



MOVEMENT CLASS & BOOK EVENT

with SMASHWORKS DANCE

**REBEL
GiRLS**[®]

ALICIA ALONSO TAKES THE STAGE

Smashworks Dance and Rebel Girls have paired up to bring you Alicia Alonso Takes the Stage, the story of the near-blind Cuban ballerina's rise to stardom. Smashworks Dance wrote the educational activities at the end of the work - inspiring young rebel girls to move with confidence and claim their space!



In the words of School Library Journal:
“With this powerful, hope-filled story of overcoming one’s obstacles, readers will close this book and feel inspired to leave a legacy of their own”

MASTER CLASS & BOOK EVENT

Join Smashworks Dance for Ballet Master Class & Book Event, inspired by the incredible story of Alicia Alonso. Students are guided through a Ballet class (experience levels may vary), followed by a reading from "Alicia Alonso Takes The Stage," and concluding with creative exercises that inspire students to claim their space and "leave a creative legacy of their own" (*School Library Journal*).





ABOUT THE BOOK

Alicia Alonso was born to dance. Her first big role came when she was only ten years old, and she knew right then that she was going to be a ballerina one day. Only a few years later, she moved from Cuba to the United States to fulfill her dreams.

As she danced, however, Alicia began to have trouble seeing. She was quickly going blind. How could a ballerina dance on stage if she couldn't see where she was going? Alicia worried. But she wouldn't let it stop her. With lots of practice, great dance partners, and a few on-stage tricks, Alicia found a way to keep doing what she loved: dancing all over the globe and as one of the world's most beloved prima ballerinas.





ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Rebel Girls is an award-winning media company founded in 2012. Through a combination of thought-provoking content, stellar design, and business innovation, Rebel Girls is redefining the boundaries of indie publishing to inspire a global community of progressive families spanning seventy countries. Rebel Girls is home to a diverse and passionate group of rebels who work together in Los Angeles, New York, Atlanta, Merida (Mexico), London, and Milan.

ENGAGED COMMUNITY

Thanks to a supportive and active global community, *Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls* broke crowdfunding records. *Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls 2* followed in 2017, and broke the record set by the first, making the series the highest-funded publishing project in crowdfunding history. Since publication, the books have sold over 4 million copies, have been translated into 49 languages, and are available worldwide.

The Rebel Girls community counts on the brand to tell stories that help every girl in the world dream bigger, aim higher, and fight harder.

ABOUT SMASHWORKS DANCE

Smashworks Dance is a New York-based dance company founded and directed by choreographer Ashley McQueen. We dance to advocate for human rights issues and women's empowerment through performing arts, educational programming, and community outreach. We make dance accessible and inspire audiences to take action through our performances both onstage and in site-specific environments. We view artistic expression as power—*smashing* stereotypes and promoting dance as a unifying and confidence-building practice for all.



OUR HISTORY

Originally founded in St. Louis amidst performances presented by ANNONYArts, Smashworks relocated to New York City in 2015. We have expanded to as many as 8 dancers (quite a number for a boutique dance company in NYC), with performances throughout the greater New York City metropolitan area and tours in San Antonio, Santa Barbara, Los Angeles, Milwaukee, Kalamazoo, and St. Louis. Each performance experience is a visceral one, with each dancer putting their whole physical and emotional self into every single moment. We give space for creative collaboration, and understand that we are only as strong as the artists next to us.

We are committed to providing a creative and empowering space for local artists, while presenting high quality performances to our community through accessible and relatable dance performances and education outreach.



EDUCATION OUTREACH

SMASHWORKS DANCE IS DEVOTED TO PROVIDING ACCESSIBLE DANCE EDUCATION TO THE NEW YORK COMMUNITY AND BEYOND



ARTS IN ACTION

The arts are a key component of STEAM education, supplementing traditional STEM curricula with the skills kids need to become truly well-rounded. Arts education has been proven to teach creativity, collaboration, cultural awareness, critical thinking,



Smashworks Dance partnered with Girl Scouts of Greater New York to provide dance movement and choreography workshops that focus on building confident leaders. Girl Scouts can earn their Dance Badge by completing our dance workshop, "Confident Movers, Community Builders."



Smashworks Dance partnered with Yap About It to teach virtual dance classes as part of their mission to provide free access to mental wellness resources to young people in need. Yap About It is a 501(c)3 Non-Profit organization Established in 2017.

NEXT STEPS

Reach out to Artistic Director, Ashley McQueen, to discuss setting up a workshop for your students or organization.

smashworksdance@gmail.com

334.322.3897

