

TRIVIA & WORD SEARCH

May I Have This Dance Exhibition includes works of Native Americans apart of the Cherokee tribe. Find the words that represent the seven divisions of the tribe.

O A A A Q B V F N E A X  
 Z D K T S S F R R U L X  
 K E K C C F Q W U P O K  
 U E Q L L R B I R D N G  
 R R F L R C L B W E G U  
 C V L X T W W T H V H Y  
 N M U H O B N F C R A R  
 N J Y L E I P J W S I U  
 Y P F Y A S R U E P R O  
 A W J P Z J W U Q X A T  
 P O T A T O P D L I W R  
 G Z P L O Y I H T G W S

- This animal tends to howl at the moon
- Another phrase for "crazy french fry"
- This animal has antlers and crosses deserted roads
- This animal flies and sometimes wakes one in the morning
- Medium used with paint brushes
- It grows from ones' skin and its lengthy

Hints: Potato, Wolf, Deer, Long Hair, Paint, Bird

Family Gallery Guide

Eluster Richardson  
 May I Have This Dance?

ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

Written & Designed by William Barton

May I Have This Dance is a collection of visual art (drawing, painting, and sculpture) inspired by the performing arts—specifically, the art of dance. Dancing is something everyone can identify with; whether you have danced, seen a dance, or clapped along to the music while watching dancers such as the people in the background of *Sierra Leonean Dancers*.

In this series, Eluster Richardson merges his favored subject of portraits with dancing. Each of the works in the collection focus on a dance style from around the world and most are explored in different mediums and styles. Whether a sculpture, oil painting, pastel drawing, or watercolor painting, Eluster Richardson captures the essence of movement. Richardson intends to bring viewers back to a nostalgic moment, while simultaneously educating viewers on the history and traditions of various cultural dances. Each painting or drawing is just a frozen moment in time—one step in each routine that allows the audience the opportunity to appreciate the passion and agility that can be overlooked in action.



Eluster Richardson, *Sierra Leonean Dancers*, oil on canvas, 40 x 30 inches

## LEARN ABOUT THE DANCES

One of the dance styles in this exhibition and seen as entertainment at festivals and restaurants, belly dancing is predominantly done by women in various clothing. In other cultures women use this as a form of exercise and to help with pregnancies. Match the descriptions with the correct clothing in the pictures below.



A

B

C

- \_\_\_ Full length cotton robe that's usually wide with no collar
- \_\_\_ Cabaret style outfit with beaded skirt, body stocking, belt & bra
- \_\_\_ Long floor length dress made of natural fibers

## ABOUT THE ARTIST

Eluster Richardson was born and raised in Tallahassee, Florida and has been painting since the third grade. All while building his portfolio, Eluster started out as a telecommunication specialist; also a network engineer at the John G. Riley Museum in his hometown. He enjoys oil painting; however he primarily works in watercolor and has studied his craft as a member of both the Florida and Southern watercolor societies. He has exhibited all throughout Florida and the United States, while winning awards in between. Despite him believing that people provide "such a challenge", he is known for depicting their emotions and expressions within his art. Successfully, Eluster takes advantage of the fact that "you'll never run out of situations or different attitudes you can catch them in".

## LEARN ABOUT THE DANCES

How familiar are you with the dances depicted in "May I Have This Dance"?

1. Today's hip hop dancing was inspired by moves & groups from as early as the 1970s. One West Coast group, "The Lockers" was created by Don "Campbellock" Campbell. What dance move was his group famous for?
2. One reason Eluster chose this subject for his exhibition is that everyone can identify with the subject, dancing. Some of which require more formal training while others can be done by anyone. Which of these dances is popular for encouraging all to participate?
3. The importance of art is communication, if it speaks or makes an impact typically it is well received, and the same goes with dance. Which dance style only finds success in delivering a message to viewers?