

## In the Spotlight...

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**Our Mission** – Founded in 2005 with the firm conviction that dance as a physical, mental and social experience is a powerful educational tool, Berkshire Pulse is a dynamic nonprofit dance and performing arts education center located in downtown Housatonic, MA. Its mission is to build and strengthen community life through diverse and accessible programming in performing, movement and creative arts. By promoting the participation in these educational and health sustaining activities, we enrich the lives of families and individuals of all ages throughout the region.

**Our Background** – Berkshire Pulse has provided the Southern Berkshire Community with high quality arts programming for 12 years. Founder/Artistic Director Bettina Montano's passionate belief in accessible dance education led her to create The Flowering Child Performing Arts Program in 1995, which evolved into Pulse in 2005. Today, Pulse is a firmly established, dynamic nonprofit dance and performing arts education center located in a newly renovated, historic mill building. Participants attest to the consistently superior quality and broad range of the classes offered, the excellence of the faculty, and the enthusiasm for and commitment to each participant's growth and wellbeing, from beginners to advanced levels of proficiency.

**Our Blueprint for Success** – Each year, Pulse serves over 600 individuals age 3–87 through programs in dance, world music and performing arts that culminate in an annual celebration performance, scheduled to take place on May 27 and 28 at the Daniel Arts Center at Simon's Rock of Bard College. Through our programs and community events, Pulse provides a place where all people, regardless of their economic status, can come to experience the discipline and self-confidence that performing arts training instills and be nourished by these vital arts. Pulse has never turned away a student for an inability to pay the modest tuition. In fact, up to 35% of youth and adult participants have received some level of tuition assistance. This commitment to accessibility is key to our success.

### Contact Information –

#### **Berkshire Pulse**

P.O. Box 37, 420 Park Street Housatonic, MA 01236

(413) 274-6624

Contact: Susan Ingersoll, Managing Director [susan.pulse@gmail.com](mailto:susan.pulse@gmail.com)

[www.berkshirepulse.org](http://www.berkshirepulse.org)

