



# City of Cambridge

39.

## IN CITY COUNCIL

February 23, 1998

MAYOR DUEHAY  
COUNCILLOR BORN  
COUNCILLOR DAVIS  
VICE MAYOR GALLUCCIO  
COUNCILLOR REEVES  
COUNCILLOR RUSSELL  
COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN  
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY  
COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge is vigorously alive with the presence of artistic skills within its institutions of learning; and

WHEREAS: **CITYSTEP**, founded in 1983, is a collaborative effort between local university students working with students in the fifth and sixth grades of our Cambridge Public Schools; and

WHEREAS: **CITYSTEP**'s philosophy for success is based not only upon talent, but is consistent with the values of hard work, determination, and self-discipline; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That this Cambridge City Council does hereby declare April 3 and April 4, 1998 to be **CITYSTEP DAYS** in the City of Cambridge, when this singularly effective organization will present its fifteenth annual celebration, which will culminate in an originally conceived, choreographed, and produced presentation entitled "**STEPPIN' THROUGH TIME: CITYSTEP'S EXCELLENT ADVENTURE**," at Sanders Theater; and be it further

RESOLVED: That this Cambridge City Council does sincerely congratulate the entire **CITYSTEP** Company for their dedicated efforts on behalf of our youth and the arts in this City; and be it further

RESOLVED: That this Cambridge City Council does hereby encourage one and all to attend **"STEPPIN' THROUGH TIME: CITYSTEP'S EXCELLENT ADVENTURE,"** and to experience one of the most wonderful theatrical presentations our City has to offer.

In City Council February 23, 1998.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "D. Margaret Drury".

D. Margaret Drury  
City Clerk

March 18, 1996

March 25, 1996

FD  
+  
all?

29.  
MAYOR RUSSELL  
VICE MAYOR BORN  
COUNCILLOR DAVIS  
COUNCILLOR DUEHAY  
COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO  
COUNCILLOR REEVES  
COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN  
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY  
COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU  
fifteenth

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge is vigorously alive with the presence of artistic skills within its institutions of learning; and

WHEREAS: CITYSTEP, founded in 1983, is a collaborative effort between local university students working with students in the fifth and sixth grades of our Cambridge Public Schools; and

WHEREAS: CITYSTEP's philosophy for success is based not only upon talent, but is consistent with the values of hard work, determination, and self-discipline; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That this Cambridge City Council does hereby declare April <sup>3</sup>12 and April <sup>4</sup>13, 1996 to be CITYSTEP DAYS in the City of Cambridge, when this singularly effective organization will present its thirteenth annual celebration, which will culminate in an originally conceived, choreographed, and produced presentation entitled "~~PUMP UP THE VOLUME: DANCE!~~", at Sanders Theater; and be it further

RESOLVED: That this Cambridge City Council does sincerely congratulate the entire CITYSTEP company for their dedicated efforts on behalf of our youth and the arts in this City; and be it further

RESOLVED: That this Cambridge City Council does hereby encourage one and all to attend "~~PUMP UP THE VOLUME: DANCE!~~", and to experience one of the most wonderful theatrical presentations our City has to offer.

In City Council March 25, 1996

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury  
City Clerk

"Steppin' Through  
Time: City Step's  
Excellent Adventure!"

# WHAT CITYSTEP IS

In a unique collaboration between Harvard-Radcliffe students and the Cambridge Community, CityStep combines the spirit of public service with the performing arts. We are a Harvard-Radcliffe student organization that enriches the educational experience of Cambridge fifth and sixth graders through a curriculum of dance and other creative activities. CityStep promotes self-esteem and cooperation by providing a non-traditional forum in which a diverse group of public school students can discover new forms of self-expression.

## **CITYSTEP SEEKS TO...**

- Provide an environment which rewards its participants for their ability to work as a team
- Channel the spirit of urban life and the energy of elementary school students into creative forms of self-expression.
- Promote the values of hard work, dedication, and cooperation through the performing and visual arts
- Help overcome racism and socioeconomic polarization by uniting a demographically diverse elementary school population and a diverse group of Harvard-Radcliffe students
- Foster self-esteem and self-confidence in local elementary school students through a successful interactions and by helping them to realize a tangible, long-term goal in their final performance
- Create a positive and unique experience for the Harvard-Radcliffe undergraduates that integrates public service and the arts
- Forge closer bonds between the university and the surrounding community by uniting Harvard-Radcliffe undergraduates with Cambridge public school students in a long-term mentoring relationship
- Serve the Harvard-Radcliffe campus as an established and stable organization which focuses the energy and spirit of the campus in a positive manner
- Instill in its members a sense of success and accomplishment

# CITYSTEP'S HISTORY

CityStep began in 1983 when Sabrina Peck '84 started a dance group to provide a place for undergraduates to express themselves through motion. The first CityStep show was performed that year in Boston to showcase the work of these students. At one of these shows, Sabrina Peck and her undergraduate troupe did some work with children, motivating and inspiring them to explore dance. The success of this short workshop inspired Ms. Peck to set up a permanent program to work with children which she was able to accomplish with the help of the Cambridge Public Schools.

From these beginnings, CityStep established itself as one of the most innovative public service programs in the country. Ours is a unique curriculum that combines dance, games, and other art forms to foster self-expression, self-confidence, and teamwork in the CitySteppers. Throughout their year long relationship with their teachers and directors, the CitySteppers get a chance to explore themselves through motion and have the benefit of interacting with a pool of incredibly talented and enthusiastic undergraduates.

The focal point of the CityStep curriculum, however, has always been the final show. This event showcases a year of work on the part of the CitySteppers and undergraduates and brings the CityStep program to an exciting and satisfying conclusion. In the first few years of the program, the show was held in December, usually on makeshift stages such as in the Malkin Athletic Complex basketball courts. The show has since expanded to become the creative and visually exciting event you will see today.

Since its inception, CityStep has remained an evolving organization. As it looks towards its 15th anniversary, CityStep continues to build on its strong foundation as it reaches new horizons. Our growth as an organization is a testament to the success of our innovative curriculum and program.

# CITYSTEP TODAY

## **THE IN-SCHOOLS PROGRAM**

The In-Schools program works two mornings per week in the Cambridge public schools with fifth-grade students. This program represents the children's first-year with CityStep and often serves as their first introduction to dance. For the first half of the year, the students and undergraduate teachers work to build a team out of the classroom and to establish the elements of dance. When the second semester begins, the children start preparing for the show by learning the routine they will perform and working with the music composed for their piece.

## **THE AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM**

CityStep's After-School program offers the children an opportunity to return as sixth graders to learn advanced dances that build on the skills they acquired during their first year. The After-School program brings the children to Harvard's campus twice a week. Through this program, students from all over Cambridge can interact and learn from each other. This aspect of the program, beyond fulfilling CityStep's overall goals, provides a safe and productive after-school activity and promotes the values of commitment and continuity in our students.

## **THE CITYSTEP YEAR**

The CityStep Year begins and ends with the CityStep show in April. After each year's show, CityStep's new team of student leaders and executive directors is chosen and they begin to coordinate events for the next year. Recruiting for student volunteers and dancers takes place in September and classes begin in October. The CityStep Ball, an annual all-campus formal and CityStep's largest source of income, occurs in late October or early November. The All-Day Rehearsal, a day in which all the CityStep participants are brought to the Harvard campus to rehearse their pieces, normally takes place in mid-March. Then another successful year concludes with the CityStep Show in the spring.

## **CITYSTEP'S ROLE ON CAMPUS**

CityStep involves over 100 Harvard and Radcliffe undergraduates, making it one of the largest student organizations on campus. CityStep's annual benefit ball is one of the only all-campus formals and is usually attended by over 1000 students. As a result, it is anticipated by the whole campus and serves as CityStep's main fundraising event. In addition, CityStep hosts another dance in the spring, the CityStep Informal, which is also well-attended and supplements CityStep's fundraising efforts. CityStep plays a prominent role on campus both as a service provider and by promoting campus social life.



128 Cabot Mail Center,  
Cambridge MA 02138, (617) 864-5105

February 12, 1998

Cambridge City Council  
c/o Margaret Drury, City Clerk  
Cambridge City Hall  
795 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Mayor Duehay and City Councillors:

We're celebrating! CityStep is marking our fifteenth year of working with Cambridge Public School students this year. We will honor our anniversary at our annual CityStep show *Steppin' Through Time: CityStep's Excellent Adventure* at Sander's Theater on April 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.

We are proud of the long collaboration between Harvard University students and the Cambridge community in our efforts to use the arts in teaching Cambridge 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders. The show provides a special opportunity for the Cambridge students to shine in front of the community at large, displaying the dedication, self-esteem, and hard work that they have learned as well as revealing the special mentoring relationships developed with the college students. We're most proud of the creativity and energy evident in the students that this collaboration brings out.

In the past, we've been particularly grateful to the City Council for declaring CityStep Days during our show. We hope this honor will be extended to us and the community again. Enclosed please find a CityStep press packet and copies of past proclamations. Future correspondence can be mailed to:

Joanna Holzman  
282 Mather Mail Center  
Cambridge, MA 02138-7568

Finally, on behalf of our executive producers, Gretchen Meek and Sarah Lohrius, I'd like to thank the Council for their past support of our program, and to invite the Council to attend *Steppin' Through Time: CityStep's Excellent Adventure*. Please call me at 493-7347 with any questions. We hope to see you there!

Sincerely,

Joanna Holzman  
Grants Producer, CityStep

RECEIVED BY CLERK  
CITY OF CAMBRIDGE  
FEB 17 4 17 PM '98



# OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CITY HALL, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

(617) 349-4321

Fax (617) 349-4287

FD

Sheila Doyle Russell  
Mayor

## PROCLAMATION

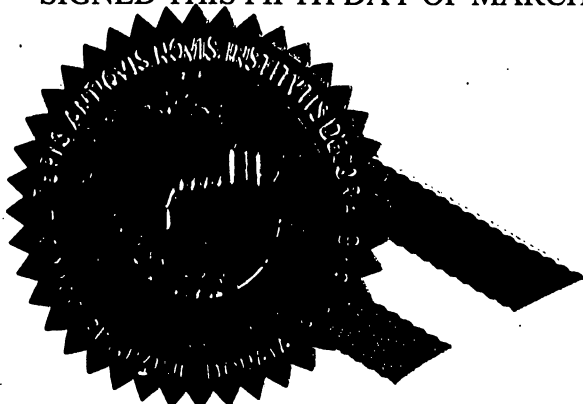
- WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge is vigorously alive with the presence of artistic skills within its institutions of learning, and;
- WHEREAS: CITYSTEP, founded in 1983, is a collaborative effort between local university students working with students in the fifth and sixth grades of the Cambridge Public Schools, and;
- WHEREAS: CITYSTEP's philosophy for success is based not only upon talent, but is consistent with the values of hard work, determination, and self-discipline, now therefore be it;
- PROCLAIMED: That I, Mayor Sheila Doyle Russell, acting on behalf of the City of Cambridge do hereby declare April 11 and April 12, 1997 to be

## CITYSTEP DAYS

in the City of Cambridge, when this singularly effective organization will present its fourteenth annual celebration, which will culminate in an originally conceived, choreographed, and produced presentation entitled "You Gotta Have Soul: A Citystep Mystery" At Cambridge Rindge & Latin School, and be it further;

- PROCLAIMED: That the City of Cambridge does sincerely congratulate the entire CITYSTEP company for their dedicated efforts on behalf of our youth and the arts in the City, and be it further;
- PROCLAIMED: That I Mayor Sheila Doyle Russell do hereby encourage one and all to attend "You Gotta Have Sole: A City Step Mystery." and to experience one of the most wonderful theatrical presentations our City has to offer.

SIGNED THIS FIFTH DAY OF MARCH, 1997



*Sheila Doyle Russell*  
Sheila Doyle Russell



# City of Cambridge

39.

## IN CITY COUNCIL

February 23, 1998

MAYOR DUEHAY  
COUNCILLOR BORN  
COUNCILLOR DAVIS  
VICE MAYOR GALLUCCIO  
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COUNCILLOR RUSSELL  
COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN  
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Consent Order #39

R-205

12

Mayor Duehay and entire membership  
re: Congratulations to CITYSTEP for  
their dedicated efforts on behalf of  
our youth and the arts in the City.

In City Council February 23, 1998

**ORDER ADOPTED**