

San Francisco Chronicle

AileyCamp teaches discipline, inspires creativity in young dancers

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The Berkeley/Oakland AileyCamp at Cal Performances is a six-week intensive dance camp designed to teach discipline and inspire creativity through dance to middle school children (ages 11-14) of Oakland. The camp raises \$250,000 annually in order to provide full scholarships to all of its campers, which includes lessons, uniforms, field trips, transportation, and two meals a day. This summer marks the 10th anniversary of AileyCamp in Berkeley/Oakland and so Director David McCauley chose "Transitions" as the theme for this year's performance. The theme highlights the transformation the campers have made in a short span of time, as well as celebrates their achievement as young dancers.



Campers learn and practice the camp dance, a number that will be built on throughout the six week program.



Campers practice African Dance techniques.

Photo: Lara Brucker / SFGate



"Into the Deep Fantastic" performed at Zellerbach Hall on August 4, 2011.

Photo: Lara Brucker / SFGate



"TI" performed at Zellerbach Hall on August 4, 2011.

Photo: Lara Brucker / SFGate

*This article's online photo gallery features 42 pictures from AileyCamp Berkeley/Oakland.