

10

OLNEY CULTURE LAB
a project of Culture Trust Greater Philadelphia

A Decade of Celebrating
Cultural Diversity

OLNEY YOUTH

Arts Festival

Program & Resource Guide



Tookany/Tacony-Frankford
Watershed Partnership, Inc.



FAI



***COLLINS FAMILY SHOPRITE
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THE OLNEY YOUTH ARTS FESTIVAL***

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A Message from the Editor

We were immensely heartened by the return of the Olney Youth Arts Festival last year. Seeing all the talented young people take to the stage, with their family, friends and community in the audience cheering them on, was inspiring and reinforced our determination to bring back this dynamic event after a four-year absence. We were also thrilled by our new host—the community of Thurgood Marshall Elementary School—who warmly embraced our presence and provided a vessel to contain the positive energy generated by the communal vibes.

In spite of the challenges of our current historical moment, may we all continue to tune out those that seek to divide. Have courage to cherish one another and celebrate each other's unique individuality and hold fast to our collective virtues and shared aspirations.

Ambrose Liu, Project Director

What's on the menu?



Wat Lao Buddhist Temple
of North Philly



Panaderia Mexicana El Trebol



Join us for dinner after the festival
as we feature some of Olney's finest
foods as part of A Taste of Olney!

Thank You to Our Festival Sponsors & Supporters

Funders:

William Penn Foundation

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Pennsylvania Council on the Arts— This project was supported in part by the Pennsylvania Partners in the Arts program of the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency. Support also provided by PECO. This program is administered regionally by the Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance.

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Heritage Parking Company

Photographs in this program book were taken by Joe Ryan (*) unless otherwise noted.

Contact us at: olneyculturelab@gmail.com

 olneyculturelab.org

 [OlneyCultureLab1](https://www.facebook.com/OlneyCultureLab1)

 [OlneyCultureLab](https://www.instagram.com/OlneyCultureLab)

Thank you all for supporting our events this year! We hope you had as much fun attending them as we had in putting them together. Stay in touch by visiting our website and join our mailing list:



**OLNEY
CULTURE
LAB**
a project of CultureTrust Greater Philadelphia

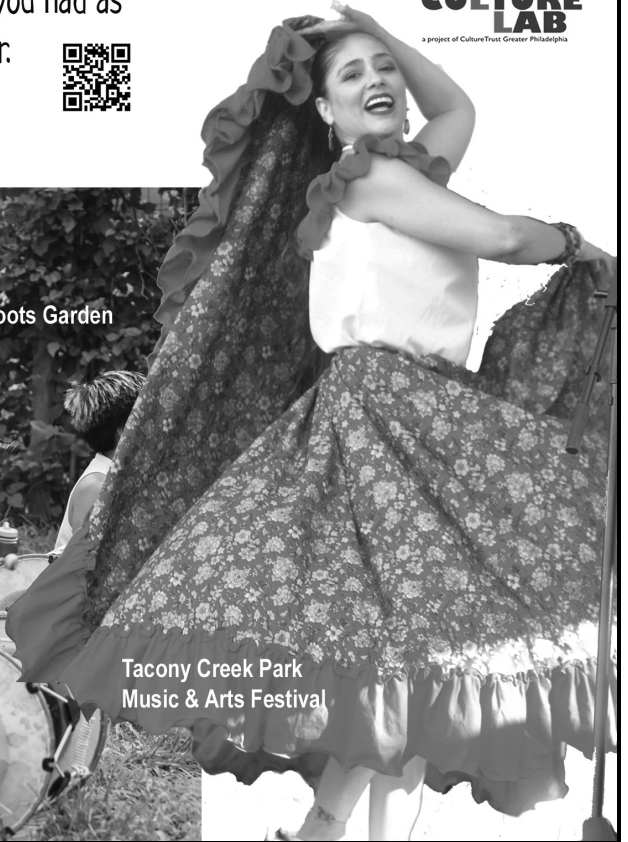
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Music & Arts Festival



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Featured Performer



Name: MoveMakers Philly
Address: 2100 Chestnut St., Floor 2
Philadelphia, PA 19103
Director: India Bernardino
Website: www.urbanmovementarts.org
Phone: (267) 595-3949
E-mail: india@urbanmovementarts.com

Established in 2015, MoveMakers presents dance education in an innovative way, prioritizing development of character and community at its core. MoveMakers is invested in growing individuals via a practice that focuses on discipline, respect, creativity, team spirit, and personal accountability. The school also emphasizes cultural appreciation and understanding of Black American resourcefulness, ingenuity and creativity.

Lessons offered?	Yes	Type of instruction offered:	
Fee?	Yes, call for information		Hip Hop, Breaking, Vogue, Martial Arts, Parkour
		Age Group:	Various

Featured Performer



Name: Kensington Creative & Performing Arts High School
Address: 1901 North Front St.
Philadelphia, PA 19122
Director: Amber Rawls McLean
Phone: (267) 254-6893
E-mail: arawls@philasd.org

Kensington CAPA's dance program offers students instruction in various dance styles, including Ballet, Modern, Salsa, Bachata, Jazz, Hip-Hop, and other global dance traditions. Students engage with the historical and cultural significance of each style, examining dance's role in society through an interdisciplinary approach. Students participate in multiple performances throughout the year, showcasing their growth and creativity.

Lessons offered?	Must attend school	Type of instruction offered:	
Fee?	No		Ballet, Modern, Salsa, Bachata, Jazz, Hip-Hop, etc.
		Age Group:	High School

Featured Performer



Name: Philadanco! D/3 Youth Ensemble*

Address: 9 North Preston St.
Philadelphia, PA 19104

Contact: Tony Harris, Jr.

Website: philadanco.org

Phone: (215) 387-8200

E-mail: tharris@philadanco.org

Danco 3 (D/3) became part of the PHILADANCO! Legacy in 2006. D/3 was created to give young dancers who are really serious about dance access to performance opportunities and a chance to nurture their technique and performance skills. D/3 dancers range from the ages of 13 to 16 and have the option of moving on to D/2, PHILADANCO's apprentice company.

Lessons offered? Yes

Fee? Yes, call for information

Type of instruction offered: Modern, Ballet, other

Age Group: 13—16 years old



Signature Events

- Back to School Block Party
- Open Mic Night
- Trick or Treat on N. 5th
- Olney Winter Festival

Programs for Residents

- Lead Your Block
- Olney Youth Advisory Council
- Olney Neighbors Association

Programs for Small Businesses

- Open Your Business in Olney
- Storefront Improvement Program
- Business Camera Program
- Olney Business Association

OCC Boundaries

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Avenue, Somerville Avenue to
Fairhill Street to Roosevelt
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Can Create A
Stronger**



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Vibrant
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Community**

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WWW.OLNEYPOLLAB.COM

Featured Performer



Name: Magic Music Group Drill Team
Address: Philadelphia, PA 19120
Directors: Melissa & Darrick Story
Phone: (267) 506-6503
E-mail: melissamcmillan1111193@gmail.com

Magic Music Group Drill Team is led by Darrick and Melissa Story. With the help of a few volunteers, parents, and local organizations, Magic Music has been able to offer a unique and fun sport to youth in Logan and beyond. The team is a marching unit that combines drum percussion, military foot or exhibition drills, and dance choreography.

Lessons offered?	Yes	Type of instruction offered:	Stepping & Drumming
Fee?	Call for information	Age Group:	4 year old—adult

Featured Performer



Name: Nia-Next, The Youth Dance Company of Danse4Nia
Address: P. O. Box 14235
Philadelphia, PA 19138
Director: Antoinette M. Coward-Gilmore
Website: danse4nia.com
Phone: (267) 987-5581
E-mail: nia-next@danse4nia.org

Nia-Next, the youth dance company of DANSE4NIA, fosters artistic growth for youth between the ages of 10-18. This program gives youth the opportunity to train and study alongside the professional dancers/staff of Danse4Nia and master dance artists in the field. Nia-Next dancers learn and perform company repertoire, as well as work with leading professional choreographers in greater Philadelphia.

Lessons offered?	Yes	Type of instruction offered:	
Fee?	Call for information		Ballet, Horton, Hip Hop, Jazz, Tap, Barre, Pilates
		Age Group:	10—18 years old

Featured Performer



Name: Louk Lahn Champa Foundation
Address: 335 East Chew Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19120
Director: Vicki K. Sundara
Website: louklahnchampa.org
Phone: (484) 213-2486
E-mail: vicki.sundara@louklahnchampa.com

Louk Lahn Champa Foundation strives to bridge the gap between the young Lao American generation and their elders. The elders hold so much information and knowledge and the foundation's goal is to create space for the youth to sit with them, learn their stories, and carry them on for generations to come. Rehearsals are held at the Lao Buddhist Temple in Olney.

Lessons offered? Yes

Type of instruction offered:

Fee? Call for information

Laotian Folk Dance

Age Group: Various

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BILINGUAL YOUTH MAGAZINE • YOUTH PROGRAMS

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www.motivomag.com

**Congratulations
Olney Culture
Lab on your
10th Anniversary!**

Featured Performer



Name: Living Arts Dance, Inc.
Address: 614 North Front St.
Philadelphia, PA 19123
Director: Jaquetta Colson
Website: livingartsdance.com
Phone: (888) 257-9991
E-mail: info@livingartsdance.com

Living Arts Dance, Inc. was established in 2006, with the mission to provide professional performing arts programs for all. Living Arts Dance staff all have a passion for exposing children and adults to the arts, giving a safe outlet of self-expression, encouraging physical fitness, self-discipline and a great enriching diversion from inner city life.

Lessons offered? Yes

Type of instruction offered:

Fee? Call for information.

Ballet, Horton, Hip Hop, Jazz, Acro, West African

Age Group: 8 year old and up

Featured Performer



Name: Ñuuxakun Folcloric Mexicano
Address: 2223 South Opal St.
Philadelphia, PA 19145
Director: Andrea Garcia
Phone: (267) 916-9152
E-mail: nuuxakun@gmail.com

Ñuuxakun, led by professional folklore dancer Andrea Garcia, is a vibrant gateway to Mexican folklore, theater, and traditions in Philadelphia. Named after the Mixteco word meaning “people who laugh,” Ñuuxakun offers a bilingual and bicultural experience for children in South Philadelphia.

Lessons offered? Yes

Type of instruction offered:

Fee? Call for information

Mexican Folkloric Dance

Age Group: 3 year old—adult

Featured Performer



Name: Koresh Youth Ensemble
Address: 2002 Rittenhouse Square St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103
Directors: Melissa Rector / Sharon Place
Phone: (215) 751-0959
E-mail: dev@koreshdance.org
Website: koreshdance.org

Koresh Youth Ensemble, established in 2008, allows young dancers more intensive dance training and greater performance opportunities. Under the direction of Melissa Rector, students who demonstrate both the talent and desire to become professionals are selected to join the group. Ensemble members train 12+ hours per week, performing in festivals and showcases throughout Philadelphia and New York City.

Lessons offered?	Yes	Type of instruction offered:	
Fee?	Yes		Ballet, Pointe, Modern, Jazz, Hip Hop
Scholarships?	Yes	Age Group:	4—18 years old

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Featured Performer



Name: Philadelphia Youth Tap
Address: 1400 North 26th St.
Philadelphia, PA, 19121
Director: Pamela Hetherington
Website: phillyjazztap.org/phlyouthtap
Phone: (267) 273-6937
E-mail: pamelamh4@gmail.com

Since 2020, Philadelphia Youth Tap preserves and sustains the legacy of tap dance in Philadelphia. Youth train in tap technique, music theory, and improvisation, while also working towards performance opportunities around the city. Every year, PHYT hosts a Youth Tap Summit, which is an educational and performance evening for all interested youths in the tri-state area.

Lessons offered? Yes

Type of instruction offered:

Fee? Call for information

Tap Dance

Age Group: Various Ages

Featured Performer



Name: Cambodian American Girls Empowering
Address: 1315 Walnut St., Suite 300
Philadelphia, PA 19107
Contact: Alina Hing
Website: cagempowering.org
Phone: (267) 905-9921
E-mail: alina@cagempowering.com

CAGE was founded in 2015 by a group of trained Classical Cambodian Dancers from Philadelphia. They seek to build more sustainable and accessible pathways to the arts and activism. CAGE's mission is to create a safe and courageous space where Cambodian Americans feel free to learn more about their shared heritage.

Lessons offered? Yes

Type of instruction offered:

Fee? Call for information

Cambodian Folk Dance

Age Group: Various Ages

Featured Performer



Name: Malaya Ulan
Address: Parkway Central Library
1901 Vine St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103
Contact: Yona Yurwit
Website: malayaulan.com
E-mail: poetlaureate@freelibrary.org

Malaya Ulan is the 2024-2025 Philadelphia Youth Poet Laureate. She is multidisciplinary artist whose work often focuses on themes of identity and her experiences as a first generation Filipino-American. Malaya has produced a film about the experiences of first-generation immigrants. She also paints and often collaborates with her mother, a dancer, who introduced her to expressive movement as a young person. Malaya is currently a junior at Science Leadership Academy at Beeber.

If you are interested in hosting Malaya for a public engagement, contact Yona Yurwit at poetlaureate@freelibrary.org.

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Featured Performer



Name: Royalty Supreme All Stars*
Address: 6602 North 7th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19126
Director: Monique Moore
Website: royaltysa.info
Phone: (267) 586-9707
E-mail: royaltysupremeallstars@gmail.com

Royalty Supreme All Stars is a non-profit cheerleading and dance organization located in Philadelphia. Their mission is to promote self-esteem and build character through their activities. The teams practice 2 –3 times a week and travel to compete once a month.

Lessons offered? Yes

Type of instruction offered:

Fee? Yes, call for information.

Cheerleading & Modern Dance

Age Group: 4–18 years old

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an independent thinker who **challenges conventions.**

Featured Performer



Name: Mutya Philippine Dance Company*
Address: 243 North Lawrence Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106
Director: Rey Borres
Website: mutyapdc.org
Phone: (856) 495-8335
E-mail: mutyapres2002@yahoo.com

Mutya is a performing group and a youth program that provides in-depth education to Filipino-American youth about their heritage and encourages appreciation by the American public of the Philippine's rich and complex culture and history. The group is based at Old St. Augustine Church in Old City.

Lessons offered?	Yes	Type of instruction offered:	
Fee?	Call for information		Philippine Folk Dance
		Age Group:	Various ages

Featured Performer



Name: Palante Dance Company*
Address: 4831 Rising Sun Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19120
Director: Anthony Reyes
Phone: (445) 214-5857
E-mail: palantedance@gmail.com

Palante Dance Company led by Anthony Reyes specialize in bringing Latin dance and hip hop dance instruction to Philadelphia youth and adults. They also combine fitness in their regimen to strengthen their students. Palante regularly performs in the tri-state area and appears at the annual Philly Puerto Rican Day Parade.

Lessons offered?	Yes	Type of instruction offered:	Latin Dance (Salsa & Bachata), Hip Hop Dance, Fitness
Fee?	Call for information		
		Age Group:	Various ages

**ST. PAUL'S CHURCH LOVES OLNEY
AND
PROUDLY SUPPORTS
THE RETURN OF
OLNEY YOUTH ARTS FESTIVAL**



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AA Program

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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(215) 424-4800

@stpaulsinolney



Featured Performer



Name: The X-perience Dance Company
Address: 3502 Scotts Lane, Suite 402
Philadelphia, PA 19129
Director: Jasmine Brown
Website: thexperiencedc.com
Phone: (267) 271-6461
E-mail: jbrown@thexperiencedc.com

The X-Perience Dance Company is a pre-professional Modern/Jazz-based dance company with roots also in Ballet and African. Our purpose is to evoke, encourage and inspire all those whom we encounter. We believe the art of dance shouldn't just be witnessed. It should be felt. It should be shared. It should be X-perienced.

Lessons offered? Yes

Type of instruction offered:

Fee? Yes, call for information

Lyrical, Modern and Ballet

Age Group: 4 year old—adult

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PHILADELPHIA

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DIGITAL STORYTELLING
FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD



Audio Olney is a podcast series dedicated to sharing the stories and voices of the diverse ethnic and socio-economic neighborhood of Olney in Philadelphia. Hosted by Amber Art & Design’s Linda Fernandez and Keir Johnston, Audio Olney aims to bring community voices to the table, highlight cultural expressions and relevant issues and examine what makes the neighborhood unique in its history and current beauty and complexity.

Season One was launched in 2021 by Olney Culture Lab, in partnership with Amber Art & Design, June Lopez (sound designer) and Malcolm Burnley (journalist/writer). Upon Burnley’s departure after Season One, the Olney Culture Lab / Audio Olney team picked up the baton and continued to explore narratives that reflect the dynamism of the neighborhood. Season Two debuted in 2023 with plans for additional seasons in 2024 and 2025!



Tune to the first two seasons of Audio Olney on YouTube, Spotify, Apple Podcasts, RocketCasts, Radio Public, Amazon Prime and more.

Episodes can also be found at olneyculturelab.org.

Scan the QR code to connect:



Main support for Audio Olney provided by: 

Additional support provided by:   

PHILADELPHIA 250

By the people ★ For all people



The 250th anniversary of the nation happens in 2026. Make your mark on this milestone moment.

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A vibrant community to celebrate and empower women in Philadelphia, focusing on their stories, supporting their initiatives, and ensuring their legacy for the city's 250th anniversary and beyond.



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