

Life Change Ballroom Program Overview

In-School Program

We use the medium of ballroom dance to mentor the students in our In-School program. They will learn all five dance controls as well as proper dance etiquette, escort position, how to ask for a dance, and how to escort a lady on/off the dance floor.



You can sponsor your own school for \$5,000 per year or \$2,500 per semester. We have several schools waiting for funding.

Our ballroom instructors double as mentors using the Marva Collins approach—building kids up with higher expectations. The end result is in the testimonies we receive from teachers, principals and parents. Attendance is up, test scores are up, bullying is down and so are the discipline referrals. In some cases, discipline referrals have diminished completely as a result of our program. And, the kids? They're having *FUN!* Our 12-week (24 class) ballroom program for the school year is \$5,000/year or \$2,500 per semester for classes with 40 or fewer students. We meet for one hour/twice a week. At the end of our first semester, our top eight 5th grade schools will participate in our competition held each December.

"I just wanted to thank you and the teachers for the Ballroom dancing. It has already been a life-changing experience for some of our students. In just one week, one of my most difficult students has been transformed. He has become a leader in the classroom and is now doing class work, staying awake, and strives to get along with others. I have never seen such a change! He is so excited about the possibility of competitions, that it is all he talks about." Susan Good, Teacher, Willow Brook Elementary

End-of-Year Competition

Each December, approximately 125 children perform and compete in different styles of ballroom dance to earn the title of "Life Change Ballroom Champions"



Each competitor earns a ribbon and a gift bag. Each of the competing 8 schools receives a trophy for getting into the finals and we also have 10 individual trophies for the winning couples from 5 different styles of dance.

"I noticed at graduation yesterday that many students mentioned that the ballroom program was their best memory at Quail Creek Elementary School. I hope that all students will have the opportunity to participate in this excellent activity every single year. The benefits to self-esteem are outstanding and it is such a unique way to reach children." -Judy Garrett, Grandmother (excerpt of her letter to principal of Quail Creek Elementary)

The winning school earns and retains possession of a 3½ foot "traveling trophy" until a new winner is determined by the next year's competition. We want to keep this event free for the families and, in order to do that, we must fund all theatre and labor costs. We also purchase and donate the dance costumes (which double as street clothes) for all our competitors and we also provide dinner for all the participants and volunteers.



See Competition Event Brochure for available sponsorships

Life Change Ballroom at the Arts Festival



During our second semester, our In-School program students perform at the Arts Festival. This is another event where we provide and donate the boys' tee-shirts/pants and the girls' dance skirts, leotards and tights to the dancers. We have students from 5th grade through high school performing at the Arts Festival. This is also another event that is free for their friends and families to attend.

Arts Festival Sponsorship (only one available) at \$3,000 gives your company representation and public credit as our presenting sponsor for this event and mention on our publications and website.



"Before I came to Life Change Ballroom, I really wasn't a very good kid—I definitely had some problems in some areas. Now I have more respect for the things I get in life. I see how much the people with Life Change care for me. They have opened doors for me that wouldn't have been opened without them."
- Deondre Jackson, scholarship student Y.E.L.P. program



Youth Empowerment & Leadership Program

Through our In-School Program, we have met incredible students who want to continue dancing and performing but would never be able to do that were it not for our Youth Empowerment & Leadership program. We have already offered 60+ children from our In-School program to join this program. We spend at least 5 hours each Saturday with these students- the first 3 - 4 hours are ballroom lessons and the last hour we use for book/film clubs or to bring in special speakers to expose our students to different professions. We encourage them to meet different people doing different jobs and we ask our speakers to weave character training into their talk whenever possible.

We are empowering and training these students to become mentors to the younger students in their neighborhoods and schools. This dance troupe also represents our program as they perform around town as the "Life Change Ballroom Dancers". So far, their biggest audience has been 6,700 people at the Cox Center, however, they have their sights set on Ellen and Oprah!

Search youtube.com for: Life Change Ballroom Dancers



Sponsoring our Annual Youth Empowerment and Leadership Program at \$35,000 gives you naming rights, company representation and public mention every time we perform. You will also be listed on our publications and website.

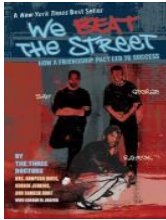
Life Change Ballroom Shoe Extravaganza

Each spring, we purchase and deliver new tennis shoes for every fifth-grader in our top three performing schools from our year end competition (167 pairs in 2009; 109 pairs in 2010).



You may sponsor our shoe program at \$3,500 and you will be mentioned in any media coverage and in all our publications and on our website.

THANK YOU TO MRS. JOYCE OWENS, OUR 2009 SPONSOR!!



One of our favorite giveaways:
[We Beat The Street](#)

Because we are committed to helping kids learn to LOVE to read, we also donate many books to our students. We do a lot of in-class book gifting for things like "best cha-cha", "most improved", "leadership award", etc., but on occasion we also give specific books (like [We Beat The Street](#)) to every student in a given grade of the school, whether they were in our ballroom class or not.

Our Summer Program

In 2008 we added an academic Summer School program for our students. Taught by an accredited instructor, our curriculum focused on math skills and reading comprehension. We added this program when we discovered many of our students were testing 2 grade levels or more below their assigned school grade. We have been successful in getting several of our students into high school college preparatory schools. We have since added personal finance, health and etiquette and ballroom classes to our summer program.

Books, Books & MORE Books

Life Change Ballroom and the National Guard

We train National Guardsmen to teach ballroom in our classes and they do that and much more for us on a volunteer basis. They are incredible men and their presence is an enormous benefit for this program when male mentoring is so desperately needed in our community.

Four volunteer guardsmen have been decorated with the very prestigious *Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal* for their work with our program. In addition, our two sergeants, First Sergeant Dennis Squires and SFC George Shafer, have also received awards through the Daughters of the American Revolution for their work with Life Change Ballroom. SFC Shafer was also awarded the Oklahoma Commendation Medal—part of that consideration was for his work with Life Change Ballroom.

Search youtube.com for: *Life Change Ballroom Military*



Sgts. Squires and Shafer being decorated with the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal for their service to Life Change Ballroom



"I really owe a debt of gratitude to Life Change Ballroom to have the opportunity to become a leader in my community and also to be able to pay it forward by creating young leaders in the students that we're teaching. I've been a lot of places in the military: I've been overseas, and I've got to tell you, this is one of the most rewarding things I've ever done."

-SSG George Shafer
Oklahoma Army National Guard

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www.lifechangeballroom.com



TEACHING CHILDREN TO **DO MORE,**
BE MORE AND HAVE MORE, SO
THEY CAN GIVE MORE!

Life Change Academy is made up of several programs, all promoting leadership, mentorship and education. We are committed to fostering leadership using a "train the trainer" approach.

Contact us:
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