

Maria DuBois Genné, MEd
Founder/Director
Kairos Alive!

Extended Resume

Maria DuBois Genné, MEd, Founder and Director of Kairos Alive!, a performing arts and arts education organization based in the Twin Cities, has been developing and teaching creative dance theatre programs for children, adults, families, teachers, social service and healthcare professionals for more than thirty years. As a choreographer, she has created more than 65 works that have been performed in Minneapolis/St. Paul, New York City, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Salt Lake City and Seattle and is recognized for her ability to highlight the beauty of human experience through movement and story. KAIROS' intergenerational dance company performers range in age from 1 year to 95 years.

In 2001, Genné developed The Dancing Heart™. This research based dance, music and story theater program, which is the 2007 winner of the *Archstone Excellence In Program Innovation Award* from the American Public Health Association, a 2008 *Mind Alert Award* winner from MetLife and the American Society on Aging and the 2011 *Rosalinde Gilbert Innovations in Alzheimer's Disease Caregiving Legacy Award*, is designed to tap into the artistry and creativity of older adults and invite them to be collaborators in the artistic process of dance, music and storytelling as well as create measurable health benefits for participants, and cost off care savings for providers. It models a new role in society for the community based professional performing artist in collaboration with health care and community-based providers.

A chapter co-authored by Maria is included in the Springer Publications textbook, Enhancing Cognitive Fitness in Adults: A Guide for Use and Development of Community-Based Programs and her article, "Kairos Dance Theatre Makes a World" was included in *Animated* Fall 2010, a publication of the Community Dance Foundation, Great Britain. Genné, Kairos Alive! (Kairos Dance Theatre) and *Dancing Heart*™ are featured in the PBS television series: ARTS & THE MIND. Genné is also featured in Minnesota Radio's "Art Heroes" series.