

## **TILLES CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS AT LIU POST ARTS EDUCATION PROGRAMS PROVIDE ACCESS TO LONG ISLAND STUDENTS**

(Brookville, New York... March 2023) **Tilles Center for the Performing Arts at LIU Post** [tillescenter.org] strives to entertain and enrich the Long Island community through arts performance, education, and advocacy. Advancing this mission, the organization offers robust arts education programs for Long Island students in underserved communities—from low-income school districts to those on the autism spectrum. As part of a collaboration with the Wyandanch school district, Tilles Center will host Lafrancis Hardiman Elementary School second grade students for their performance of **"Around the World: A Celebration of Unity Through Music and Dance,"** a celebration of music, dance, and poetry inspired by cultures across the globe, on Tuesday, April 18 at 11:30 a.m. This program is funded by the SAR Family and Bethpage Federal Credit Union.

"The Wyandanch school district asked Tilles Center to help their elementary students explore world cultures through music and dance," shares Tilles Center director of education and outreach **Stephanie Turner**. "Our teaching artist, Oya Bangura, has been working with the school on a year-long residency, which will culminate with 200 second-graders performing music, dance, and poetry from Africa, China, India, South America, and more in our 2200 seat concert hall this April!"

Serving more than 1,500 students in seven school districts in Nassau and Suffolk Counties, Tilles Center's School Partnership Program is a unique collaboration between artists and educators that uses the arts to foster critical thinking, literacy skills, creativity, and problem solving. Teachers and students participate in arts experiences designed to spark the creative process. Through active engagement in activities that are carefully co-planned with educators, students learn how to collaborate, analyze, and interpret existing curriculum through arts-learning.

Other programs that advance Tilles Center's education initiatives include relaxed performances with modified sound and light levels, specially adapted pre-performance materials, and quiet lobby areas with sensory toys for patrons who wish to move around, and a sensory immersion theatre program called *Branching Out*, which is specifically designed for individuals on the autism spectrum and those who may have limited movement, sensory, and/or complex communication needs. Tilles Center also provides education programs for adults, including programs for seniors, individuals with Parkinson's, pre-performance experiences, and more.

More information about Tilles Center's education and community work can be found at [tillescenter.org/education-community](https://tillescenter.org/education-community).

*A 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, funding for the 2022-23 season at Tilles Center for the Performing Arts at LIU Post comes from Season Sponsor Catholic Health, Season Supporter Peter & Jeri Dejana Foundation, Family Programming Sponsor Northville Industries, and Chamber Music Sponsor The Honorable Roger B. Tilles. Additional support for general operating is provided by Capital One, Poll Restaurants, Ruskin Moscou*

*Faltischek, P.C., Robin and Jay Silverman, The Kroll Family, and Long Island Speech & Myofunctional Therapy. Dance performances are made possible, in part, by the Eric and Sandy Krasnoff Dance Endowment Fund. Classical music performances are made possible, in part, by the Classical Music Fund in honor of Dr. Elliott Sroka. Lviv National Philharmonic Orchestra of Ukraine is made possible by a generous gift from Manuel H. and Claire Barron. Additional support provided by Steven and Sandy Harris. The Scottish Chamber Orchestra performance is the Joan and David Steinberg Annual Endowed Concert. An Afternoon with Itzhak Perlman is sponsored, in part, by ALINE Wealth. The 2022-23 presenting program receives funding from the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature.*

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## **ABOUT TILLES CENTER**

Tilles Center for the Performing Arts at LIU Post's mission is to engage and enrich our community through arts performance, education, and advocacy. For more than 40 years, Tilles Center has hosted and presented more than 70 performances each season by world-renowned artists in music, theater, and dance. The nonprofit also supports thousands of children and adult learners each year through its robust arts education programs, providing arts experiences to underserved communities — from low-income school districts and those on the autism spectrum to local seniors. Tilles Center is located at LIU Post, 720 Northern Blvd, Brookville NY. Learn more at [tillescenter.org](https://tillescenter.org).

## **ABOUT LONG ISLAND UNIVERSITY (LIU)**

Long Island University, founded in 1926, continues to redefine higher education, providing high quality academic instruction by world-class faculty. Recognized by Forbes for its emphasis on experiential learning and by the Brookings Institution for its "value added" to student outcomes, LIU has a network of over 285,000 alumni, including industry leaders and entrepreneurs around the globe. Visit [liu.edu](https://liu.edu) for more information.

## **ABOUT CATHOLIC HEALTH**

Catholic Health is an integrated system encompassing some of the region's finest health and human services agencies. The health system has nearly 17,000 employees, six acute care hospitals, three nursing homes, a home health service, hospice and a network of physician practices.

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