



Breai Michele (Mason-Campbell)

Biography

Breai Michele is a Baltimore native, community activist, dancer, and cultural counselor. A Harvard graduate and 20-year veteran teacher in Baltimore City, Breai is Executive Director of Moving History, a non-profit committed to ensuring equity in education by teaching the story of African-American people through arts-integrated instruction in instrumental and vocal music, dance, visual, culinary and martial arts to school-aged children in her hometown and beyond. A steward of the African American vernacular tradition, Breai danced with three professional African Dance companies between Boston and Baltimore from 1998-2003 until the founding of her own company, Guardian, in 2003. Guardian practices, performs and passes on history through performance. Her stage credits include The Kennedy Center's 50th Anniversary, Baltimore's Hippodrome and Mechanic Theaters, the Reginald F. Lewis Museum, the Baltimore Museum of Art, as well as the grand opening of the National Museum of African American History and Culture at the Smithsonian.

Statement of interest and intent

An educational system that honors the skills, cultures and traditions of the people it serves must hear and heed the voices of representatives from those communities. Participation on the MDEA Board is an opportunity for me to serve the needs of the youth and communities that I am in connection with by bringing

what I know of their concerns and interests to a decision-making body. I have worked for 21 years as a public school teacher in Baltimore City, while leading classes in private studios, running a Community Arts Organization dedicated to the preservation and proliferation of African-Diasporan Arts, and working as a Teaching Artist. Those experiences will enable me to share a diverse and multi-faceted perspective to address the approach to initiatives and advocacy that the MDEA Board is responsible for stewarding. I am looking forward to the opportunity to close the gaps in relationships and awareness that are often the only barriers preventing seemingly-disparate groups from working together to accomplish awesome goals for all involved. Please accept my request to be considered for participation on the MDEA General Board as Community Organization (Understudy).