



## **Musicopia and Dancing Classrooms Philly welcome seven new Board Members**

**Members come together in a shared goal of providing arts education for all Philadelphia-area children**

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

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PHILADELPHIA, July 18, 2019...Musicopia and Dancing Classrooms Philly (DCP) are pleased to welcome seven new members to its shared Board of Directors, effective July 1. Musicopia's mission is to provide opportunities for children to experience, learn, perform, and appreciate music. DCP's mission is to foster self-esteem, social awareness and joy in children by providing the opportunity to learn and perform ballroom dance. Musicopia has served more than 300,000 students since its founding in 1974, and DCP has served more than 25,000 students since its founding in 2007.

In 2012, Musicopia and DCP formed a dynamic partnership to provide both organizations with a more efficient infrastructure while advancing their missions and community impact. Both are committed to working with children and schools that lack adequate arts education programs.

"We are so fortunate to have such committed and talented Board Members working towards our common goal of providing all students with access to the arts, and who understand the positive impact of arts education. We send a hearty 'thank you' and 'welcome' to our current and new members," said Denise Kinney, Executive Director of Musicopia and DCP.

The shared Board of Directors includes 26 members total. The seven new members include:

Jack Carr, Ph.D., Arts Consultant, String Theory Schools and Founder, Girard Academic Music Program  
Jacob Elich, Associate Consultant, ZS Associates  
Manish Gorawala, President and Chief Executive Officer, Tri-Force Consulting Services  
Carly Keeny, Director, Communications, TPX at Comcast  
Greg Offner, Entrepreneur from Philadelphia

Brian Slagle, Analyst, Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia  
Len Weiser, President and Chief Executive Officer, White Horse Village

A full Board Member list can be found online at: [www.musicopia.net/board-of-directors-advisory-board](http://www.musicopia.net/board-of-directors-advisory-board)

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### **About Musicopia**

Musicopia's mission is to provide opportunities for children to experience, learn, perform, and appreciate music, and aims to give all children, regardless of circumstances, the opportunity to have their lives transformed by music. Founded in 1974, Musicopia is a leader in revitalizing school music programs in the Greater Philadelphia area, providing equitable access to music programming for youth attending under-resourced schools. Since its founding, Musicopia has helped more than 300,000 children experience the benefits of first-hand exposure to the arts. Through a teaching roster of nearly 100 professional ensembles and solo musicians of the highest caliber, Musicopia helps thousands of Pre-K-12<sup>th</sup> grade students each year to explore and develop their musical interests, learn to play an instrument, and perform alongside enthusiastic peers through in-school assemblies, workshops, and residencies, and long-term ensembles including the after-school Musicopia String Orchestra and Musicopia Drumlines. Musicopia's programs represent musical styles and traditions from around the world including classical, jazz, Latin, African, Brazilian, Middle Eastern, opera, hip hop, rock/pop and others. For more information, visit [www.musicopia.net](http://www.musicopia.net).

### **About Dancing Classrooms Philly**

Since its founding in 2007, Dancing Classrooms Philly has served more than 25,000 fifth and eighth grade Greater Philadelphia students in public, charter and parochial schools. DCP's mission is to foster self-esteem, social awareness and joy in children by providing the opportunity to learn and perform ballroom dance. Through our ballroom dance instruction, we help to improve the climate of school communities across the Philadelphia region by building confidence in students, breaking down social barriers, and inspiring respect for all individuals. We envision transformative arts programs in all school communities that nurture creativity, build confidence, and promote a culture of mutual respect and well-being. For more information, visit [www.dancingclassroomspilly.org](http://www.dancingclassroomspilly.org).