



Houston Ballet- Guest Speaking Program

Students who participate in the Guest Speaking program and complete the accompanying reflection questions will be able to:

- Recall the education and career pathway of the speaker;
- Identify habits and skills that helped the speaker in their chosen field and how those skills transfer to other career pathways;
- Compare and contrast the speaker's career pathway with their own educational and career goals.

Your speaker today was _____.

Their job at Houston Ballet is _____.

Biography:



Native Houstonian, Lauren Anderson danced with Houston Ballet from 1983 to 2006, performing leading roles in all the great classical ballets, appearing across the world to critical acclaim, and in the process, becoming one of Houston Ballet's most beloved stars. She trained exclusively at Houston Ballet's Ben Stevenson Academy from the age of seven. She joined Houston Ballet in 1983 as a Corps de Ballet and in 1990 became the first Black principal dancer at Houston Ballet. She is also one of the few Black ballerinas at the head of a major ballet company anywhere in the world.



Student Reflection Questions

- 1) What were some of the highlights in the speaker's education and career?

- 2) Did the speaker face any obstacles? If so, what were they?

- 3) What are some of the habits and skills that make the speaker successful in their career?

- 4) Was there anything in the speaker's story that you related to?

- 5) What was something you learned from the speaker that you can apply to your life?