



Jason Nious

Performing Artist: Dance

Las Vegas, NV

(202) 236-7972

jjnious@gmail.com

www.MolodiLive.com

Jason Nious is a graduate of University of New Mexico with a BA in Theatre. His passion for stepping has allowed him to help introduce stepping to hundreds of thousands around the world as a dancer, choreographer and teaching artist with companies including STOMP, Step Afrika!, Stomp The Yard 2 (film) and Cirque du Soleil - KA and Zarkana. He has worked as a cultural ambassador on U.S. Embassy sponsored events in Tanzania, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Madagascar, South Africa and Brazil, and was cited as a "Young Emerging Artist" from the D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities. Now, as founder and director of MOLODI: An experiment in body percussion, he is excited to continue expanding the boundaries of stepping. Frequent collaborations with trained actors, acoustic bands, singers, slam poets, cellists, dancers and artists of all different backgrounds to keep his work fresh.

Stepping is hailed as one of the most exciting dance forms created by Americans in the 20th century. Incorporating elements such as clapping, tapping, marching, military drills, school yard games, song, dance and acrobatics, this polyrhythmic, percussive art form was first developed by African-American fraternities and sororities to promote unity among the members of their organizations. Stepping has been used in educational settings to develop and promote teamwork, discipline, confidence, music appreciation, and physical well-being.

As a performing and teaching artist, Jason's intention is to help usher stepping and body percussion into the theatrical realm as a storytelling vehicle, to show and share the awesomeness of our human bodies as instruments, and to inspire a sense of unity among all people through rhythm, collaboration, and personal expression.

School & Community Workshops

Stepping: The history of stepping, drill techniques and choreography; students will execute a performance by the end of the workshop.

Molodi Unplugged: students explore percussive dance styles including step, body percussion, tap, beatbox and gumboots dance, with visual demonstrations and oral histories of the dances. Students create their own step teams, learn choreography, and finish in a "Step Off" competition between teams. The session culminates with a short performance from Molodi and a question/ answer session.

Professional Development

Master Stepping and Body Percussion: arts professionals, dance teachers, classroom teachers and organizations using the power of stepping as a team building tool. Participants learn all-command prompts for easy and effective control of large groups, discipline strategies that transform problem students into star players and communication techniques that spark individual creativity and leadership among participants.

Program Types

Residencies, workshops, demonstrations, performances

Language Proficiencies

English, French

Fees

Contact to inquire

Availability

Contact to inquire

Audiences

Schools (grades K-12), college, young adult, adult, seniors, at risk, incarcerated individuals, special needs, social service groups, healthcare groups, ESL/ELL

Venues

Schools, colleges, community organizations, theaters, healthcare facilities

Technical Requirements

Contact to inquire

Counties

Statewide