



# MEDIA ADVISORY

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## **Broadway performer to lead virtual master class for BCPS dance students from 4 schools**

***Opportunity provided through partnership with the Hippodrome  
Foundation***

**What:** The Hippodrome Foundation is funding a special virtual master class for Baltimore County Public Schools' students as part of the foundation's longstanding partnership with the school system. Michelle West, a dancer and actor most recently in the cast of "Tina: The Tina Turner Musical" on Broadway, will instruct and interact with students from Deer Park Middle School, Dulaney High School, Overlea High School, and Windsor Mill Middle School. The master class is taking place during National Arts in Education Week, Sept. 11 – 17, which concludes on Sept. 17 with National Dance Day, an annual celebration of dance that encourages all citizens to incorporate dance into their lives.

**When:** Wednesday, September 14, 2022, from 9:30 – 11 a.m.

**Background:** BCPS offers a dance education program at [six elementary schools](#), [11 middle schools](#), and [15 high schools](#). In addition, elementary schools can opt to offer a ballroom dancing program for Grade 5 students and/or a "Dancing Through the Decades Program" for students in Grades 4 and 5.

In addition to working as an actor and dancer, West is a teacher and fitness and nutrition coach based in Fort Lee, NJ. Her other credits include tours of "Disney's Aladdin," "Memphis," and "Sid the Science Kid, Live!" She was a cast member of

“Goddess” at Berkeley Repertory Theatre and “West Side Story” at Carnegie Hall. West earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in dance from Temple University.

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[Baltimore County Public Schools](#), the nation’s 22nd largest school system, is focused on raising the bar and closing gaps to prepare our students for the future. Thanks to innovative and talented leaders, teachers, staff, and students, BCPS celebrates [many honors](#).