



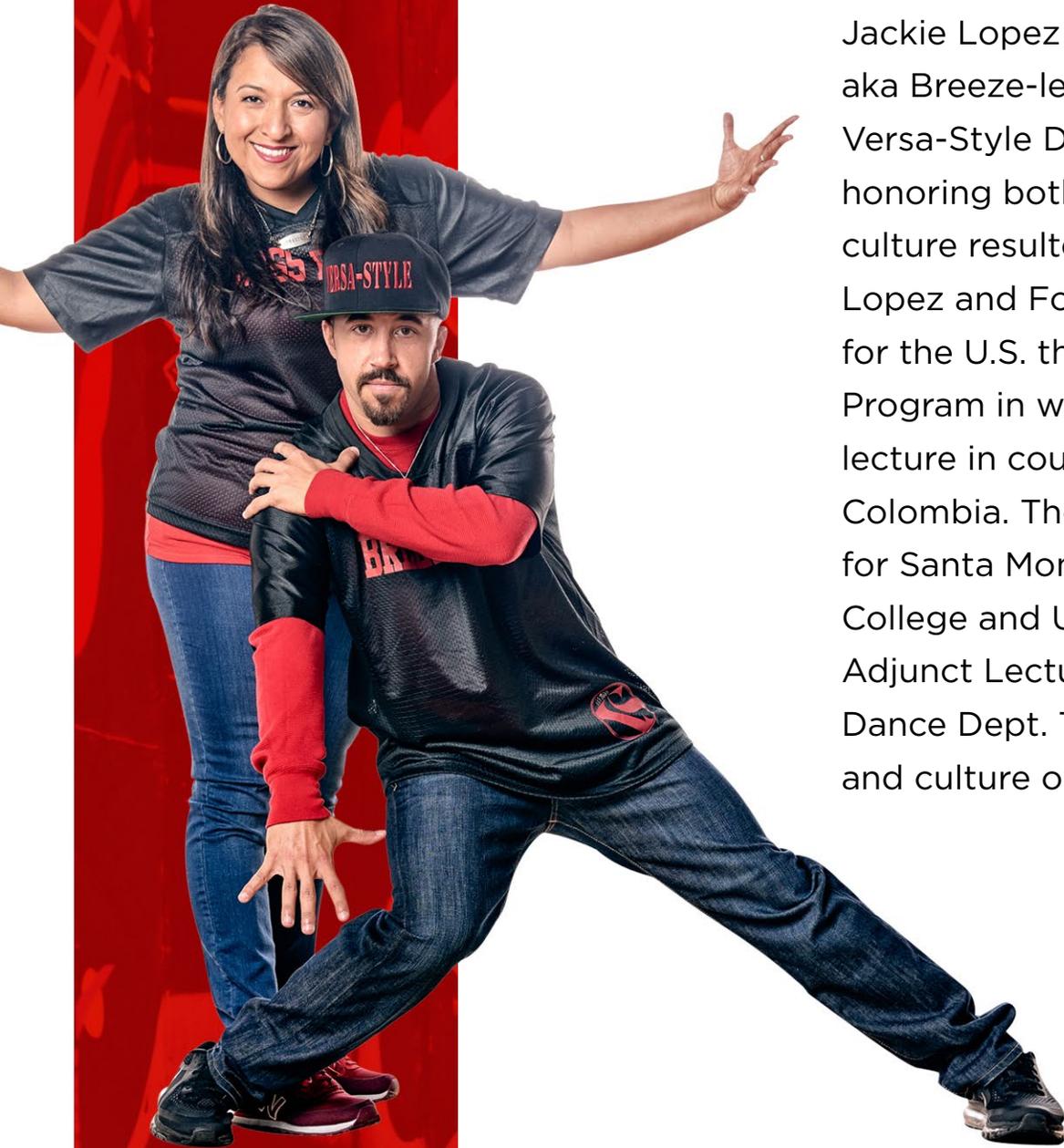
# OUR MISSION

Versa-Style Dance Company seeks to empower youth through the movement and culture of hip-hop dance by giving back to the communities which we came from. Our goal is to give young artists a pipeline to fulfill their passion in the dance community.



# THE FOUNDERS

Jackie Lopez aka Miss Funk & Leigh Foaad aka Breeze-lee are the Founders and Artistic Directors of Versa-Style Dance Company. Their common passion for honoring both Hip-hop dance and Los Angeles artistic culture resulted in the creation of Versa-Style in 2005. Lopez and Foaad have served as cultural ambassadors for the U.S. through the Arts Envoy Cultural Exchange Program in which they were able to perform, teach and lecture in countries such as Israel, Egypt, India, and Colombia. They have also been guest choreographers for Santa Monica College, LA Valley College, Columbia College and University of Utah. Currently, they are both Adjunct Lecturers for UCLA's World Arts and Cultures/ Dance Dept. They owe a lot of their fortune to the legends and culture of Hip-hop.



# K-12 SCHOOL TOUR

With over 700,000 students in the LAUSD system, Versa-Style aims to perform, connect and educate. In a dynamic one hour show, we perform choreography, demonstrate foundation, and unfold the history of Hip-hop culture. As a collective, we strive to reach underprivileged schools who would otherwise not have the access to a professional dance experience. Our intention is that students gain a new perspective on the impact arts can have in their communities. This unique opportunity is offered at no cost to the school, which relieves the financial burden from the school administration.

# SCHOOL RESIDENCIES

Versa-Style Dance Company is dedicated to providing enriching opportunities through dance education. Company members can lead a dance residency at elementary, middle, and high schools with prospective students. This residency will teach the students fundamental dance techniques and styles. Through Hip-hop dance, students utilize their creativity and ingenuity to develop their individual voice. With this direct mentorship, students develop an understanding of hard work, dedication, and communication skills.



A group of young dancers in a studio, with the text "NEXT GENERATION" overlaid in white. The dancers are in various poses, some with arms raised, suggesting a hip-hop or contemporary dance style. The background is a red-tinted studio with a speaker visible in the upper right.

# NEXT GENERATION

Founded in 2009 by Miss Funk and Breeze-Lee, Versa-Style Next Generation is a group of highly talented and dedicated young dancers from the greater Los Angeles area. Participation in the program offers the opportunity to participate in a pre-professional Hip-hop dance company and with hard work, dedication, and growth they move up to the professional touring company. The group participates in community performances, some travel performances, and all Versa-Style sponsored events. 90% of the current touring company has completed the VSNG program.

# ARE YOU THE NEXT GENERATION?

Participation in VSNG happens mainly through an audition process, occurring bi-yearly in North Hollywood. However, students who show high levels of dedication and growth at the Versa-Style Dance Classes may be offered additional invitations to train with the company as they arise, in preparation for the VSNG auditions.

Member requirements are as follows:

- Age range of 15-19 (with some exceptions)
- Plans to pursue higher education or professional work as a dancer
- Weekly attendance to the VS Dance Classes
- Weekly attendance at Sunday rehearsals
- Participation in all Versa-Style sponsored events
- Nominal monthly tuition fee



# ONE DAY DANCE INTENSIVES

The VS One Day Dance Intensives bring together some of the most talented dancers from all over Los Angeles into one all-day workshop. Classes range in all styles of street dance, from Popping to House to Locking to Dancehall. Also, the low cost of the intensives allow students to take class with world-class dancers who are not normally accessible.

# FRIDAY NIGHT DANCE CLASSES

Every Friday night, Lopez and Foaad, as well as Principle Dancer Harry Weston, make themselves personally available to teach low cost dance classes attended by members of Versa-Style, as well as Versa-Style Next Generation. Offered are beginning to intermediate classes in Hip-hop and House, and allow students accessibility to an inspiring dance studio setting not normally available for the underserved demographics of Los Angeles.





## LET THE MUSIC MOVE YOU

Held multiple times a year, the Versa-Style Let The Music Move You community dance battles brings dancers and supporters from all over Los Angeles together to engage in friendly competition and social dance. These events are held at a low cost to the community so youth are encouraged to attend and be a part of true hip-hop culture.

## V.S. ANNUAL HIP-HOP DANCE FESTIVAL

Our largest event of the year, the Versa-Style Annual Hip-hop Dance Festival, which is held in partnership with the East Los Angeles Performing Arts Magnet, is a 2 day event open to the public. Beginning with a free workshop with the Directors of Versa-Style for invited LAUSD partners, Day 1 of the event focuses around the battle, where local and international dancers put their skills to the test in a competitive setting. On Day 2, the judges for the competition, who are invited street dance pioneers and innovators, teach low cost workshops.





## CONTACT US

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