

# After-School Specials

A few innovative nonprofits are engaging interested students on their own turf outside school hours, offering children in-depth arts experiences at no cost to them — and no extra trips for their parents.

• **Artes de la Rosa** Creating a play from start to finish is hard work (even for adults), but it's the process that makes the after-school Artes Academy in Fort Worth so incredibly rewarding. Classes for kids ages 9 to 18 are held in the fall, spring and summer to teach the art of performance, creative writing and the power of teamwork. The program has won multiple awards and is committed to providing arts education for low-income neighborhoods; scholarships are available for qualified students. For more information, 817-624-8333 or [artes.academy@artesdelarosa.org](mailto:artes.academy@artesdelarosa.org).

• **B Sharp Youth Music Program** Como Elementary School is making music and creating confidence. Its B Sharp Music Program is Fort Worth ISD's only elementary orchestra. Each week, about 70 students from this after-school program get top-notch musical lessons from local professional musicians through ensemble-based instruction. Last year, the program grew to include middle and high school students and formed the B Sharp Youth Orchestra, which is open to students across FWISD. Auditions are required. To learn more, contact program coordinator Dorsey Griffin at 817-899-4209 or [dorsey@bsharpkids.org](mailto:dorsey@bsharpkids.org).

• **Texas Ballet Theater** It goes beyond plié and tendu to the joy of moving to classical music and the confidence instilled by self-discipline. CityDance, an after-school program of Texas Ballet Theater, brings free, five-week-long sessions of introductory ballet on-site to 40 public schools and organizations each year, reaching some 850 students. A couple of lucky participants with exceptional talent earn a yearlong scholarship to continue their study at TBT, attire included. For more information, contact community enrichment manager Merideth Tullous at 817-763-0207, ext. 103, or [merideth@texasballet.org](mailto:merideth@texasballet.org).

