

# African Arts in the Park 2010

## Dance and Cultural Hut Biographies



### David A. Burton Saturday & Sunday's Master of Ceremony

**CONFIRMED**

**From:** Pittsburgh

**Hosting:** Saturday, August 14

**Bio:** We are inspired to collaborate with you/your agency. Global Wellness was designed to provide **M**ental exploration, **A**daptation training, and **P**hysical/spiritual counsel. This holistic treatment model (**MAP**), connects individuals, families, and organizations to their defined wellness! Who are our clients? *Individuals*, and *families* in need of individual, family, marriage, and group therapies. *Organizations* looking to strengthen their succession planning, group decision making, preventative management, professional conduct, cultural competence, supervision, business planning, staff training and improving organizational programming. Keynote speaking is also provided for events and company retreats/workshops. Global Wellness looks forward to providing you/your agency with,

"The **M.A.P** to a better YOU!" I look forward to working with you to achieve your goals.



### Mary Miller Dance Company **CONFIRMED** Genre: Modern Dance

**From:** Pittsburgh, PA

**Performing:** Saturday, August 14

**Members:** **MillerDANCE Dancers:** Angelina DeVengencie, Mandi Baney, Eileen Martini, Mary Miller

**Apprentices:** Rachel Mess, Lamar Williams

**Bio:** Concert performances, site-specific works, educational residencies, master classes and lecture/demonstrations bring the world of modern dance to you and your community in a way, which involves you.

**Performance Start Time:** 11:00am



### Berna and La Belle Sultana **CONFIRMED** Genre: Middle Eastern & North African Dance

**From:** Pittsburgh, PA

**Performing:** Saturday, August 14

**Members:** La Belle Sultana: Michele Staffen, Dory Dominguez, Angie Mitchell, Beth Chatham, Holly Jancart, Susan Goelz, Jacque Townsend, Christine Wilson, Yvonne Finney

**Bio:** Berna is a respected instructor, choreographer and performer of Middle Eastern Dance who is based in Pittsburgh, PA, recently forming her student performance troupe, La Belle Sultana. The

**NOTE:** All Performers and stage personalities are subject to change.

magic of the dance caught Berna's eye nearly a decade ago, and she has been shimmying ever since, performing dances of the Silk Road from North Africa to the Far East.

**Performance Start Time:** 12:00pm



## **Pittsburgh Black Theatre Dance Ensemble** CONFIRMED Genre: African

**Dance**

**From:** Pittsburgh, PA **Performing:** Saturday, August 14

**Members:** Chrisala M Brown, Artistic Director, Denetta Benjamin, Celeste Houston, Erin Perry, Lakeisha Wolf, Oba Wells- Poet

**Bio:** Formed in 1970 by the late Bob Johnson, the Pittsburgh Black Theatre Dance Ensemble celebrates the legacy that was forged by trailblazers in our community.

The Ensemble continues to be a voice to and from our community. (facebook.com)

**Performance Start Time:** 1:00pm



## **Kelly E. Parker- ABAFASI** CONFIRMED Genre: West African Drumming

**From:** Pittsburgh, PA **Performing:** Saturday, August 14

**Members:** Kelly E. Parker, Ayanah Moor, LaVerne Baker Hotep, Lois Toni "Teelo" McClendon

**Bio:** Formally united in 2009, ABAFASI brings life to our performances through drumming, song, poetry, percussion, storytelling and our collective experiences. We are Sistuhs in creativity, spirit, struggle and grace.

**Performance Start Time:** 2:00pm



## **Staycee Pearl Dance Project-(SPdp)** CONFIRMED Genre: Contemporary Dance

**From:** Pittsburgh, PA **Performing:** Saturday, August 14

**Members:** Kerri Alexander, Jamie Murphy, Cassie Shafer, Renee Smith, Amanda Vavra, Laura Warren, Herman "Soy Sos" Pearl, Staycee R. Pearl

**Bio:** The newly formed STAYCEE PEARL dance project (SPdp) was initiated to experiment with innovative conceptual possibilities, in relation to aesthetically pure representation through movement, while acting as interpreter and mirror of culture and community. (myspace.com)

**Performance Start Time:** 3:00pm

**NOTE:** All Performers and stage personalities are subject to change.



**Dr. Goddess** CONFIRMED

**Genre:** Performing Arts

**From:**

Pittsburgh, PA

**Performing:** Saturday, August 14

**Bio:**

Affectionately known as "Dr. Goddess," Kimberly C. Ellis, Ph.D., is a scholar, artist, activist, creative organizer and entrepreneur. As an award-winning poet, playwright and performing artist, she is presently on tour with, "Dr. Goddess!: A One Woman Show" and its sequel, the ensemble production of "Dr. Goddess Goes to Jail, a Spoken Word, Musical Comedy (Unfortunately) Based on a True Story" is now available on DVD. Dr. Goddess gives lecture performances, workshops and master classes throughout the United States and has done so in Jamaica, Ghana, China and Dubai, UAE. ([sales@drgoddess.com](mailto:sales@drgoddess.com))

**Performance Start Time:** 4:00pm



**Mz. Klassi Dance Company** CONFIRMED

**Genre:** Hip Hop

**From:**

Pittsburgh, PA

**Performing:** Saturday, August 14

**Bio:**

Mz. Klassi is a group of BEAUTIFUL, TALENTED AND KLASSI YOUNG WOMEN brought together to form a new style of dance. Mz. Klassi is where Dance meets Class. Mz. K does every style of dance (hip hop, modern, contemporary, and liturgical). MK also teaches master classes and dance lessons. MK not only dances, but they model and are role models for young girls and even peers. MK is designed to not only entertain but to help improve our communities as well through the spirit of dance. MK participates in community services and mentors young girls so that they can build confidence, and esteem.

**Performance Start Time:** 5:00pm



**Rhythm of Life Inc.** CONFIRMED

**Genre:** Line Dance

**From:**

Pittsburgh, PA

**Performing:** Saturday, August 14

**Bio:**

Roland Ford, a 61 year old Pittsburgh native, has really set Pittsburgh on fire with his high impact dance classes, enthusiasm, creative talent and energy. Roland has motivated all age groups to stay in shape and have fun at the same time, with his soul line dancing classes and a Healthy Lifestyle 2010 program which encourages fitness, health and wellness. Roland is certified as a group exercise instructor and is also a DJ, Choreographer and Marathon Runner. He can be seen at many community events, Healthcare centers, night clubs and has been featured on KDKA TV and has multiple videos on YouTube. ([rollinstone352@live.com](mailto:rollinstone352@live.com))

**Performance Start Time:** 6:00pm



**Sheeree Buchanan-Zumba CONFIRMED**

**Genre:** Zumba-Latin Dance Fitness

**From:**

Pittsburgh, PA

**Performing:** Sunday, August 15

**Bio:**

Beto Perez founder of Zumba Fitness, combination of various Latin dances with aerobic exercise is a great option to get fit. Teach Zumba since 2007, My goal is to motivate people of all backgrounds to become healthier and enjoy doing so. ([www.zumba-sb.com](http://www.zumba-sb.com))

**Performance Start Time:** 11:00am



**ABAFASI West African Drumming CONFIRMED**

**Genre:** West African Drumming

**From:**

Pittsburgh, PA

**Performing:** Sunday, August 15

**Members:**

Kelly E. Parker, Ayanah Moor, LaVerne Baker Hotep, Lois Toni "Teelo" McClendon

**Bio:**

Formally united in 2009. ABAFASI brings life to our performances through Drumming, song, poetry, percussion, Storytelling and our collective experiences. We are Sistuhs in creativity, spirit, struggle and grace.

**Performance Start Time:** 12:00pm



**Ryan Mitchell's Salsa Dance CONFIRMED**

**Genre:** Salsa Dancing

**From:**

Pittsburgh, PA

**Performing:** Sunday, August 15

**Bio:**

Ryan Mitchell is one of the most popular and recognized dancers in Pittsburgh and has been a visible member of the vibrant Pittsburgh Latin scene for several years. Recently, Ryan was one of several local professional dancers to participate in the Pittsburgh Dancing with the Celebrities charity event, taking home the gold with his partner Jennifer Antkowiak of KDKA."

**Performance Start Time:** 1:00pm



**ABOUBACAR CAMARA CONFIRMED**

**Genre:** West African

**From:**

Guinea, West Africa

**Performing:** Sunday, August 15

**Bio:**

Aboubacar "Oscar" Camara choreographer, dancer, drummer and master teacher hails from Guinea, West Africa. Mr. Camara spent nearly a decade with Les Ballets Africains as choreographer and lead dancer, in addition to 16 more years spent working with the national

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ballet companies of Senegal and Ivory Coast. Currently, he is the artistic director of Guinea West African Drum and Dance Ensemble, based in Pittsburgh.

**Performance Start Time:** 2:00pm



## **Hill Dance Academy Theatre-(HDAT) CONFIRMED** Genre: Dance: West African

**From:** Pittsburgh, PA

**Performing:** Sunday, August 15

**Members:** Ayisha A. Morgan-Lee, Patrice Nicole Rice, Oronde Sharif

**Bio:** *Hill Dance Academy Theatre (HDAT) Home of Ju.B.Lation Spirit Filled Feet's* mission is to develop and train dancers in Black dance traditions, expand knowledge and contributions of Black Dance traditions and create emerging dance artists who will sustain dance in the Black community. *HDAT's* developmentally designed curriculum is rooted in Black traditions of dance.

**Performance Start Time:** 3:00pm



"TEMUJIN"  
The Storyteller

## **Temujin- Rumba Dance CONFIRMED**

**Genre:** Rumba Dance

**From:** Pittsburgh, PA

**Performing:** Sunday, August 15

**Bio:** A performer/educator since 1968, and lists talents that include lecturer, workshop developer, musician, instrument maker. Temujin presents a unique and EDU-TAINING program of **family oriented, audience participatory** storytelling. All of this is done in the ancient tradition of the "Itinerant African Bard" hailing crowds with his talking drum.

**Performance Start Time:** 4:00pm



[www.hiphoponlock.org](http://www.hiphoponlock.org)

## **Hip Hop on L.O.C.K. CONFIRMED**

**Genre:** Hip Hop, R&B

**From:** Pittsburgh, PA

**Performing:** Sunday, August 15

**Bio:** The Hip Hop On L.O.C.K. Project is an arts education program that teaches youth ages 8 to 18 through a mock record label in which they all have an executive position. The students performing today will be presenting their original works of art that were developed through this 8 week program.

**Performance Start Time:** 5:00pm



## **Rhythm of Life Inc. CONFIRMED**

**Genre:** Line Dance

**From:** Pittsburgh, PA

**Performing:** Sunday, August 15

**Bio:** Roland Ford, a 61 year old Pittsburgh native, has really set Pittsburgh on fire with his high

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impact dance classes, enthusiasm, creative talent and energy. Roland has motivated all age groups to stay in shape and have fun at the same time, with his soul line dancing classes and a Healthy Lifestyle 2010 program which encourages fitness, health and wellness. Roland is certified as a group exercise instructor and is also a DJ, Choreographer and Marathon Runner. He can be seen at many community events, Healthcare centers, night clubs and has been featured on KDKA TV and has multiple videos on YouTube. ([rollinstone352@live.com](mailto:rollinstone352@live.com))

**Performance Start Time:** 5:35pm

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