

# DANCE AS A VEHICLE TO SUCCESS

Making a difference across Miami-Dade communities.

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THOMAS ARMOUR YOUTH BALLET





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5818 SW 73 Street Miami, FL 33143

(305)667-5543 | [TAYBballet.org](http://TAYBballet.org)





## DANCE AS A VEHICLE TO SUCCESS

In addition to its flagship dance school in South Miami, Thomas Armour Youth Ballet provides comprehensive after-school programs in four neighborhoods across Miami-Dade County. Using a vibrant combination of the arts, academic instruction and holistic strategies, TAYB helps propel students toward new choices and opportunities.



## THE FORMULA



Deliver the highest quality Arts and Education after school and summer camp programs.



Build trust with the children and families.



Build long term life skills.



Remove obstacles to opportunity and success.

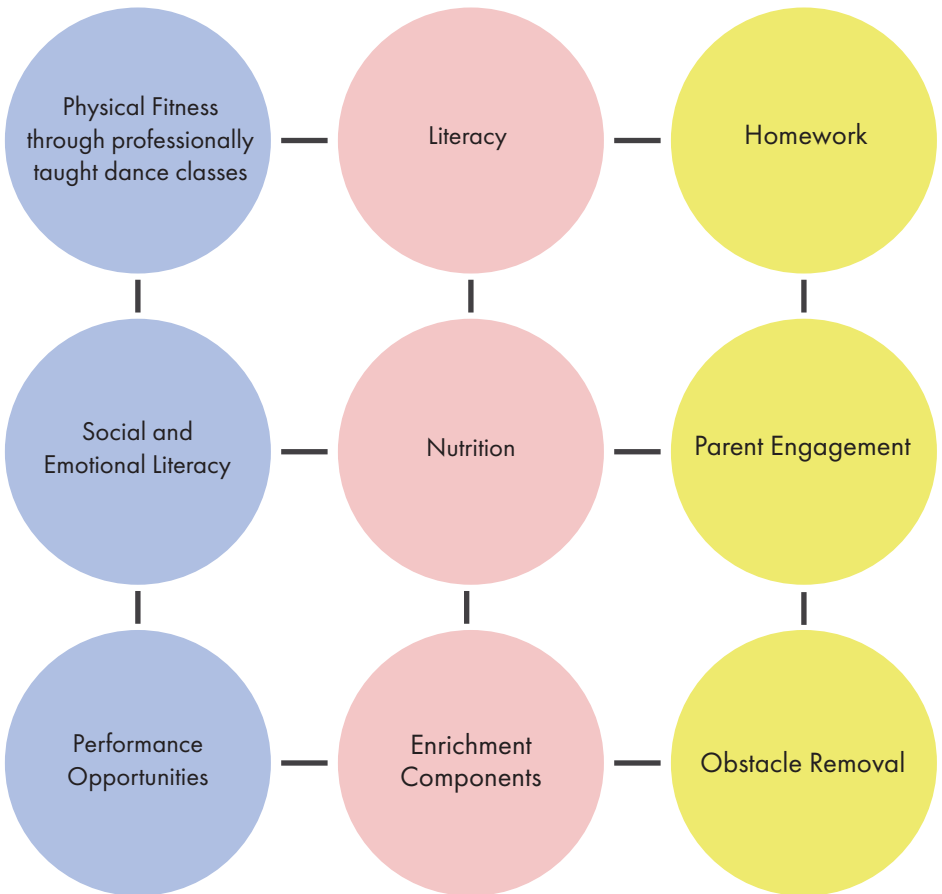


The result is educated, productive and successful citizens of the world.





## STRATEGIC PROGRAMMING COMPONENTS





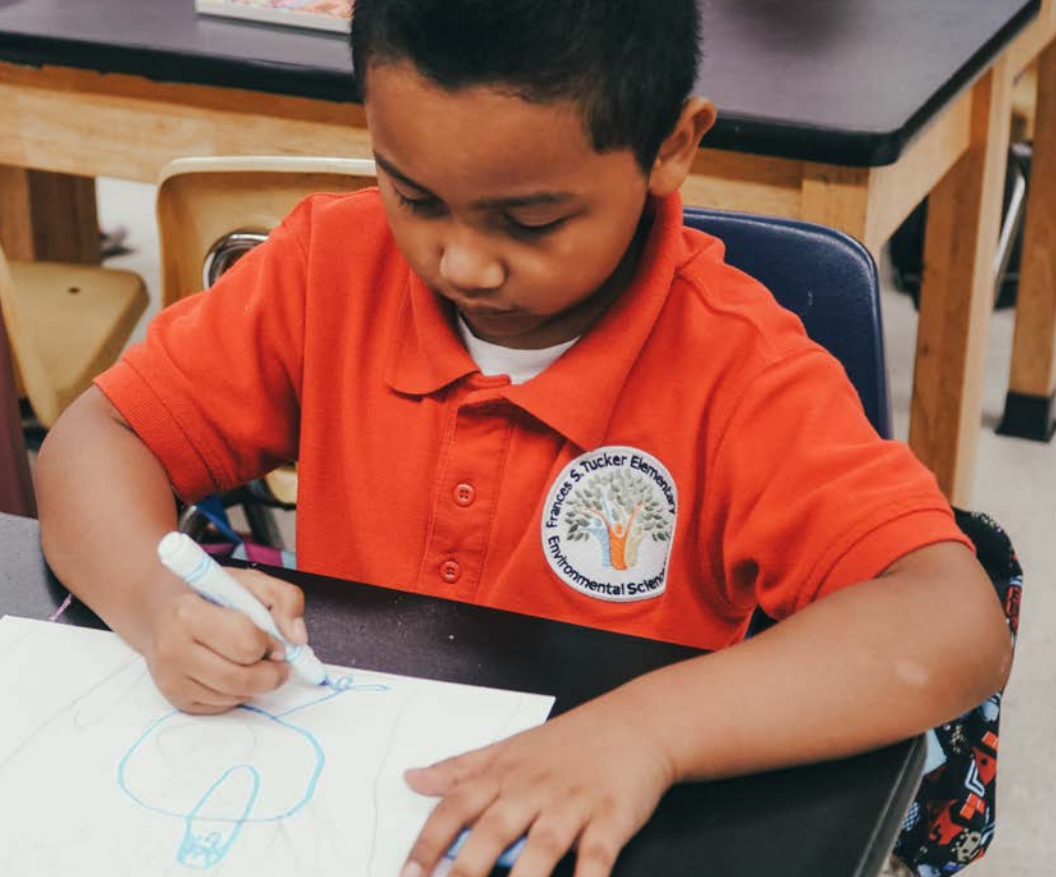
## DANCE

TAYB delivers 300 hours of dance classes to each child annually across five sites.

The genres include Classical Ballet, West African, Hip Hop, Contemporary, and Tap year-round, with Bollywood, Salsa, Broadway, Jazz, and Flamenco added during the summer.

Over 500 pairs of ballet shoes, tap shoes, flamenco shoes, and uniforms are delivered free of charge each year.

A 2011 study of fine arts education by the Missouri Alliance of Arts Education found that: "Student participation in the fine arts is correlated with positive discipline, attendance, and graduation rates, and standardized test scores in Math and Communication Arts."



## READING & LITERACY

TAYB is committed to helping children finish the year reading at grade level or above.

TAYB has designed a reading intervention approach that identifies struggling students at the start of the year by assessing each student's reading performance. TAYB's literacy experts create target groups and deliver high quality reading lessons and intervention using the evidence-based curricula of KidzLit and SIPPS (Systematic Instruction in Phonological Awareness, Phonics, and Sight Words).

TAYB continues to evaluate the delivery of this component by partnering with experts in the field such as Collaborative Classroom, Florida International University's Reading Explorers, and Nova University's Project Rise.





## | THE RESULTS

Reading performance is measured using evidence-based tools, ORF and iMaze . Data is collected and reported for every child three times during the school year and twice during the summer.

**95%**

of our children that began the year reading below grade level, finished the year at grade level or above as fluency and comprehension improve.





## HOMESCHOOL ASSISTANCE

Homework completion is directly correlated to children's academic performance.

Many students struggle with homework completion for reasons that include:

- English is the second language at home
- Poor comprehension skills requiring one on one tutoring
- Working parents who have limited time at the end of the day

For this reason, TAYB's certified teachers dedicate an hour each afternoon to offering homework assistance. During this time, TAYB's team is able to identify areas of need for students as well as identify students who may be falling behind academically with the goal of providing assistance and support.

1,900

hours of homework assistance are delivered each year.



## SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL SKILLS

Social Emotional Learning is the umbrella under which all other components fall.

TAYB has adopted Conscious Discipline for training staff and creating behavior management policies. Conscious Discipline is an evidence-based, trauma-informed approach that provides an array of behavior management strategies and classroom structures that teachers can use to turn everyday situations into learning opportunities.

Additionally, students participate in a daily meditation practice at the beginning of each dance class, as well as breathing and tapping exercises that take place at the beginning, middle and end of each academic class. During reading class, a gratitude journal is used for students to document their day and build a gratitude practice. Through these practices, students learn to center themselves and manage emotional responses.

Weekly mindfulness and positive growth mindset classes have been added this year to the schedule. TAYB understands that in order to reach children, their emotional well-being has to be the priority. By creating safe, loving spaces, TAYB staff members earn trust, and provide an environment in which participants can flourish.



## NUTRITION

Children receive daily breakfast and lunch during the 8-week summer camp and daily snacks during the afterschool program. Meals and snacks are provided in collaboration with MDCPS Department of Food & Nutrition. Summer Camp includes weekly cooking and nutrition classes through the Flipany organization

“Children who experience food insecurity early in life do not have an equal opportunity to grow-up healthy and thrive, making food insecurity a driver of continued racial and economic inequities in early childhood.”

**Center for the Study of Social Policy “Food Insecurity in Childhood”**  
**[www.cssp.org](http://www.cssp.org)**



## OBSTACLE REMOVAL

Through our community network, TAYB is able to offer assistance and resources to families facing any kind of challenge. These resources include:

- Tax Preparation
- Health Care Enrollment
- Adult Education Courses
- Parenting Classes
- Bereavement Counseling
- Immigration Services
- Testing for Learning Disabilities
- One on One Counseling for Children
- Family Counseling
- Medical and Dental Care





## ENRICHMENT

TAYB's summer camp and enrichment activities fill the gaps that many children experience outside of academics and the arts. These activities include:

- Art Classes
- Music Classes
- Cooking Classes
- Spoken Word
- Field Trips
- Library Bus
- Anti Bullying Workshops



“ Thomas Armour has made such a huge impact in my career, If it had not been for this program I wouldn't have made it this far. Every milestone that I've accomplished in my career was made possible because of the support of TAYB. Because of the countless hours invested in my future, I want to be able to inspire someone to never give up, the same way this program never gave up on me. I will forever be grateful for the Thomas Armour family that i have become a part of. ”

**- Destiny Delancy, TAYB Alumna**



# TAYB'S MAJOR SPONSORS



The William R. Kenan, Jr.  
Charitable Trust



James Deering Danielson  
FOUNDATION



## 2019-2020 SEASON DONORS

TAYB's programming would not be possible without the generous support of its donors.

On behalf of all the staff, students, and board at TAYB, thank you.

### \$1,000,000+

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of Miami-Dade County

### \$10,000+

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### \$1,000+

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### \$100,000+

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