

SOLE Defined in SOLE Stepz LIVE!



SOLE Defined puts an exciting twist on percussive dance by turning their bodies into human drums. In one word, SOLE Defined creates a “Percussical,” an innovative twist on the traditional musical with its integration of percussive dance and multi-media with acting and singing. Each show is a power-packed performance to create a free flowing conversation through music and movement.

Quoted by The Washington Post for performing “the coolest number of the night with its high-stepping and toe tapping blend of style,” SOLE Defined has performed in distinguished venues both nationally and internationally including: The Lincoln Center, The Children’s World Festival in Italy, The Kennedy Center, Jacobs Pillow, The Shakespeare Theater, The Smithsonian, International Cajon Festival and DancEncore International Dance Festival. Over the last five years, SOLE Defined has premiered four new shows, Black Amer-I-Can (2013), The Experiment (2014), Phenix (2015), Frequency (2016) Zaz: The Big Easy (2017).

“SOLE Defined brings energy, story, and artistry to every show they perform. Percussive dance at its best!”

Samantha Pollack, Washington Performing Arts Society

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PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Separate your hands from your feet and join SOLE Defined to create a funky beat. SOLE Defined interactive performance energizes the audience with its fusion of tap dance and stepping while sharing the history and traditions of two American art forms.

Setup Requirements: Confirm setup/technical requirements.

*See Technical Rider

- Electrical Outlet for Speakers
- MP3 hookup/Auxiliary cable
- Wooden surface OR space for portable dance platform
- Wireless or cordless microphone



PERFORMANCE INTRODUCTION:

SOLE Defined is a percussive dance company. Having performed on stages both nationally and internationally including: The Kennedy Center, The Lincoln Center, The World Children's Festival in Turino, Italy, The Dance Encore Festival in Quebec, Canada, and Wolf Trap's Theater in the Woods. SOLE Defined is known for performing "the coolest dances with their high-stepping, toe tapping blend of styles" (Washington Post).

Get ready to for SOLE Defined!

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CLASSROOM CONNECTION

Maryland State Curriculum Standards For Fine Arts: Common Core connection:

Standard: 2.0 Historical, Cultural, and Social Context

Students will demonstrate an understanding of dance as an essential aspect of history and human experience.

INDICATOR: 2. Relate dance to history, society, and personal experience

OBJECTIVES:

1. Describe similarities and differences in content and form between and among contemporary and historical dance styles from other times and places
2. View dances and identify ways that choreographers use dance to comment on history, society, and personal experience

Connections

- 21ST Century Skills
- American History
- Dance Movement

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

Books:

- Lucky's Tap Dancing Feet, by Quynn Johnson
- Tap Dancing America: A Cultural History, by Constance Valis Hill
- Brotherhood in Rhythm by Constance Valis Hill
- The souls of your feet, by Acia Gray

Video Links:

SOLE Defined NYC- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2vNJXQk_IVw

SOLE Defined Frequency- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L89HoOLbs3Y>

SOLE Defined Arts in Education- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ipgAuvrKtgw&t=18s>

PRE-PERFORMANCE ACTIVITIES: .

This link includes a video of Master Tap Dancer, Jason Samuels Smith in Tap Heat

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AeDNy6Ff7VE&t=1s>

- When listening to tap dance, what do you hear?
- If the dancers were in the room with you, what would you ask them?
- How would you define tap dance?

POST-PERFORMANCE ACTIVITIES:

Please have the students view the link below and answer the following questions.

Video Link- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zBb9hTyLjfM>

- What's the difference between the style of tap you watched SOLE De-fined perform and the style that the Nicholas Brothers perform?
- What are 3 main themes you can take away from the show.