Dear Destiny Arts Center Community and Caregivers,

First, let me thank you for your support and understanding while we, as a community, respond to the COVID-19 crisis. I am very proud of the way Destiny’s students, caregivers, staff, teaching artists, and community partners have handled the twin demands of protecting everyone and continuing classes during the most unusual of circumstances. Including, coming together for our virtual culminating performance in late May, Moving 4 Peace, which is now available to watch on our YouTube channel.

We hear your questions about how and when Destiny plans to reopen. While Destiny staff and teaching artists miss you all dearly, our first priority is safety. Be assured, we have been working diligently on various reopening scenarios. No matter the context, we are committed to continuing to provide you and your family with a high level of service.

Starting in September and continuing through December 2020, all of our programs will continue to be virtual. We are working to expand program offerings to ensure that all Destiny programs meet your needs and continue to be vibrant, educational and fun.

As Alameda County eases shelter-in-place restrictions, we plan to explore options where safety will remain our number one priority. One potential option beyond our virtual offerings we are considering for Destiny’s phase 2 includes a Social Distancing/Hybrid Plan. This would be a combination of distance and face-to-face instruction with increased safety and disinfecting measures. We are currently exploring the possibility of Grace Avenue becoming a slow street where we would section off half the street for outdoor classes.

We would of course be following all guidelines set by the state’s leadership in order to carry this model out safely (e.g. maintain a social distance (six feet) and limit the number of people in groups). We will be in touch as our adaptive strategies for reopening evolve.

I encourage you to visit our website and follow our social media to stay up to date with center developments. We fully understand your concerns about health, safety, and virtual offerings, as well as the importance of face-to-face instruction. We welcome feedback and encourage you to reach out with any questions or concerns by contacting me at mike@destinyarts.org.

Thank you for your continued support and positivity as we strive to do what is best for all of our students, families, and staff members during these challenging times.

In Community,

Mike Lee
Director of Programs