



# NEWSLETTER



Generation NEXT connects education and the arts, promoting creative classrooms and culturally relevant learning. We believe creative empowerment is central to a 21st century education. Generation NEXT removes barriers to arts participation by providing inclusive and diverse educational and artistic experiences to more than 20,000 annually.



Powerful Art. Powerful Education. Excellence in both.

## A Holiday Tradition in Full Pirouette



On December 11 and 12, we were thrilled to welcome more than **1,900 students and educators** from across the region to experience the magic of **The Nutcracker**, performed by **Ballet San Antonio**. These school-time performances brought the iconic holiday ballet to life for students from public schools, private schools, and homeschool communities alike.

Participating groups included Ambleside School of Fredericksburg, Escondido Elementary (Judson ISD), Geneva School of Boerne, Hector Garcia Middle School (NISD), Losoya Middle School (Southside ISD), Nimitz Middle School (NEISD), Sky Harbour Elementary (SWISD), Carson

Elementary (NISD), Brauchle Elementary (NISD), Karnes City Elementary (Karnes City ISD), Mountain Valley (Comal ISD), ALA Academy (SAISD), SA Life Academy, Infinity Christian Academy, St. Monica Catholic School, Lead Ahead Learning, SAT Learning Center, Classical Conversations groups, and many homeschool organizations.

This annual collaboration between **Generation NEXT and Ballet San Antonio** continues to be a joyful and meaningful way to kick off the holiday season, connecting young audiences to the performing arts and creating memories that last well beyond the final curtain call.

[Learn More about School Time Performances](#)

## Movement, Music, and Community in Motion



In November, **Water Street Dance Company** stopped by the Tobin, and it was all about movement, music, and community! Students and teachers were invited to get on their feet and dance alongside the incredibly talented company during a high-energy, interactive performance.

Packed with vibrant choreography, upbeat music, and tons of audience participation, the performance had the entire room movin' and groovin' together by the final bow, filling the space with smiles, laughter, and pure joy.

Following the unforgettable performance, students from **Pease Middle School** and **NESA Dance** took part in an inspiring post-show Q&A with Water Street Dance Company.

The dancers and creative team shared insights on managing self-doubt, finding artistic inspiration, building strong training habits, exploring alternative careers in the arts, and standing out in auditions.

Students also received direct feedback from the dancers, the artistic director, the lighting designer, and the sound engineer who helped bring the show to life, making it a powerful and motivating end to an incredible day.

[Learn More about School Time Performances](#)

## Welcome Back, Black Violin



Generation NEXT was thrilled to welcome back **Black Violin**, hosting more than **600 students** for an unforgettable musical experience. The dynamic duo, **Kevin Marcus and Wil B.**, brought the house down by blending classical strings with hip-hop beats in a performance that redefined what live music can be.

Students sang, danced, and connected with the music as Black Violin demonstrated how creativity, passion, and originality can break barriers and inspire the next generation of artists. The energy in the room was electric, making this return visit one to remember!



## COMING SOON: 123 Andrés

Generation NEXT is thrilled to welcome **Latin Grammy®-winning duo 123 Andrés** for a week of music, movement, and meaningful learning experiences designed for students **and** educators!

### Performance Dates

- 123 Andrés Activate**  
12:00 PM Valero Sensory Friendly Performance  
**January 26, 2026**
- 123 Andrés Activate**  
10:00 AM & 12:00 PM School Time Performances  
**January 27, 2026**

Students will sing, move, and celebrate bilingual traditions through joyful, high-energy performances that blend music, storytelling, and community connection.



## Professional Development: Bring the Music with 123 Andrés

**January 26, 2026 | 5:30 PM**

**Designed for Pre-K-3rd Grade Educators**

In this interactive workshop, Christina and Andrés demonstrate how **music, movement, memory, and storytelling** can transform early learning. Educators will experience hands-on games and activities that energize or calm a classroom, deepen literacy skills, and build strong classroom communities.

Participants will:

- Explore how rhythm and music support language and literacy development
- Learn movement strategies that enhance focus and comprehension
- Discover how storytelling through song fosters cultural understanding
- Leave with **ready-to-use strategies** aligned with TEKS across reading, writing, math, social studies, music, theatre, and PE

**Every participant will take home a goodie bag filled with tools and ideas to BRING THE MUSIC into their classroom!**

[Learn More](#)

## Additional Arts Integration Workshops with Paige Whelan

*Harvey E. Najim Arts Integration Program*

**Nurture Their Voice: Photography as a Tool to Inspire Writing**

*January 31, 2026 | 8:30 AM*

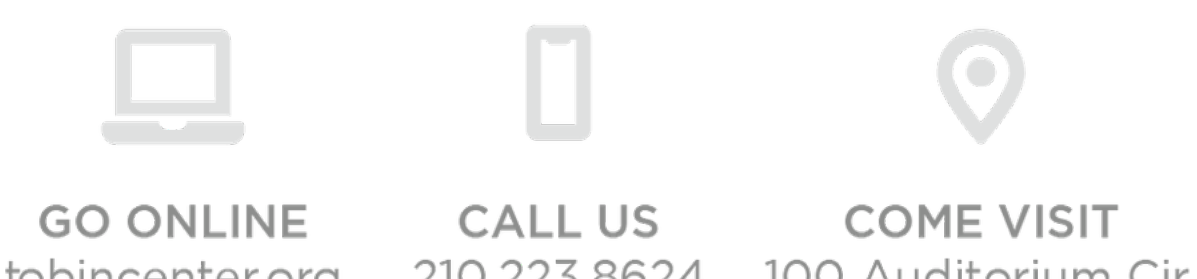
**From Art to Argument: Using the Arts to Enhance Constructed Response and Paired Reading Skills**

*January 31, 2026 | 1:00 PM*

[Learn More](#)

*Thank you to everyone involved for making these achievements possible. The Tobin Center looks forward to continuing to make a positive impact through the arts!*

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