

DANZÁREA'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY

By Katherine Bucktron Olle.

DANZÁREA is the social program of Fundación Gramo Danse which offers scholarships to children and young people from communities that present situations of violence, social risk, and lack an integral education, since 2008. Children and teenagers accepted in the program learn aerial and contemporary dance along with values, conflict resolution skills, and cooperation with others.

This social program offers its students six hours a week of aerial dance classes (silks, aerial hoop, trapeze and rope), contemporary dance, classical ballet, theater and choreography. Children also have the opportunity to present themselves to various audiences on several times throughout the year.

During its ten years of operation, DANZÁREA has taught classes to more than 2,500 children, between 5 and 17 years old, from at-risk neighborhoods of El Chorrillo, Santa Ana, Curundu, Cabo Verde, Llano Bonito, Panama Viejo, Parque Lefevre and Río Abajo touching their lives through the benefits of art and dance.

Discipline, concentration, and the development of self-esteem and creative abilities are an integral part of dance learning. The greatest achievement of the students has been to transform positively their self image, in addition to expanding their abilities and changing the projection of their future, which will allow them to become agents of change in their respective communities.