May 2021

Dear Ailey School Parents,

We hope that you and your families have remained safe and well.

As the end of the 2020-2021 Academic Year quickly approaches, unfortunately the COVID-19 outbreak is still here even as vaccinations increase and New York opens up under the governor’s and mayor’s guidelines. Leadership within the Alvin Ailey Dance Foundation has given careful consideration as to how the organization can safely, effectively, and efficiently continue to offer quality educational programming.

Upon reopening last September 2020, The Joan Weill Center for Dance, home to The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Ailey II, Ailey Arts-In-Education and Community Programs, The Ailey Extension and The Ailey School’s Professional Division, Ailey/PPAS and Junior Division programs, operated quite differently. With adherence to strict safety protocol and according to national, state, and local safety guidelines, most of our administrative staff continued to work remotely. Staff and public access to the building was kept to as low capacity as possible.

**Now, under advisement from medical and regulatory counsel, throughout the 2021-2022 Academic Year, The Ailey School will continue to operate at limited capacity.**

The program offering for The Ailey School Junior Division Program for the 2021-2022 Academic Year will be limited to Pre-Professional Program students recommended for placement in the second year of Level III (only), a portion of Level IV, Level V, and Level VI/VII. In the past, our offering has been structured to accommodate enrollment in four sections of Levels III and IV. This year, Level IV will be limited to two sections and Level III will be limited to one section only.

*The 2021–2022 tuition prices and tentative class schedules (subject to change) will be available on the website late May.*

Classes for the following programs and levels within the Junior Division will not be held for the 2021-2022 Academic Year:

- The First Steps and Bounding Boys Creative Movement Program
- The Ailey Athletic Boys Program (Levels A, B, C and Level 3)
- Pre-Professional Program Levels I, II, and a portion of Level III and IV

During these unprecedented times, we wish to thank you for your support and commitment to training at The Ailey School throughout the years. Families who have a remaining credit on their accounts will receive an e-mail directly from our bursar regarding payment options or options for refunds within two weeks. For more information and FAQs, go to [https://www.theaileyschool.edu/ailey-school-faqs](https://www.theaileyschool.edu/ailey-school-faqs). All other questions may be directed to juniordivision@alvinailey.org.
Subsequent communication with more specific information from our Junior Division will be forwarded within one week. We will remain in touch with updates should opportunities to expand the Junior Division program offering arise prior to September 2022 and look forward to welcoming you and your children back to Junior Division classes in what we hope will be the near future.

Sincerely,

Melanie Person and Tracy Inman
Directors of The Ailey School