



Cearense Dance Conservatory: School of the arts innovating with qualification program for young people.

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#### Introduction

This report refers to the activities carried out by the Conservatório Cearense de Dança - CCD from January to May 2022. CCD was born already adapted to the new reality of the pandemic, which made it possible to continue its dissemination and educational actions, as well as the dance production, showing significant results that are an evidence to our effort in making new partnerships, as well as the commitment of all those involved.

In this period there were: 29 choreography shows and 56 awardS. The dance shows were held in several cities in the countryside of Ceará in the aim to take art to places such as schools and public squares, we also took part in three dance competitions and one of them was international.

CCD takes on the purpose of being a training center for dancers, through classes that provide technical improvement, the exercise of performing in dances made by accomplished choreographers and stage practice. The socio-educational work developed by CCD in partnership with other institutions opened doors for so many others to access culture and dance.

Therefore, the Conservatório Cearense de Dança understands that cultural and human investments will continue to bear fruit in the coming years, reaffirming the position of the CCD as a reference project in regard to art and culture in our country.

CCD was innovative for creating the Young Apprentice Dancer, the kids have seen that dance is not just a hobby or an extracurricular activity, they can also establish themselves as a professional dancer if they have the aspiration for it.

This challenge was accepted by Instituto Compartilha – SAMEAC, with its expertise in providing health care services since its very beginning, providing exclusive services to public health in our country and it also understands health as a balance between different macro areas of our

society, therefore it must be linked to social assistance, education and culture.

We have had as a partner Instituto Brasileiro Pró-Educação, Trabalho e Desenvolvimento - ISBET, it aims to prepare future professionals, in the market for 50 years, working to include young people in the job market through 'Jovem Aprendiz' program.

## Dance and its power.

Dance is one of the most democratic artistic manifestations that exist, because through it we are able to communicate, express ourselves physically and emotionally, acquire body awareness and manifest creativity. All these possibilities mean that there is an enormous relationship between dance and social inclusion. By providing more autonomy and self-esteem to its supporters, we can say that despite the limitations, dance can and should be for everyone.

Anyone, in any situation, is able to dance and explore new feelings, habits, pleasures and, above all, emotions. In addition to all the benefits that dance provides for self-knowledge, it is also possible to develop physical skills during the learning process, strengthening the muscles and favoring posture. A body that dances acquires more agility, flexibility, balance and resistance as well as it reduces the risks of developing heart and circulatory problems. You will develop a better musical perception while stimulating the 3 other senses of the body, this way being able to take what you learn to your daily activities, developing a conscious body expression which can give you a way in communicating with other bodies.

The benefits of this practice go far beyond the physical and mental health of its practitioner. Many people in risky social situations and/or economically vulnerable, find in the artistic career a hope of financial independence, through social projects in their communities. With so many benefits, it is clear that dance and social inclusion must always walk together, as well as all artistic manifestations. Using dance as an instrument of socialization, one of the main characteristics is to promote

integration between people, regardless of skin color, age or social condition. At this point, dance promotes citizenship and highlights the right that all people have to express their ideas, wishes and feelings.

Conservatório Cearense de Dança The Conservatório Cearense de Dança, conceived by Professor Everardo Freitas with the investment and expertise of Dr Heleni Rocha, president of Instituto Compartilha – SAMEAC, has been establishing itself as a project with a goal to provide dance training for people who are talented and dream of having a successful artistic career, but have little to no access to culture. Through a systematic pedagogical program meticulously elaborated by its creator, Cearense Dance Conservatory has the intention to promote culture, education, health and social responsibility, emphasizing cultural sustainability through a socio-educational commitment, granting scholarships to children and teenagers from different stratum.

The Conservatory was already born with a lot of responsibility in receiving young dancers hired through the 'Jovem Aprendiz' program from the federal government of Brazil to complete its student body in the academic dance course at a technical level.

In the Young Apprentice 'Bailarino' program, each student receives a monthly scholarship in the amount of R\$500 to study dance, in addition to transportation and daily meals. At the end of the course, students from the Cearense Dance Conservatory will receive an international certification granted by the International Dance Council - CID, with recognition from international UNESCO, but also for those who so wish, they will receive the professional registration conferred by the Union of Artists and Technicians in Entertainment do Ceará - SATEDCE and Regional Labor Office - DRT/CE. The Cearense Dance Conservatory's mission is to offer children and young people of all socioeconomic levels good-quality dance education, promoting the formation of artistically qualified professionals, contributing to the formation of citizens through art and education, promoting the professionalization and referral to the job market in the area of culture in the state of Ceará.

We aim to be among the best dance schools in Brazil, with the purpose of promoting the inclusion of children and young people in situations of social, economic and cultural vulnerability, training professionals with excellence, being a reference in the technical and professional training of new artists as well as being nationally recognized as a strong propagator of culture in the state of Ceará. This is one of our values, it is described in the illustration that follows:

Table 1 - Table of CCD Values Values

Respect for the master who spread the art and culture; Discipline and dedication to the art of dance; Excellence in technical and artistic training and professionalization; Humility towards new talents; Transparency and ethics in the practice of character training; Pedagogical and methodological sustainability through the training of new teachers and propagators of knowledge.

Source: Conservatório Cearense de Dança

The starting point at Conservatório Cearense de Dança is a selection test that aims to recruit new students to complete the student body of the Dance Course, which works to encourage and guide young dancers to develop their talents, seeking excellence in the technique of academic classical dance and contemporary dance in their professional training.

The selection offers, through Conservatório Cearense de Dança, with the support of the Compartilha Institute, the opportunity to obtain a scholarship for the Dance Course, as well as an incentive to participate in the 'Jovem Aprendiz' program, for high school students and technical level as well.

The entry criteria are:

- Female scholarship candidates must be born between 2002 and 2013.
- Male scholarship candidates must be born between 1999 and 2013.
- Income family all socioeconomic classes.

- Race/color all existing ones.
- Education young people up to 18 years of age who are in high school.

100 participants will be selected who will take part in ten groups in the dance course at the Cearense Dance Conservatory. Classes take place in the afternoon, from 2 pm to 6 pm, five days a week (Monday to Friday).

## Partners' presentation

Instituto Compartilha – SAMEAC is a Civil Society Organization, a non-profit legal entity governed by private law. It fits as a charitable social assistance entity, according to its Statute and has expertise in providing health care services since its foundation, providing exclusive services to public health in our country.

In addition to the health field, Instituto Compartilha - SAMEAC is active in the area of social assistance, carrying out constant monitoring in some areas of social and economic vulnerability in the city, promoting home care, with professionals in the area of psychology, nursing, psychopedagogy and social assistance.

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In touch with the families, these professionals monitor family relationships and take special care with minors and seek, in a way to provide new opportunities for a more dignified life for these people. Instituto Compartilha - SAMEAC also carries a lot of important baggage in encouraging and supporting culture, our history includes partnerships with the Instituto de Dança Goretti Quintela, an opportunity in which we took part in numerous events such as the Danzamérica Competition, in Argentina; the Fida festival, in Pará; the Nidança festival, at Theatro

José de Alencar, Fortaleza -CE; event Salt in Dance – Mossoró, in Rio Grande do Norte. Mediated and provided the trip of Cia de Dança Estrelas da Rua to Dance Competition in Peru.

We collaborated with human resources as well as raising support and financial resources for Carnival events of Coletivo Arruaça. In its most recent feat, with the aim of promoting culture and enabling the rise of young dancers, Instituto Compartilha – SAMEAC has conceived Conservatório Cearense de Dança, implementing, in an innovative way, the Young Apprentice Dancer program.

However, in order to make this idea possible, an important part comes in, as a partner in this endeavor, Instituto Brasileiro Pró-Educação, Trabalho e Desenvolvimento - ISBET, which aims to prepare future professionals. ISBET is a non-profit institution, nationwide, present in the market for 50 years, working to include young people in the job market, through the 'Jovem Aprendiz' program.

It has philanthropic and social assistance goals, such as contributing to social protection through the service of coexistence and strengthening of bonds, based on progressive actions aimed at promoting integration into the world of work, under the terms of item II of the art. 203 of the Federal Constitution, among which the following stand out: promoting the integration of young people into the world of work, considering that work is a structuring of identities, promotes sociability and enables social belonging, constituting the subject in its entirety; the development of culture; the defense of ethics; of citizenship; of human rights; and other universal values; teenage assistance and professional education in carrying out learning programs; provision of assistance and advisory services, as well as advocating for the guarantee of rights in the area of social assistance.

# Youth Qualification Program

In this context, the possibility of professionalizing the efforts of these young dancers was considered, leaving aside the idea that ballet is just a hobby or extracurricular activity, when in fact, many of these young

people see in dance an opportunity to establish themselves in a profession with which they really have a vocation to follow. Thus, the Young Dancer Apprentice Program was born.

Report by professional Rose Lima, Educational Advisor - ISBET -Fortaleza: "In the beginning, we faced some difficulties in relation to the adaptation of young people to the course, because of the schedule, some reported that it would be impossible to dance and study at the same time. They had to insert into their routine, of rehearsals and presentations, access to classes, according to the schedule that should be fulfilled, within the presented and mandatory subjects of the learning program". In an initial meeting that we had with all the young people of the project, dance coordinator, HR manager and the president of Instituto Compartilha - SAMEAC, we presented the program and the importance of everyone being committed, passing the idea that the course, within their disciplines to be applied, would prepare them for life and for a future beyond ballet. Our course aims to train young people for life, not only professional, but also human and social. We teach them to be more human and to respect the differences, be it of color, race, religion or sexual orientation(citizenship and human rights); They learn to respect the nature and the environment (environmental education); how to treat people well and value the other either as a client or as a professional partner (relationship with the client and human resources), how to protect themselves, avoiding accidents or causing them (health and safety at work), among other teachings that will leave them prepared to face any challenge in the professional and personal environment.

## Continuous training in dance

Initially, we are focusing on training at a technical level, it is suitable for young people aged 15 years who are enrolled in regular high school. With a workload of 20 hours/classes per week, divided into five days a week, the course consists of twelve periods, divided into six semesters, three years total, adding up to a total workload of 2,640 hours/classes. At the end of each period, the scenic practices take place, a moment to present the experiences obtained in the form of a class concert, and at the end of each semester, the scenic practices take place in the form of

a scenic show. The last two semesters of the technical level is the moment in which the professional development is worked, the students have a complete technical and psychological preparation to participate in national and international auditions.

#### Assessment Method and Standards

The methodology used in the training of our students was meticulously elaborated, having as a technical basis the methodologies of three great ballet schools worldwide (Italian, French and Russian), from which different methodological dynamics were extracted and adapted to Brazilian body types which are not favored for the practice of classical ballet. The systematization of the methodology and the decomposition of the steps in beginner classes are the main differentials. Respecting the decomposition of the steps, without skipping steps, is a rule to be followed. The evolution of the content applied in the classes must be slow and gradual, so that the student absorbs and masters the technique of each teaching.

The fact that the classes are systematized and standardized, greatly favors the technical development of the students, since after a few classes they will no longer have to worry about the music and the choreographic combination which will be memorized, and thus they can only focus on executing the movement and correct postural placement. Our teaching program works as a guide tool for all our masters and as a guide for young teachers on the way to professionalization, making everyone have the same language before the students, which facilitates the pedagogical dialogue, standardizing a work and creating a unique body identity. The training of our dancers takes 10 years, with the same ones who reach the average of the practical, theoretical and artistic evaluations, which are applied at the end of each period of studies, at least 7.0. The way dance is taught at the Conservatório Cearense de Dança, becomes a powerful complement to formal education, using and developing the students' natural movements, employing the three basic elements of movement — space, time and dynamics — thus helping the student to acquire mastery over their movements (balance, strength and general coordination), through appropriate techniques for each age and level. In addition, we carefully train them not only to be ordinary dancers, but ones who are responsible, respectful, disciplined, creative people with great ability to work in groups and socialize.

#### first results

In these first 6 months of operation, the students of the Conservatório Cearense de Dança had contact with several teachers of different modalities and styles of dance, as well as classes in Music Theory, History of Dance and Philosophy of Art. Among the practical modalities are classical ballet, modern dance through the technique of José Limón, contemporary abstract dance, contact and improvisation, lyrical jazz, hip hop and capoeira. Dance can and should be used as an agent of transformation. Every citizen has the right to participate in social, educational and cultural activities, without any type of distinction or isolation. Not only can they receive free and quality dance training, but they also have the possibility to add their experiences and experiences to their groups of friends and family, providing qualitative growth for everyone. The relationship between dance and social inclusion only brings benefits. In addition to acquiring skills, sharing experiences and feelings, it is what makes the dancing body more interesting in the eyes of the beholder, transforming simple things into art.

Currently, the Conservatório Cearense de Dança has a student body of 20 students between 15 and 25 years old.

All students receive free classes and complete a daily workload of 4 hours, divided between classes and rehearsals. Of the students, 14 are part of the Young Dancer Apprentice Program.

- 01. 21 years old complete high school brown cis man less than a minimum wage 6 years
- 02. 17 years old complete high school white cis woman three to five minimum wages 8 years
- 03. 21 years old complete high school brown cis woman less than a minimum wage 5 years

- 04. 15 years old still in high school brown cis woman one to two minimum wages 11 years
- 05. 14 years old still in middle school cis woman less than a minimum wage 9 years
- 06. 20 years old complete high school white cis man one to two minimum wages 8 years
- 07. 19 years old still in high school yellow cis man one to two minimum wages 5 years
- 08. 16 years old still in high school brown cis woman one to two minimum wages 13 years
- 09. 15 years old still in high school brown cis woman less than a minimum wage 5 years
- 10. 15 years old still in high school white cis woman less than a minimum wage 13 years
- 11. 21 years old complete high school brown cis woman less than a minimum wage 14 years
- 12. 18 years old complete high school brown cis woman less than a minimum wage 12 years
- 13. 18 years old complete high school white cis man less than a minimum wage 5 years
- 14. 16 years old still in high school black cis woman one to two minimum wages - 12 years

Source: Conservatório Cearense de Dança

# Exchanges of experiences

In March 2022, the First Dancer of the Municipal Theater of Rio de Janeiro and a classical ballet teacher, taught during a week to the students of the Conservatório Cearense de Dança. In April 2022, our student Luan Rodrigues was selected to participate for 03 months in the Brazil/Switzerland dance exchange, at Marcelo's Move Dance School, located in the city of St. Gallen.

#### **Awards**

On January 17, 2022, Conservatório Cearense de Dança held its inaugural class taught by Professor Everardo Freitas, for a class of 20

students. On March 21, 2022, the CCD premiered an artistic performance, entitled 'Dezembro Vermelho', with choreography by Felipe Sousa, conception by Leônidas Cipriano, general direction by Everardo Freitas and a cast composed of 08 CCD dancers.

Between May 4th and 8th, 2022, CCD students participated for the first time in one of the biggest dance competitions in Brazil, CBDD Fortaleza. Among the 09 choreographies participating in the contest, we won 06 awards in the modalities of ballet repertoire variation classical, contemporary dance solo and contemporary dance duo. The dancer Italo Oliveira won the award for 'Advanced Level Revelation Dancer'. On May 21, 2022, in the 'Delicioso é Dançar' contest, CCD students won, among the 20 choreographies presented, 12 1st place awards, 05 2nd place awards and 01 3rd place awards, in addition to 06 special awards, a total of 24 awards.

Everardo Freitas won the award for best choreographer. Zenaide Monteiro won the award for best dancer at the event. Ítalo Oliveira won the award for best dancer of the event. Lorena Gomes won the outstanding award in classical ballet. Sarah Marques won the Outstanding Jazz Solo award and Ronaldo Régis won the Outstanding Contemporary Solo award. And we are registered in several festivals and congresses. On May 29, 2022, at the Dreams Em Movimentos Competition Festival, CCD won 26 awards, 04 in 1st place, 11 in 2nd place and 7 in 3rd place and 4 special awards, a total of 26 awards.

#### Final considerations

The arts, and amongst them, the dance, has been considered only as leisure practices, being considered science, only that which was based on positivist bases. How good, impressive, impactful a choreography was cannot be measured, and for a long time what did not fit in a scale and with established standards could not be considered knowledge. Science evolved and found other ways to look at the world, other ways of producing knowledge emerged, such as phenomenology. A landmark in the teaching of the arts in Brazil was, in 1996, the enactment of Law no 9.394/96, which recognizes the arts "[...] as a mandatory curricular

subject at the various levels of basic education in order to promote the cultural development of students." (TADRA, 2009, p.47). The teaching of the arts established in this law provided for the experience of four artistic areas: visual arts, dance, music and theater. Dealing here with dance as knowledge to be learned, the teaching of techniques involves two views. One is that learning to dance is learning a specific technique, and another that in addition to using some technique to learn dance, it is necessary to learn how to be an artist.

Hence, the main goal of dance is to provide challenges of creation, communication, instigate knowledge and from that, build meanings during the process. This mechanistic trend in ballet dates back to its birth in the 19th century Italian court XVI. Even considering the dancer as an artist, the appreciation of forms and performances was what predominated in the practice of ballet. Some transformations occurred during that time until the present day, however it can be seen that the technique prevails over other qualities that a dancer must have. Characteristics such as expression, the ability to communicate something while dancing or even the ability to feel and make people feel what the dance manifests. Talking about the training of teachers in the specific case of ballet, we have a figure of great importance, with regard to its teaching. The maître which in Portuguese translates to master, commonly ex-dancers who are no longer able to perform practical activities, are decorated for reaching the peak of their careers as dancers and teachers. There are common cases in which the professional performance of a dancer is interrupted for various reasons, often serious injuries. Ballet classes in the northeast of Brazil are normally guided, even today, in a traditional pedagogy. The pedagogy applied in the CCD, on the other hand, approaches a more critical educational practice. Our goal is closely linked to the way we see the dancer's professional training, valuing not only the technical aspect, but also adding all the acquired knowledge to a quality artistic training, working with dance not only as a training method, but yes, approaching it as an artistic-educational proposal, where dance classes become a place where students have a voice, a place where every body type is respected, allowing the student to have more space for intervention, they don't just learn what they like more, but rather explored as many bodily experiences as possible.

Dance brings numerous social, cultural, emotional, cognitive and motor benefits in a conceptual, attitudinal and procedural way that favors the awareness of the body and critical sense, forming an autonomous citizen, aware of their rights and duties. The CCD's 'Continuous Dance Training' was created so that children and young people of all social levels can have access to quality artistic education, giving them the opportunity to become trained professionals, who in the future will become people who spread the art of dance in the city of Fortaleza, as well as in other cities in the state of Ceará. The fields of activity for CCD students after their training can be permeated in projects aimed at interpreters of academic dance and contemporary dance, production of scenic shows, creation and scenographic production, creation and production of costumes, teaching workshops, workshops and courses of dance in institutions for the development of art and culture. The syllabus goes beyond classical ballet, not specifically just for dance, its teaching plan goes further, being composed of theoretical and practical subjects in the areas of: lighting and sound design, musical composition and its instruments, art history, classical dance, contemporary dance, character dance, scenarios, as well as pedagogical techniques of academic teaching, knowledge in technology, computing, social media and marketing. Aiming at the insertion of its students in the artistic, educational and cultural work market, the CCD provides opportunities for experiences, thus enabling social inclusion, balance between classes, and teamwork. The CCD constantly encourages and carries out work practices from the first groups, participating in festivals of shows and competitions, as well as seasons of shows. At that moment and in specific periods, students undergo theoretical-practical and authorial assessments, aiming to show all the work performed in the period in which each class is and performing the graduation of those who have already concluded their academic activities. The Conservatory allows, within all its activities, the development of a more conscious, socialized, inclusive society and, above all, spreads the great talent of its students within their communities, city, state and country. Its methods and teachings make a great contribution to a society with moral and social

values permeating a greater possibility of generating employment and income, valuing culture and molding a society with better expectations for the future.