

MEDIA ALERT
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OUTKAST'S ANTWAN "BIG BOI" PATTON PARTNERS WITH LOCAL DANCE PROGRAM

WHAT: Grammy Award winning Outkast member Antwan "Big Boi" Patton's nonprofit organization, The Big Kidz Foundation, partnered with the nationally recognized youth development program Moving in the Spirit to offer a two-week long Summer Dance Camp for Atlanta's urban communities.

During the camp, Patton treated the students to a surprise visit. The students were able to share their dances with Patton, take their pictures with him, and hear about his path and life as an artist.

WHO: The Moving in the Spirit and Big Kidz Foundation partnership served children ages 8-14 from Atlanta's urban communities. A scholarship program ensured that students who would otherwise not have access to summer activities were able to participate in the dance camp.

WHEN: July 27-August 7, 2009. Antwan "Big Boi" Patton visited the Summer Camp on August 4, 2009.

WHERE: Moving in the Spirit's home theater, The Beam, located at 750 Glenwood Avenue Atlanta, GA 30316

WHY: Moving in the Spirit and The Big Kidz Foundation both strive to ensure that children and teens have access to arts experiences and leadership training. "My goal is to touch as many youth as I can and hopefully change their lives for forever," says Big Boi.

For this reason, The Big Kidz Foundation merged their Big Voice Program - a debate/speech program designed to help young people become better listeners while increasing leadership potential and self confidence - with Moving in the Spirit's "Rhyme and Reason" curriculum, created by a 16 year-old program participant. The Rhyme and Reason program uses speech club techniques coupled with music and movement, providing a valuable opportunity for students to explore their authentic voices while processing the realities they face in their lives, schools, homes and streets.

MORE: Founded by Dana Lupton and Leah Mann in 1986, Moving in the Spirit is a nationally recognized youth development program that integrates high quality dance instruction with performance, leadership and mentor opportunities for young people in Atlanta's urban communities. Moving in the Spirit educates, inspires and unites young people through dance, in order to help them become compassionate leaders.

Founded in 2006, The Big Kidz Foundation's mission is to nurture the intellect of youth by providing culturally diverse experiences in the field of humanities, while enhancing their leadership abilities and creating socially-conscious individuals.

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