Dugo Alaala a Celebration of Black History Month

Spectrum In Motion celebrated Black History Month at the Boys & Girls Club this year with a very emotionally powerful production, ***Dugo Alaala.*** Based on the poems of writers such as Langston Hughes, Dudley Randall and Nikki Giovanni among others, they expressed the feelings and emotions through recitation, music and of course dance.

The production used three separate spaces within the club, the dance studio itself, where they rehearse, the hallway at the entrance and the basketball gym, the largest of the spaces.

 Part of Spectrum in Motions mission for the past 35th years has been to build community, and that was made especially evident by the emotions expressed especially by Carol Terry a long time board member as she greeted former dancers who returned for the performance. Children who came as beginning dancers and went on to mentor and teach the next generation of young dancers are taking what they gained from their Spectrum experience into their adult lives. To see this goal from so long ago realized is the dream of every teacher and Olivia Ilano-Davis and Carol Terry are no exception.

The poems that were featured include *The Negro Speaks of Rivers*, and *Negro* by Langston Hughes, *Girls in the Circle* by Nikki Giovanni, *Ballad of Birmingham* by Dudley Randall, *Not a Delicate Daughter* and *This Poem* by Ruth Forman and *Liberty* by Janet S. Wong. All of them are searchable on the internet. There were also four works, *Strange Fruit, Everything Must Change* and *Freedom Trail*, Choreographed by Olivia Ilano-Davis and *To Be Young Gifted and Black* Choreographed by Thulani Davis with Olivia Ilano-Davis.

Spectrum In Motion really is an enduring part of the arts and culture of Asylum Hill and more people should experience it. Your next opportunity will be Solos & Duets at Asylum Hill Congregational Church April 29th. Go to http://www.spectruminmotion.org for more info. For more photos of the event go to https://goo.gl/photos/tridR5w6492xbdrt6