



URBANGATEWAYS

2021 VIRTUAL
PERFORMANCES GUIDE



Urban Gateways offers a variety of arts experiences for young people and their communities (many of them available virtually); **this guide focuses primarily on Virtual Performances**, but also includes some basic information about our other program areas. You can learn more about all of our programs at urbangateways.org/programs.

URBANGATEWAYS

Urban Gateways engages young people in arts experiences to inspire creativity and impact social change.

Our programs span many artistic disciplines and methods of creative engagement, offering participants new avenues for learning, growth, and reflection. We build creative connections by working with partners (that's you!) to integrate the arts into curriculum and community efforts across a wide variety of learning spaces including virtual, in-person, and hybrid, seamlessly integrating the arts into any environment.

Virtual Arts Learning

Direct instruction from an Urban Gateways Teaching Artist in dance, literary arts, media arts, music, theater, or visual arts.

Virtual Professional Development

Arts-focused workshops for educators and youth workers, led by Teaching Artists and customized to support your goals.

Virtual Performances

Educational performances by professional artists or ensembles in dance, music, and theater, presented live or on-demand.

Virtual Teen Engagement

Free and low-cost opportunities for teens to opt into virtual arts experiences, including performances and teen events with Teen Arts Pass partners as well as teen-led programming designed by the Urban Gateways Teen Advisory Council.

Virtual Media Arts Learning

Virtual guidance by instructors working with Street Level, our youth media arts center, that encourages young people to hone their digital media skills.

This guide focuses primarily on Virtual Performances. Check them out and watch our preview videos!

Click on any of these Virtual Program titles to be taken directly to our website!

OUR PERFORMANCES ARE NOW VIRTUAL

Urban Gateways' Virtual Performances connect students, educators, and families with arts experiences in a digital environment.

Live and Pre-Recorded

Our staff and artists are constantly adapting our programs to the virtual space to meet your needs. Performances are conducted live on Zoom Webinar or available for on-demand streaming on Vimeo. Alternate platforms may be available upon request.

Any Learning Environment

Remote? In-person? Hybrid? Shifting? Our programs can shift with you.

Whether your school or community organization is operating remotely, in a hybrid model, or fully in-person, Urban Gateways Virtual Performances can meet you where you are. Virtual Performances are designed so that they can be accessed by individuals in their own homes, by a classroom teacher or instructor in-person with a group of participants, or a combination of the two simultaneously. This model allows for us to continue implementing our programs seamlessly through shifting scenarios, keeping things as easy for you as possible.

Social Emotional Learning (SEL) in the Virtual World

The arts help young people stay connected - with their school work, with current events, and with their communities as some learn and engage from home. The arts improve focus and are helping our partners address the social and emotional learning challenges youth face as their worlds continue to transform.

The arts can create a positive connection with school, help youth understand and express their emotions, and keep young people engaged in both academic and personal exploration.



Students dance along with a Virtual Performance of "Breakin' It Down: Hip Hop History" with Chicago Dance Crash.

VIRTUAL PERFORMANCES

Urban Gateways Virtual Performances thoughtfully engage audiences in a wide variety of artistic disciplines and cultures through live virtual or pre-recorded dance, music, and theater experiences.

The shows on our growing roster of Virtual Performances are both entertaining and educational; they combine masterful performances by some of Chicago's top professional artists with insightful context to deepen the audience's understanding of different cultures and art forms.

These programs are intentionally designed and age-appropriate. They create impactful experiences that capture the best elements of live performance, all in a safe and accessible format. We offer Virtual Performances appropriate for school or community audiences of all ages, regardless of whether the audience is at home or gathering in-person, and we provide educational materials to help draw connections in classrooms or other learning environments.

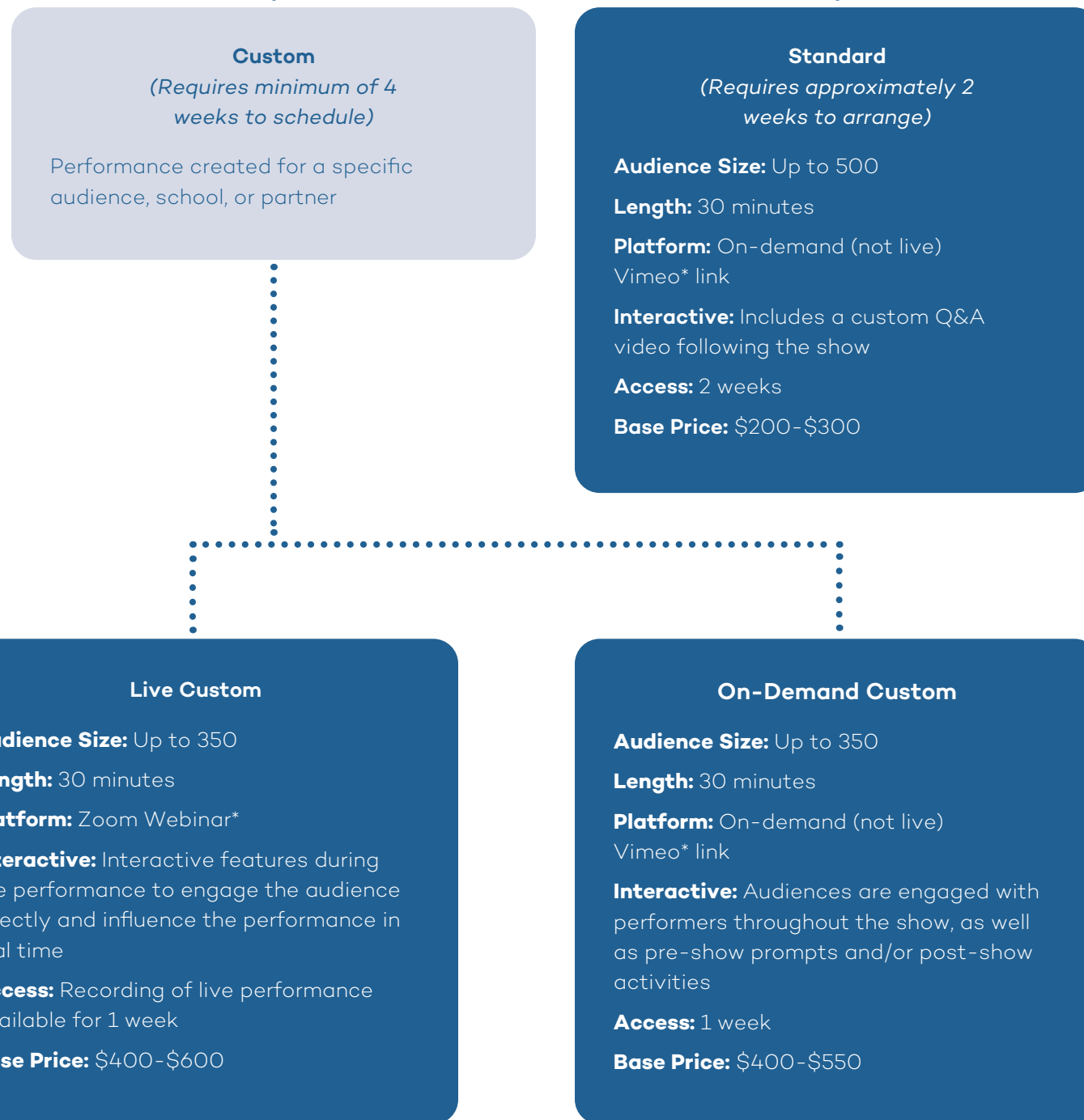


Selfie of a parent and student experiencing a live Virtual Performance by Poets with Class (Chicago Poetry Center).

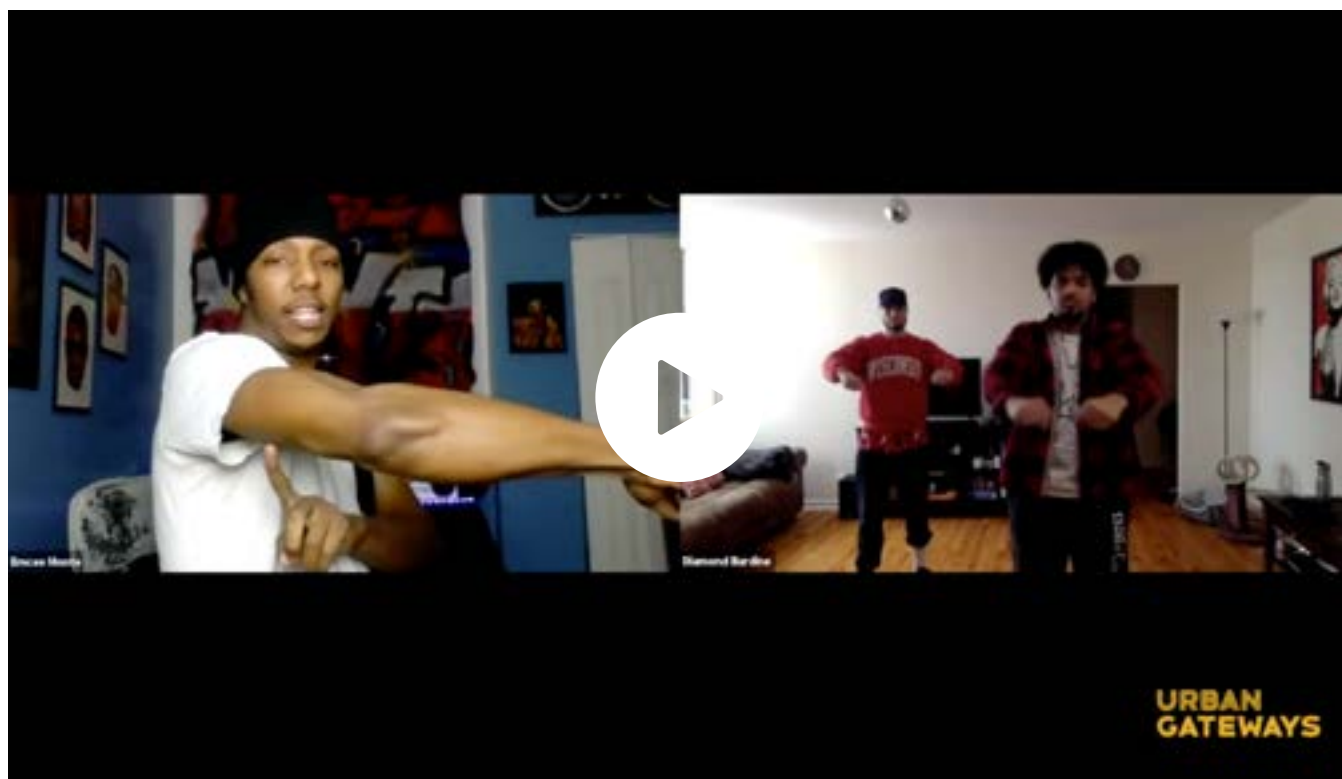
Steps to Booking a Virtual Performance

- 1 **Reach out to Urban Gateways' Performance Coordinator via email at performances@urbangateways.org.**
- 2 **We will help you choose between a custom or standard performance.**
- 3 **If you choose a custom performance, our Performance Coordinator will help you then choose between a live or on-demand performance.**
- 4 **You will receive a custom secure link to pass along to your audience to either join the live performance, or view the on-demand performance.**

CHOOSE YOUR VIRTUAL PERFORMANCE



*Alternate platforms available upon request



"Breakin' It Down: Hip Hop History" with Chicago Dance Crash

MUSIC

THE EVOLUTION OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN MUSIC: FROM AFRICA TO HIP HOP

Bruce Henry & Band | Music | All Ages

An interactive concert for all ages that explores the history of African-American Music. This entertaining and educational concert will help participants understand and appreciate how the many styles of African-American Music – from Field Hollers to Jazz and R&B – are all connected.

Custom Live: \$500

Custom On-Demand: \$500

THE HARMONY OF KOREAN DRUMMING AND DANCING

Korean Performing Arts Institute of Chicago | Dance & Music | All Ages

The grace and power of traditional Korean drumming and dancing is demonstrated through intricate performances; harmony and its role in nature and the Korean arts is featured throughout. This dynamic performance showcases four traditional styles and explains how the philosophy of yin and yang and sounds from nature create harmony in the art form. The audience is encouraged to become a part of the performance with interactive elements.

Custom Live: \$450

HEARTBEAT OF JAPAN

Tsukasa Taiko | Music & Dance | All Ages

The rich history of Japan comes alive through dynamic music and dance, embodying centuries-old culture. Audiences will be introduced to the thunderous roar of Taiko drums, the grace of classical dance, and the stories behind these traditional art forms.

Custom Live: \$500

Standard On-Demand: \$250

DANCE

BREAKIN' IT DOWN: HIP HOP HISTORY

Chicago Dance Crash | Dance | All Ages

From the dancers behind "History of Dance from Ballet to Breakdancing" comes this new and exciting show all about the world of hip hop dance! This interactive performance focuses on the history of various hip hop dance styles, including popping, waving, funk, breakdancing, and more. Audiences will learn about the development of this now iconic dance style, from its early start in freestyle back in the 1960s to the choreography seen in today's popular culture.

Custom Live: \$500

Custom On-Demand: \$500

Standard On-Demand: \$250

THE ROOTS OF BLACK DANCE IN AMERICA

Joel Hall Dancers | Dance | All Ages

This performance delves into the roots of Black dance in America, from traditional African dance, to the social dances of the 20s, to the concert jazz dance of today. Through audience participation and demonstrations, the audience will learn what makes Black dance unique and gain a better understanding of the overarching theme of community.

Custom Live: \$500

Custom On-Demand: \$500

Standard On-Demand: \$250

VOICE OF DANCE

DanceWorks Chicago | Dance | All Ages

DanceWorks Chicago's "Voice of Dance" celebrates the power and beauty of bringing together a community of unique voices in the audience as well as on the virtual stage (the screen!) for the ultimate staycation: transporting oneself without leaving home. As Twyla Tharp put it, "Art is the only way to run away without leaving home."

Custom Live: \$450

Custom On-Demand: \$450

GAME OF WARRIORS

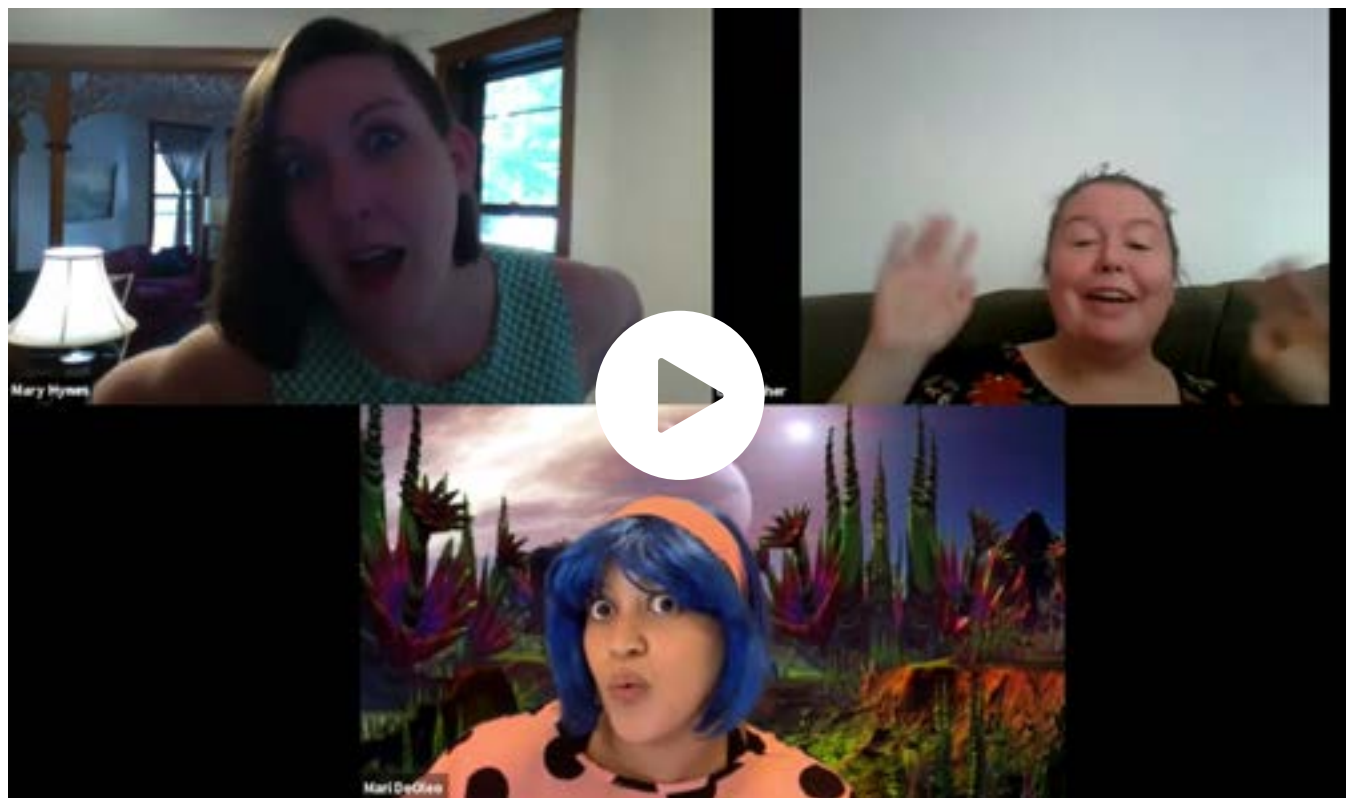
Gingarte Capoeira Chicago | Dance | All Ages

This exciting performance introduces audiences to the history and meaning behind capoeira, a Brazilian cultural art form that beautifully combines dance and music with the acrobatic skills of martial arts. Learn about Brazil's cultural history and how through the creation, preservation, and use of various art forms, Africans fought against slavery and contributed to social equality and justice in Brazil. Today capoeira is Brazil's national sport and is practiced all over the world.

Standard On-Demand: \$225

Click on any of the photos with a play button on the next few pages to see a preview video of the show!

Ready to book a Virtual Performance? Contact performances@urbangateways.org or 312.922.0440 with any questions.



"The Make 'Em Ups" with Chicago Improv Productions

THEATER

MADE-UP MUSICAL

Storytown Improv Theatre | Theater | Grades PreK-5th

From superheroes to undersea adventures, from princesses to dinosaurs, Made-Up Musical takes audiences on a fully improvised musical adventure. Through interactive online features, the audience helps shape the story by providing suggestions and ideas to create a one-of-a-kind show. When the possibilities are endless, no two stories are ever the same!

Custom Live: \$600

THE MAGIC OF THE SPELLBINDER

Walter King Jr. (The Spellbinder) | Theater | All Ages

Having captivated audiences from Las Vegas to the Caribbean Islands, The Spellbinder delivers a theatrical performance designed to stimulate and intrigue audiences of all ages. He performs state-of-the-art magical effects choreographed to lively music. His stylish presentation includes levitation, the use of live doves, and illusions from around the world to provide a truly enriching experience of wonder and amazement.

Custom Live: \$450

Custom On-Demand: \$450

Standard On-Demand: \$200

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THE MAKE 'EM UPS

Chicago Improv Productions | Theater | All Ages

Chicago Improv Productions uses improv games to teach students the rules of improv and how to create characters, settings, and stories. It's the actors who are performing, but the students who shape the improv games with their virtual suggestions. This highly interactive show is popular with students, teachers, and parents alike.

Custom Live: \$500

VOICES OF CHICAGO: SLAM POETRY

Chicago Poetry Center: Poets with Class | Theater | Grades 5-12

Some of Chicago's best poets bring poetry to life through their own original work and inspire students to create their own version of Chicago through writing. Building on Chicago's unique heritage as the stomping grounds of many great writers and the birthplace of modern performance ("Slam") poetry, the poets present an interactive and engaging three-part performance in Voices of Chicago. This show weaves in a brief history of the city's poetic heritage, a showcase of diverse styles of contemporary slam poetry, and an audience-interactive poetry game that culminates in a micro-slam.

Custom Live: \$550

Custom On-Demand: \$550

Standard On-Demand: \$250

TRAVEL TALES

Jeremy Schaefer | Theater | Grades K-5

A good story is sometimes the best way to visit distant corners of the world and the far reaches of the imagination. Travel Tales follows characters on epic journeys filled with adventure and learning! Audiences interact during the story with chat and see their responses inform the show. A hummingbird migrates from Canada to Mexico, a child travels all the way to Timbuktu, and the audience and performer even tour the southern edge of the Sahara. Explore the globe with original stories and virtual interactive activities!

Custom Live: \$400

Custom On-Demand: \$400

Standard On-Demand: \$200



Ready to book a Virtual Performance? Contact performances@urbangateways.org or 312.922.0440 with any questions.

CONNECTIONS TO LEARNING STANDARDS

Urban Gateways Virtual Performances address a variety of National and Illinois Education Standards. The following standards are covered in every Urban Gateways show. Many shows address additional standards; reach out to us today for more detailed information on each show.

National Core Arts Standards

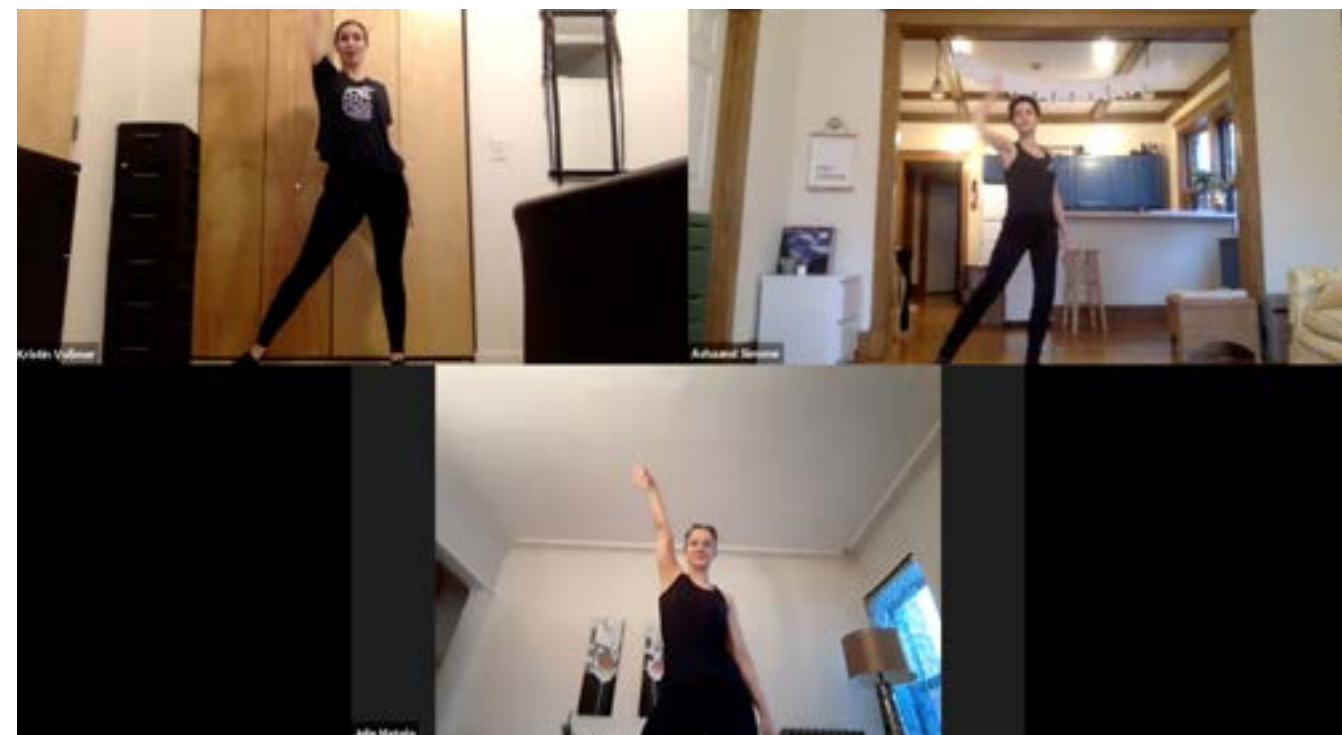
The National Core Arts Standards cover all major arts disciplines and divide arts learning into four areas: creating, performing or presenting, responding, and connecting. By observing Urban Gateways programs, students engage in a handful of these standards including:

Responding

- Anchor Standard #7: Perceive and analyze artistic work
- Anchor Standard #8: Interpret intent and meaning in artistic work

Connecting

- Anchor Standard #11: Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural and historical context to deepen understanding



“The Roots of Black Dance in America” with Joel Hall Dancers

Illinois State Arts Learning Standards

GOAL 25: Know the language of the arts

Through observation, discussion, interpretation and analysis, students learn the “language” of the arts. They learn to understand how others express ideas in dance, drama, music, and visual art forms. In addition to acquiring knowledge essential to performance and production, students become arts consumers (e.g., attending live performances or movies, purchasing paintings or jewelry, or visiting museums) who understand the basic elements and principles underlying artworks and are able to critique them.

GOAL 26: Through creating and performing, understand how works of art are produced

Students acquire skills to produce and perform dance, drama, music and visual art. They learn to shape ideas and emotions into sounds, images, and actions. As students create and perform their own artworks and review the works of others, they become more imaginative, strengthen their problem solving skills and learn to respond to the creativity of others. Creating and performing are at the core of the fine arts. Students also learn about the role of the artist (e.g., dancer, actor, director, script writer, and musician).

GOAL 27: Understand the role of the arts in civilizations, past, and present

The arts are a record of civilizations, past, and present. Artists are influenced by—and influence—the times and places in which they live and work. As students learn through the arts about people and civilizations, they learn about others and themselves. Also, students learn about careers related to this goal (e.g., animator, curator, art historian, sound technician).

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“Voices of Chicago: Slam Poetry” with Chicago Poetry Center’s Poets with Class

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