

# Taking it to the STREETS!

by **Amiya J. Alexander**



**M**y name is future dancing doctor, Amiya J. Alexander from Southfield, Michigan. I am ten years old and my company is Amiya's Mobile Dance Academy. This is the one and only dance studio on wheels! Please allow me this opportunity to share my success with you.

People always put us on the television for negative things, but I have something positive to share. Every child deserves a chance to grow and become a positive person. My dance training began when I was only two years old and I have since then attended and excelled at studios all across the nation. I am trained in the dance styles of Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Lyrical, African, Flamenco, Salsa and Hip Hop. I believe in myself and practice very hard to be as great as Debbie Allen and Alvin Ailey.

It was 1:06 in the morning on September 6, 2008, and I was sleeping in my room when I woke up in the middle of the night from a dream I had about a pink bus. I wrote my ideas down and I sketched out the bus and colored it. I wanted to open my own business by buying a bus, painting it pink and remodeling the inside by removing the seats and installing a dance floor, mirrors and ballet bars. I ran to my mom and woke her up and told her, and she was like, "Can we just go back to bed? Tell me in the morning." I told her I would like to help her, as a single mother, by opening my own business like her. After a little more convincing, I got my bus in December, and classes began that next month. On the dancing bus, I teach ballet, tap, jazz, hip hop, salsa and meringue. My students range in age from 2 to 12 years old and my great uncle, Sundiata drives the bus for me.

My goal, as you can see on my website, is to share my dance talent with younger children, focusing on underserved communities. My friends would tell me "Amiya, you know our parents can't afford this." So my job is to teach them beginner classes at a discounted rate.

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My mission is to further the art of dance in an extended cultural community which will provide dance training and community programs for all youth.

My mom met with a patent attorney and now my idea has a patent pending so that nobody can steal my idea. My ultimate goal is to save money from “AMDA” to go to Harvard Medical School and to become an Obstetrician. My mom is a registered nurse and one day I plan to be her boss, and have her work for me as my nurse and run my practice. My personal dream is to be the next Dr. Ben Carson or Dr. Charles Drew.

Some days I just like to play, be a sixth grader, and do my homework. And then on some days, I like to go to work. I call it work. □

