

A STAR SOCIETY

presents

The 1ST Annual Fundraising

A★STAR GALA

Supporting **dance education**
to enhance the well-being of
children & youth!



A NON-PROFIT SOCIETY

Saturday, March 16, 2024

River Rock Theatre, Richmond, BC

astarsociety.com

Heartfelt thanks to our generous donors

5678 Showtime,
Mariah Rivers
Tanya Aube
Kei Baritugo
Cindy Campbell
Derek Nystrom Personal
Real Estate Corporation
Diaz Combat Sports,
Ryan Diaz
DJ Kool Herc
Everything Wine
Holly Fong
Devinder Singh Gosal
Joe Inkster
Amin Javer
Hyun Young Kim
Philip Kim aka Phil Wizard
Kiwi Productions & Events
Lesia Knowlton
Eva Ming Yee Lai
Glenda Leznoff
Yeuk Yee Li
Arturo & Marcela Manes
Heather O'Donnell
Vivian Paul
Henia & Jack Perel
Liza Perel
Carina Perel-Panar
Vanessa Perel-Panar
Jenalyn Plaza
Brenna Ricci
Christian Ricci
Leslie S. Roque
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Julie Tran
Vancouver Kidsbooks -
Phyllis Simon
Max Wiltshire
Yosef Wosk
Kristi Xing
Nathan & Eliana Zalkow
Lei Zhang



DJ Alibaba

Video A Star Society

Full Ensemble Shine Bright

Master of Ceremonies DJ Flipout

Sapphire Jazz Ice Cream Party

Amethyst Lyrical Infamous Kiss

Ruby Lyrical Refuge

Speakers

Anita Perel-Panar & Jheric Hizon

J2 Hip Hop

Emmy Ballet Solo Follow the Stars

Video Brenna Ricci

Salad

Speaker Ken Costea

Boogalie Moogalies Hip Hop

Emerald Jazz Queens

Ruby Acro Captive

Soup

Gigabots

Video Sunny Lai

Speaker Dr. Kimberly Meredith

Entrée

Pearl Jazz Glam

Elite Hip Hop Deuces

Video Philip Kim (aka Phil Wizard)

Live Auction / Fund A Need

Q&A DJ Kool Herc + Cindy Campbell

Rap Artist Ndidi Cascade

Dessert

Dance Party

A★STAR GALA

Dance Performances

Shine Bright

CHOREOGRAPHERS Mackenzie Anderson, Jheric Hizon, Amanda Ryman, Shea Wonacott, Jenna Escobido, Jayda Bhinder

All dancers, including **Mixed Emotions** Clara Rauser, Justina Knowlton, Kaija Galloway, Janelle Ho, Hayley Hurtado

Ice Cream Party

JAZZ CHOREOGRAPHY Mackenzie Anderson

Sapphire Ellie Hsu, Ellie Middleton, Freja Perel Burrill, Tamina Love, Mila Guo, Noé Priore, Diana Bartashuk

Infamous Kiss

LYRICAL CHOREOGRAPHY Ana Lima Martinez

Amethyst Camille Chen, Olivia Lee, Kayla Gandell, Bianca Ricci, Emilia Grinberg, Alexis Franks, Ophélie Priore

Refuge

LYRICAL CHOREOGRAPHY Amanda Ryman

Ruby Emily Davoudian, Ayla Perel Burrill, Justina Knowlton, Asha Loewen, Quinn Gardecki, Adrianna Chen, Clara Rauser, Lois Yip, Claire Sun

J2

HIP HOP CHOREOGRAPHY Jheric Hizon

J2 Harper Cheema, Kyle Chen, Eden Hsu, Raymond Huang, York Li, Juno McCormack, David Song, Scarlett Soo, Clara Swanson

Follow the Stars

BALLET CHOREOGRAPHY Sarah Po Ting Yeung
Emmy Polsky

Boogalie Moogalies

HIP HOP CHOREOGRAPHY Jayda Bhinder

Boogalie Moogalies James Comey, Benjamin Goas, Nicholas Lau,
Brayden Perdido, Skylar Saini, Aubrey Woodhouse

Queens

JAZZ CHOREOGRAPHY Amanda Ryman

Emerald Ophélie Priore, Stella Hipp, Julia Gurney, Jillian Plotkin

Pearl Alexis Manongdo, Emmy Polsky, Madeline Papineau

Captive

ACRO CHOREOGRAPHY Mackenzie Anderson

Ruby Emily Davoudian, Ayla Perel Burrill, Justina Knowlton, Asha Loewen,
Quinn Gardecki, Adrianna Chen, Clara Rauser, Lois Yip, Claire Sun

Gigabots

Jayda Bhinder, Lavinia De Leeuw, Kahari Lezama, Humuza Bazira,
Deeya Sharma, Olivia Rockall, Damon Gabert, Maya Perkins,
Elyse Faelnar

Glam

JAZZ CHOREOGRAPHY Shea Wonacott

Pearl Alexis Manongdo, Emmy Polsky, Madeline Papineau

Deuces

HIP HOP CHOREOGRAPHY Jenna Escobido

Elite Malaika Bernard-Massey, Amelia Chong, Lukas Goas, Ella Heed,
Alyssa Huynh, Bella Lopez, Jade Mirano, Sebastien Mirano, Miller Moar,
Sienna Scott, Amber Tuason-Bridgman, Mateo Visserot, Levi Wagner,
Vicky Zhang

Esteemed Guests



DJ Kool Herc

The Legendary DJ Kool Herc is a Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Inductee, Grammy Award Winner and New York Living Landmark. DJ Kool Herc is credited as the

Founder of Hip-Hop. His mastery at the turntables is known worldwide, as are his positive contributions to the evolution of Hip-Hop culture. DJ Kool Herc is a musical innovator who developed a method for keeping the music going during

breaks in the records by using two turntables. This created the illusion of one long break for the B-Boys to show off their skills. Until Herc labeled them so, there were no B-Boys. Herc also brought the Jamaican style of calling out the names of the dancers – the sort of rhythmical pattern that would eventually be set to rhymes and is now known as rapping. Herc’s style and sound caught on and was copied by many DJs and MCs.

Herc was highlighted in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Museum. The People’s Hall of Fame Award was given to Herc for establishing the roots of Hip-Hop in New York. Herc portrayed himself in the Hollywood movie “Beat Street,” produced by Harry Belafonte and David Picker and directed by Stan Lathan.



Cindy Campbell

The accomplished First Lady of Hip-Hop, Cindy Campbell, stands as the driving force behind its inception. It was her vision that led to a back-to-school event in the recreation room of 1520 Sedgwick Avenue in the Bronx on August 11, 1973. This party, presided over by

Cindy’s renowned sibling, DJ Kool Herc, would be heralded as the genesis of Hip-Hop, cementing her status as the

pioneering Hip-Hop promoter. Cindy’s acumen in business management has empowered her to negotiate key agreements, not only for Herc, but also other artistic luminaries. She frequently lectures on the genesis of Hip-Hop and reflects on her crucial involvement in its emergence. The United States of America Congressional Records Proceedings and Debate of the 110th Congress First Session recognized Cindy and Herc for their achievements.

Guest Speakers



Ken Costea

Ken has been a teacher for 24 years, spending the last 19 at Thunderbird Elementary School. He teaches all the PE classes from K-7 and is also a teacher-librarian.

Ken is a past President of the Vancouver Elementary Physical Activity Association (VEPAA), which coordinates all extra-curricular sports for elementary students in Vancouver, and is a recipient of a Lifetime Achievement Award from VEPAA. He has served on the Board of Directors of the Thunderbird Community Centre from 2014–2024. He also provides support and insight to the staff for the programs and services that are developed for the students and their families.



Dr. Kimberly Meredith

Dr. Kimberly Meredith is a lover of dance, writer of poems, educator of peace and researcher of empathy.

She completed her PhD in the Department of Language and Literacy Education at UBC focusing on exploring the power of multiple languages and modalities to build empathy, empowerment, and expressiveness across diversity.

She has collaborated with youth and young adults in Japan, onboard the Peace Boat, at the Pearson Seminar on Youth Leadership, in Richmond, in Vancouver, and at UBC, including as the director of the Heart-Mind-Body Collective at Boogaloo Academy, which is A Star Society's host studio.

She is currently a faculty member at Pearson College, teaching English and dance; her passion is helping youth find their voice, discover their inner change-maker, and transform their worlds.

DJ, MC & Rap Artist



Al Lamons (DJ Alibaba Vancouver)

Al Lamons has entertained audiences as an on-air radio personality, tv host, DJ, and promoter since 1985. He has DJed in Vancouver's hottest nightclubs and hosted concerts and parties for Boys II Men, Backstreet Boys, Kanye West, & more. Al has worked for CFRO, 96.1 FM, Z95.3 & The Beat. Currently, he is a DJ/host for nightlife venues, corporate events, and weddings, as well as a philanthropist and community leader.

WEB djalibabavancouver.com **@**[@djalibabavancouver](https://twitter.com/djalibabavancouver)



DJ Flipout

A highlight of the Vancouver music scene, DJ Flipout is best known from the Beat 94.5, a gig where he remixes the hits live in studio for The 5 O'clock Traffic Jam. But don't let the respectability of a steady job fool you, this Vancouver DJ is an internationally renowned music buff whose eclectic and cosmopolitan style has won him many local and national MC and DJ competitions.

@[@Flipout](https://twitter.com/Flipout)



Nndi Cascade

Nndi Cascade is a Vancouver-born-and-based hip hop artist who is of Nigerian/Italian/Irish heritage. A songwriter, vocalist, educator, facilitator and curator, Nndi has showcased her music, from classrooms to stadiums globally, opening for Wu-Tang Clan, De La Soul, Digable Planets & Femi Kuti.

Nndi facilitates youth empowerment workshops and hip hop education school programs, using hip hop as a medium for healthy self-expression. She is a cultural curator and ambassador for the Ethós Lab youth empowerment organization.

WEB ndid cascade.ca **@**[@ndid cascade music](https://twitter.com/ndid cascade music)



Anita Perel-Panar, Executive Director, and Jheric Hizon, Artistic Director, are the two principals of A Star Society. Their shared philosophies and vision about collaborating, building community, imparting meaningful messages and bringing up the next generation of artists are the foundation of A Star's goals. For more information, please visit our website at astarsociety.com or call us at **604.805.0558**.



Anita Perel-Panar, M.A.

Anita has educated children in music, dance and drama for over 40 years. Her fascination with creativity, imagination, motivation, human nature and actualizing potential led to a Masters with a thesis on The Development of Artistic Awareness. She is thrilled to work with talented and dedicated teachers who share her vision and join her in providing excellent dance education.



Jheric Hizon

Jheric is a pioneer in the Vancouver street dance scene and has taught many of Vancouver's hip hop teachers. He maintains a hectic schedule as an international instructor, choreographer, adjudicator and performer. Amongst many notable career highlights, he was chosen to choreograph and perform in the Vancouver Olympics 2010 Closing Ceremonies.



A NON-PROFIT SOCIETY

A Star Society for the Performing & Fine Arts **non-profit** provides exceptional community **dance programs**, enriching the lives of thousands of children and youth since 2009. Our programs include school hip hop workshops; low-cost drop-ins; free studio space for dance artists; and bursaries for children and youth with financial need to participate in valuable dance education.

Through **excellence** in dance education and its far-reaching benefits, – like improved self-esteem, confidence, motivation, friendships and community-building – we create opportunities for students to shine. We're passionate about sharing the **love of dance** and believe in its power to **transform** us.

We need your support!

Please consider a **one-time** or **monthly donation** to A Star Society through Charitable Impact.

astarsociety@gmail.com 604.805.0558



Heartfelt thanks with much appreciation to

A STAR SOCIETY BOARD MEMBERS

Lenore Rowntree, President
Tony Ciammaichella, Vice-President
Ruth Huberman, Treasurer
Bryan Wadson, Secretary

AIA ARTS IN ACTION SOCIETY

Danny Steinberg, Claudine Pommier, Naomi Pommier Steinberg

OUR GALA EVENT VOLUNTEERS

Brenna Ricci, Amanda Adamski, Jewel Mirano, Leslie S. Roque, Kei Baritugo,
Phitchaya Chan, Amelia Chong, Anna Chong, Katie Chuang, Roshanac Imami-Heed,
Lesia Knowlton, Isaac Lam, Ginger Li, Hayden Lim, Xiomara Lopez, Ingrid Love,
Jessica Ma, Michelle Plotkin, Laetitia Priore, Kathleen Saini, Bobby Soor,
Christine Stym, Ceci Zhu

OUR AMAZING TEACHERS & CHOREOGRAPHERS

Mackenzie Anderson, Jayda Bhinder, Jenna Escobido, Jheric Hizon,
Ana Ximena Martinez, Amanda Ryman, Shea Wonacott, Sarah Po Ting Yeung

All of our fantastic **DANCERS** and their **FAMILIES**

KIWI PRODUCTIONS & EVENTS

Wayne Hsu, Event Director
Lauren Chen, Event Coordinator
Candace Li, Stage Manager
Christy Tong, Director of Photography
Sandy Gum, Technical and Marketing Support

GRAPHIC DESIGN Rosanna Hanser

COMPUTER SERVICES Doug Casey

VENUE DECOR Anthony Crosfield & Jewel Mirano

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

Amanda Adamski, Mackenzie Anderson, Kei Baritugo, Lesia Knowlton, Ana Martinez,
Jewel Mirano, Avie Perel-Panar, Brenna Ricci, Leslie S. Roque, Amanda Ryman

Avie, Carina, Vanessa & Lara Perel-Panar, Liza Perel, Caren Perel, Josh Burrill,
Adam Goluboff, Ethan Schwartz, Yoda

**Tonight was made possible because of your generosity, kindness, hard work and
dedication. It was such a great pleasure working with all of you!**

Thank you!

Heartfelt thanks
and much appreciation to
our generous sponsors



Your support means the world to us and the children
whose lives are impacted by our programs!