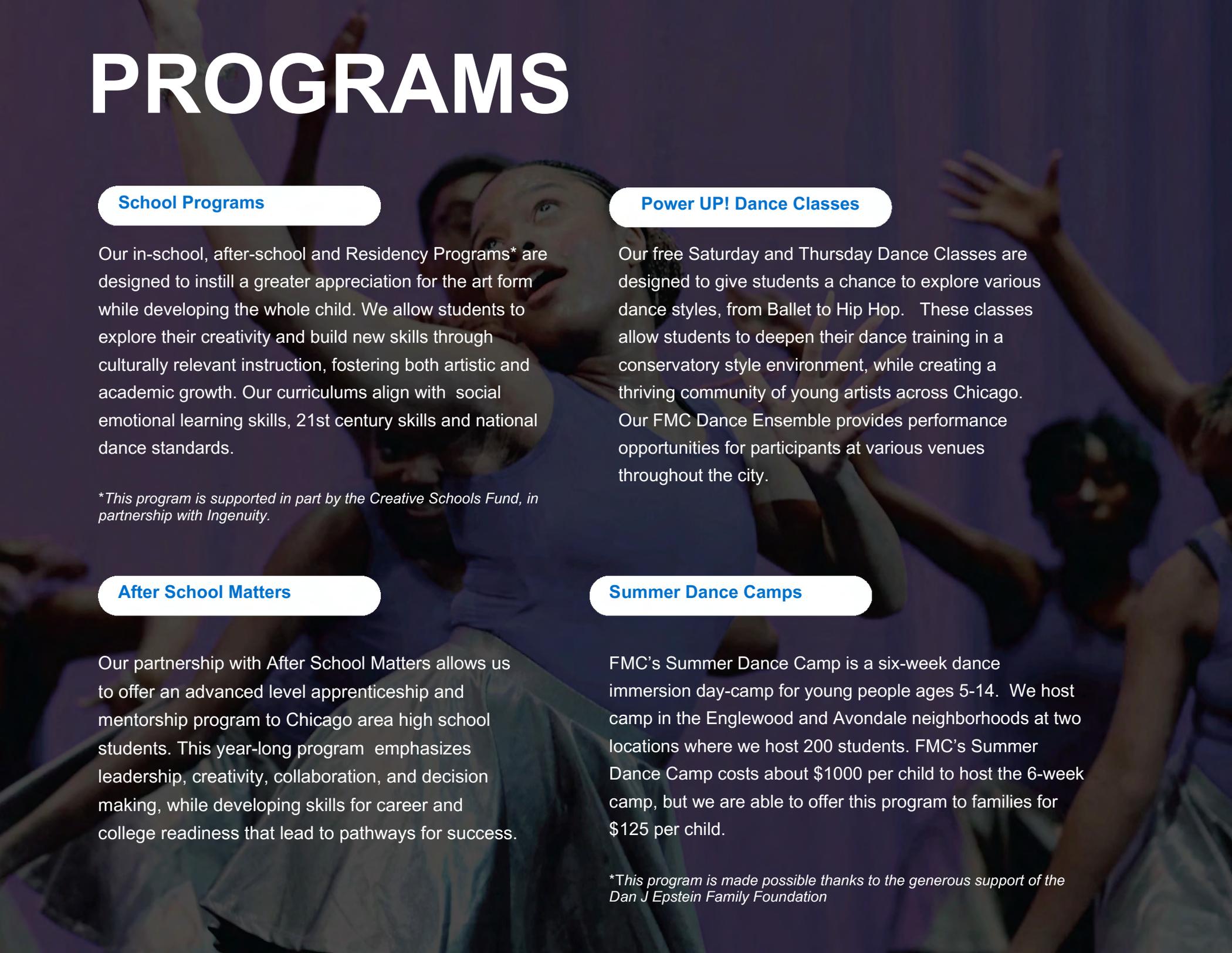
150

Students  
Reached

30000

\*annually

# PROGRAMS



## School Programs

Our in-school, after-school and Residency Programs\* are designed to instill a greater appreciation for the art form while developing the whole child. We allow students to explore their creativity and build new skills through culturally relevant instruction, fostering both artistic and academic growth. Our curriculums align with social emotional learning skills, 21st century skills and national dance standards.

*\*This program is supported in part by the Creative Schools Fund, in partnership with Ingenuity.*

## After School Matters

Our partnership with After School Matters allows us to offer an advanced level apprenticeship and mentorship program to Chicago area high school students. This year-long program emphasizes leadership, creativity, collaboration, and decision making, while developing skills for career and college readiness that lead to pathways for success.

## Power UP! Dance Classes

Our free Saturday and Thursday Dance Classes are designed to give students a chance to explore various dance styles, from Ballet to Hip Hop. These classes allow students to deepen their dance training in a conservatory style environment, while creating a thriving community of young artists across Chicago. Our FMC Dance Ensemble provides performance opportunities for participants at various venues throughout the city.

## Summer Dance Camps

FMC's Summer Dance Camp is a six-week dance immersion day-camp for young people ages 5-14. We host camp in the Englewood and Avondale neighborhoods at two locations where we host 200 students. FMC's Summer Dance Camp costs about \$1000 per child to host the 6-week camp, but we are able to offer this program to families for \$125 per child.

*\*This program is made possible thanks to the generous support of the Dan J Epstein Family Foundation*

# FMC IMPACT



## SEL & 21st Century Skills

FMC programs nurture students' growth not just as dancers, but as individuals. Through emotional awareness, relationship-building, and decision-making, students gain vital skills that support both personal development and future success.

## Teaching Artist Development

FMC teaching artists receive ongoing training to ensure high-quality instruction. This professional development strengthens their ability to connect with students and supports their growth as educators and artists.

## Alumni Success & Post High School Plans

98% of FMC seniors graduate with post-secondary plans. Many students attribute their success to the discipline, confidence, and leadership skills they gained through FMC's dance programs, which extend beyond the studio.

## Community Reach

FMC annually partners with 25 schools and organizations, offering dance programs tailored to meet community needs. These collaborations enrich students' lives and foster engagement, cultural awareness, and pride in their communities.



# Meet J'den

J'den is entering his third year at FMC and continues to excel in training and perform in the FMC Dance Ensemble. His dedication and talent were showcased in seasonal performances at Millennium Park, Navy Pier, Harris Theater and other key events. Jaylen's growth as a dancer highlights the power of FMC's programs in helping students achieve their full potential, both artistically and personally.





# Relevé Soirée

Forward Momentum Chicago is committed to providing young people with access to high quality dance education opportunities – now more than ever. Through in-school and community partnerships, free Power UP! dance classes, and summer dance camp, we support young people to develop the skills to transform their lives as they transform their days – one dance step at a time.

Relevé Soirée is Forward Momentum Chicago's annual fundraiser to support our city-wide dance education programs. This year, we are celebrating 12 years of dancing toward the future, and our goal is to raise \$150,000 to further our mission.

As an FMC Sponsor, you are providing children with a dance experience where they improve dance skills, develop physically and mentally, and have FUN! Your sponsorship will help us ensure that our most vulnerable and valuable resource – our youth – have a safe and fun summer and can look forward to continuing that learning and personal growth in the school year to come.

Forward Momentum Chicago is committed to remaining a stable part of our young people's lives. We invite you to partner with us to provide this necessary resource to Chicago's youth.



# SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Support the Future of Dance Education



## Principal – \$20,000+

- Admission for 12 to the Relevé Soirée, including VIP seating
- Supports year-long dance instruction for 50 students
- Recognition on all marketing materials, social media, and event signage
- Verbal and video acknowledgment at all major events
- Logo placement on summer camp attire

## First Soloist – \$15,000+

- Admission for 10 to the Relevé Soirée with reserved seating
- Supports a full year of free Saturday dance classes for 40 students
- Featured recognition on all marketing materials and social media
- Video acknowledgment during event presentations
- Recognition in event speeches and presentations

## Soloist Level – \$10,000+

- Admission for 8 to the Relevé Soirée with reserved seating
- Supports summer dance camp for 25 students
- Logo featured on marketing materials, event signage, and social media
- Verbal acknowledgment during event presentations

## Corp de Ballet – \$7,500+

- Admission for 6 to the Relevé Soirée with reserved seating
- Supports semester-long in-school dance programming for 20 students
- Recognition on marketing materials and social media
- Verbal acknowledgment during event presentations

## Company Level – \$5,000+

- Admission for 4 to the Relevé Soirée with reserved seating
- Funds a special performance or event for FMC students
- Recognition on all marketing materials and social media
- Video acknowledgment during event presentations

## Apprentice Level – \$2,500+

- Admission for 2 to the Relevé Soirée with reserved seating
- Supports in-school dance instruction for 10 students
- Recognition on marketing materials and event signage
- Video acknowledgment during event presentations

# Some of Our Past Sponsors

## Primary Summer Camp Sponsor

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## Lead Sponsors

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LLOYD A. FRY  
FOUNDATION



BENJAMIN B. GREEN-FIELD  
FOUNDATION

## Foundation, Grants, & Individual Sponsors

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Anonymous

AMPT

CHUBB

Chicago Black Dance Legacy Project

Christopher Egger/EAB Solutions

Dianne Blanco

D. Elizabeth Price

Dominique Leonardi & Krista Linn

Janet Melk

Joyce Chelberg

Karin Bell & Myles Toomey

Louis Hobson

Margarita Chavez & Mark Tatro

Maureen & Steve Meyer

The Marvin & Elaine Gottlieb Family Foundation

Pamela Crutchfield

Helen Melchior

Robert and Isabelle Bass Foundation

University of Chicago

Ventana Charitable Foundation

## In-Kind Sponsors

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Auditorium Theatre

Ballet Chicago

J&L Catering

Visceral Dance Chicago

**YOUR LOGO COULD BE HERE**



# VISIBILITY & BRANDING OPPORTUNITIES

By supporting Forward Momentum Chicago, you're investing in the future of arts education and empowering youth to develop critical life skills.

## Logo Placement

Your brand will be featured prominently on all marketing materials, event signage, and our website.

## Event Recognition

Verbal and visual acknowledgments at major events, including the Relevé Soirée.

## Exclusive Networking

Sponsors receive VIP access to events, offering the chance to engage with other community leaders and supporters.

## Social Media Highlights

We will highlight your partnership across all our social media channels, reaching a wide and engaged audience.

# IMPACT

Partnering with FMC creates lasting change for students and communities. By supporting Forward Momentum Chicago, you're investing in the future of arts education and empowering youth to develop critical life skills. With your support, we can foster creativity, confidence, and leadership, while bringing dance to underserved communities.

## Fostering Growth

Your partnership will support programs that empower students to excel both inside and outside the dance studio.

## Community Enrichment

By investing in FMC, you contribute to enriching the cultural fabric of underserved communities.

## Measurable Outcomes

Through your support, we've seen 98% of our high school seniors graduate with post-secondary plans.



# Get Involved

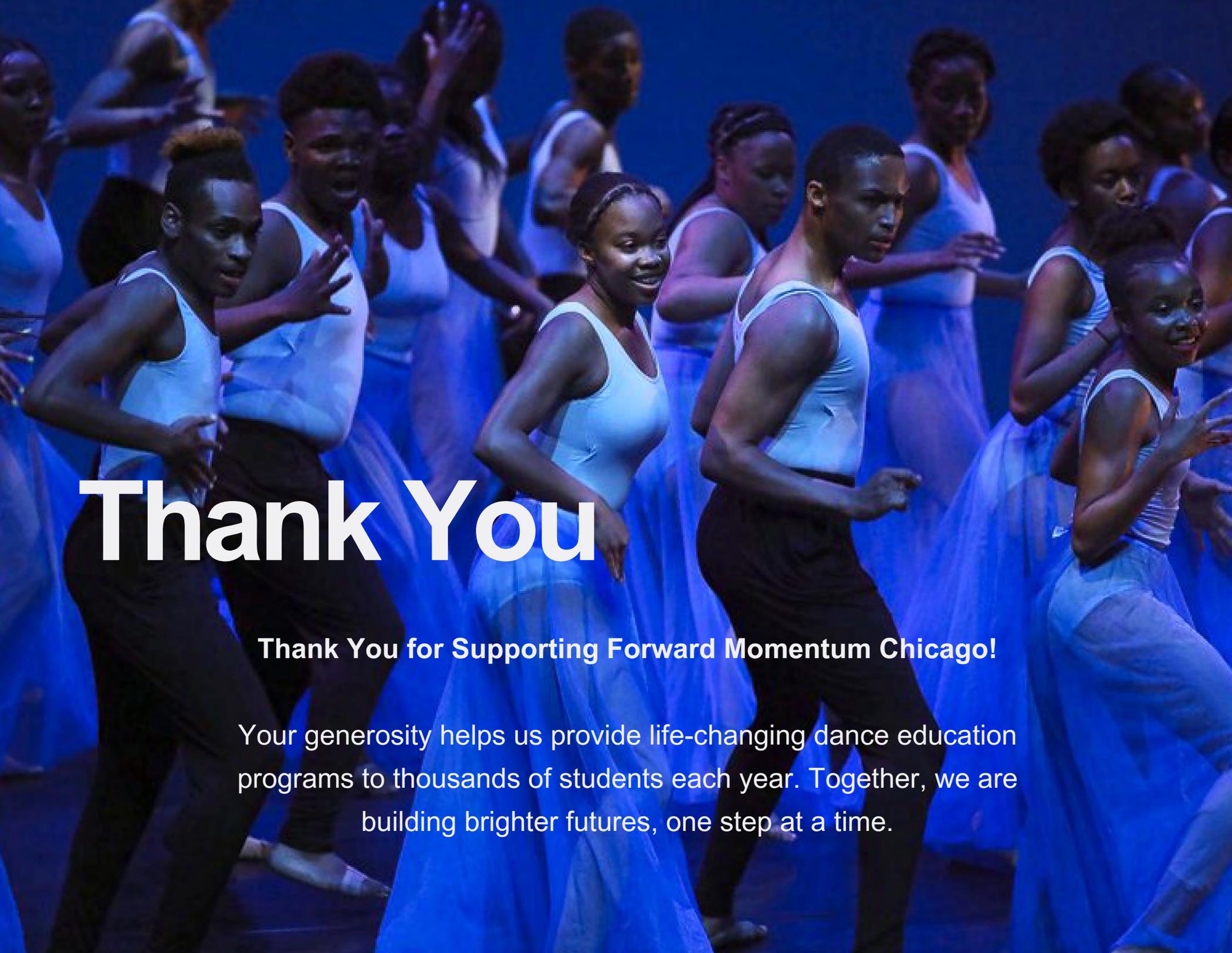
Join us in building a future where every child can thrive through the power of dance. **Together, we can create opportunities that last a lifetime.**

- **Become a Sponsor:**  
Support our programs and help provide equitable access to high-quality dance education for underserved communities.
- **Attend an Event:**  
Join us at the Relevé Soirée and witness firsthand the talents and passion of FMC students.
- **Spread the Word:**  
Share our mission with your network to help expand our reach and influence.
- **Volunteer:**  
Contribute your time and skills to make a difference in the lives of our students.

Christina Bourné,  
Director of Development

## Contact Us

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 1530 S State St Unit G-01  
 [christina@forwardmomentumchicago.org](mailto:christina@forwardmomentumchicago.org)

A group of young dancers, both male and female, are captured in a dynamic dance performance. They are wearing white tank tops and black pants. The background is a deep blue, and the lighting is dramatic, highlighting the dancers' movements. The dancers are in various poses, some with arms raised, others with hands on their hips, and some looking towards the camera with smiles. The overall mood is energetic and joyful.

# Thank You

**Thank You for Supporting Forward Momentum Chicago!**

Your generosity helps us provide life-changing dance education programs to thousands of students each year. Together, we are building brighter futures, one step at a time.