

“Grateful for the experience”

From Ms. Farmer, Brooklynn’s Mother

Brooklynn began studying ballet with Above The Clouds (ATC) at age 8, when she was exploring various extracurricular activities to help her discover her interests. After a semester of ballet, she grew tired of rehearsals and decided to quit. I didn’t like the idea, because I could see within her the grace and poise of a dancer, but decided to not force her to stay. But I was determined that she attend the ATC Spring Recital, so she could witness first-hand what she let go of. She attended and attentively watched from the audience. Before it was over, she told me in a very lively tone that she wanted to dance again. Seeing the complete production sparked something within her, energizing a renewed desire and passion for dance, and she’s been dancing with ATC ever since.

Brooklynn is now a high-school-aged and level 7/8 pointe ballet student. Over the years, I’ve witnessed her develop solid ballet technique, along with immense self-discipline and attention to detail, which complements and heightens her academic and musical abilities. Her involvement with ATC has produced within her an ability to plan and prioritize, and has also boosted her confidence and endurance. Moreover, ATC is a faith-based arts program that encourages her to live a life that glorifies and honors God. Brooklynn is grateful for the experience and opportunity to dance and grow with ATC and looks forward to continued opportunities to minister the Gospel through dance.



Inspiring Spring Recital

Our spring recital, held on Friday, May 26 at Destiny Youth Plaza, was so inspiring. This year’s recital “Freedom In Unity” once again featured a graduating student (Trinity Cross) performing her solo. We are grateful for the 660 people who attended, including students, friends, families, and sponsors. And we thank those who participated in our Culver’s fundraiser. A special “thank you” to Marketing Service, Inc. for sponsoring our recital.



In the News

Above The Clouds was featured on 88Nine Radio: “A Milwaukee nonprofit is helping youth connect to the arts through a variety of programs — from ballet, to martial arts, to spoken word, to vocal performance — at its Riverwest headquarters. Above the Clouds, a Christian faith-based education organization, has offered classes free of charge to youth for the last 15 years, under the leadership of Founder Linda Wade.” Hear more online at <https://radiomilwaukee.org/story/above-clouds-riverwest/>

THE ATC MISSION: To expose children ages 5-17 to the creative arts/movement – free of charge – in a safe and loving atmosphere, in order to expand their minds for appreciation of the arts, for personal enhancements and the possibility of pursuing a career in the arts while instilling biblical truths.

“For as the heavens are higher than the earth so are my ways higher than your ways...” Isaiah 55:9

AT THE BALLET

Some level 7/8 ballet students, along with instructors Caitlin San Felipe and Lindsey Kelly, watched the Milwaukee Ballet's rehearsal for "La Sylphide."



On February 21, Milwaukee Ballet members came to Above The Clouds to put on a short production involving ballet and science. Students were invited to join in at the end.

GREAT PERFORMANCE

In March, our level 7/8 ballet students, along with their instructor Ms. Lindsey, once again had an opportunity to dance at a Milwaukee Bucks game. Watch the performance at <https://youtu.be/nHRdQ9mO34w>



IN THE COMMUNITY

Fundraiser

On June 4, Above The Clouds was a **recipient of a fundraiser** at Royal Gas station. Thank you to Royal Gas (Ayan) for supporting our arts education program. Pictured below are board member Lauryn Burkhalter and board vice chair Bryan Garcia.

The **next fundraiser will be July 15** from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Come out and fill up at Royal Gas, 2012 W. College Ave., Milwaukee, while supporting the arts!



Neighborhood Walk

Above The Clouds, with help from staff, parents, board members, and Concordia University students (pictured below), walked the neighborhood of several of our sites to **share information about our arts education** program.



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