

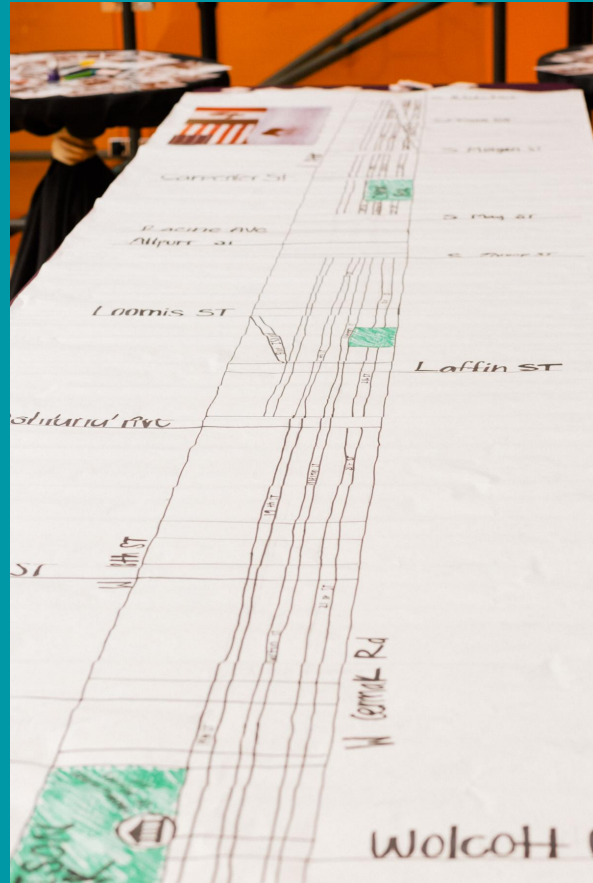
A vibrant outdoor dance event at Clinard. The scene is set in a grassy area with a large, colorful mural on the wall of a building in the background. The mural features various figures and patterns in shades of blue, yellow, red, and purple. Several people are visible, some wearing face masks. In the foreground, a man in a black shirt and blue jeans is dancing on a wooden platform. To his right, a man in a striped shirt and shorts is also dancing. Further back, a woman in a red top and black pants is dancing. On the right side, two women are dancing on a wooden platform; one is wearing a white polka-dot dress and the other is wearing a colorful patterned skirt and a black top. The sky is clear and blue, and there are trees with yellow leaves in the background.

Clinard Dance

Projects and Programming
2019 - Present

In conjunction with our Everyday People Everyday Action project, this post-show community art project, was done in partnership with the J-Def Peace Project. The community took Akito's photos of Pilsen and matched them onto the map of Pilsen where the corresponding photos were originally taken in the early 1990's by Akito Tsuda (2019).





Map of Pilsen made by J Def Peace Project for our community post show art project in conjunction with Everyday People Everyday Action, 2019.

Patricia Ortega

“I met Wendy Clinard over twenty years ago in the Flamenco community when I was collaborating with the musical group Las Guitarras de Espana as a vocalist. Wendy encouraged me to start learning flamenco cante (singing) and helped introduce me to the art form. Since then, we have performed together in various capacities from educational lecture demonstrations and workshops on the flamenco arts, as well as concerts on stages all across the U.S. I have really enjoyed how Wendy finds unique, creative ways of making connections through flamenco and other genres, always digging deep within to make some incredible, poignant productions. Not only is Wendy a top notch dancer, her artistic vision never ceases to amaze and inspire me. She leads with grace, and eagerness to welcome the co-creative experience within her projects. I am always excited to see what Wendy Clinard will produce next, and even more honored when I get to be a part of the process.”



Public at El Paseo's annual Harvest Festival
2022.



Hip hop dancer Chris
Courtney in Everyday
People Everyday Action
2019. Photo by Akito Tsuda
from Pilsen Day's book.
Photos taken of Pilsen in the
1990s.



Body Confidence for Queens in residence at Clinard Dance studio in Pilsen. 2020-present.



Free outdoor community class at El Paseo Garden in Pilsen 2020-present.

Diego Alvarez

My first contact with Wendy Clinard was through Nino de los Reyes. Nino suggested that I accompany him to a residence in Chicago. I had never done a residency before in my life, so I had no idea what it was about. When I arrived at the Wendy studio in the heart of the Pilsen neighborhood, I directly met a community of artists, with a long history in the city and with totally different artistic talents than mine. Blues, Jazz, Dance, Hip Hop, Rap and Flamenco, everything came together from a single point of view, creativity, the ideal space to be free, each one from their field and in principle they are touching the other. As the folks passed by in that studio and we got to know each other, we were at the same time part of each other, leaving an increasingly larger space between one genre and another. Without any fear, we find ourselves in fascinatingly close and occasionally the same meeting points, from different perspectives, but with the same principles.

Now, based on that incredible experience, we take any type of project from a much more advanced point of view, thus creating a natural and intact way of working, where Joan Collaso sings a jazz standard over a solea por bulerías with great naturalness or Billy Branch is in the middle of a blues on a Martinete, without even thinking about it, because now we only understand each other as a harmonious family of artists, who know each other so well artistically that they are not afraid to create and share that same creation as their once they captivate this humble group of people, it creates an unrepeatable impact on its own audience.



Free open studio evening at Clinard Dance's home studio in Pilsen. Ethnomusicologist Mike Allemana joined flamenco artists and the local community to talk about the history of jazz and blues in Chicago, and the intersections of flamenco, 2022.



Carcelera Project at Back of
the Yards Park Summer
2022 in conjunction with
Night Out In The Park in
partnership with Precious
Blood Ministry of
Reconciliation, also located
in Back of the Yards.



Akito Tsuda in conversation with Pilsen audience members at the National Museum of Mexican Art talking about his photos taken of the neighborhood in the 1990's (left).

Director of Body Confidence for
Queens, Mocha/Kenshumma
Tolliver, in rehearsal at Clinard
Dance studio (right).



El Paseo Garden
Community Class with
live music,
2020-present (left).

Mocha

My first time attending Clinard Dance studio was about three years ago for a dance class taught by an artist named Chi Blu. This was also my first time meeting Wendy. My first impression of her was that she was a very cool teacher and mentor. But what I loved most is that she had a strong respect for the arts and wanted to preserve its history.

Shortly after attending this dance class, I spoke individually with Wendy about my dance background and how I've been looking for a space to host classes. During this time, money was an issue for me. I had just started my own business and I didn't have the funds to consistently rent out studios for my classes.

Wendy offered me a residency at Clinard Dance. She was the first elder who ever helped me elevate my business. She supplied me with a location, knowledge, various opportunities and grants. She even introduced me to famous Jazz players and poets, thus bridging the gap between generations of artists.

I am so grateful to have met Wendy, she is who I aspire to be as an elder and mentor. Wendy has a very big heart and because she was able to give to me so openly & easily, I want to pass that love down. I want to give back and pour into others the same way she has poured into me.

Son Jarocho artist and Pilsen elder,
interviewed for our Barrio en
Barrio project, Jesus Rojas 2021.





Co creations between flamenco, blues, jazz
and rap at El Paseo's Harvest Festival
2022.



Body Confidence for Queens
in residence 2020-present.

Jonathan Pacheco

I am grateful to Wendy Clinard and Clinard Dance for providing one of the few places in the Chicago area dedicated to the study of flamenco rhythms. As a Spanish dancer, I first began attending Clinard Dance's community classes to increase my understanding of flamenco dance and music. Through Wendy's instruction, not only have I grown exponentially in my dance technique but have gained a greater sense of confidence in my quest for self-expression and innovation. At Clinard Dance, students learn how art and movement can be used to create authentic and meaningful change in the world.

Director of Carcelera Project,
King Moosa/Brian Harrington, in
rehearsal at Clinard Dance 2023.





Teresa Antonino began studying flamenco with Clinard Dance at Kelly High School in an After School Matters program, 13 years later she is still studying with us. We interviewed her mother Araceli Antonino for our Barrio en Barrio project. It premieres Nov 2023 at Arts and Public Life's Green Line Performing Arts Center in Washington Park. Taken at work in progress showing in our studio in 2022.

Araceli Antonino, Pilsen elder,
interviewed for our Barrio en
Barrio project.



Andrea Salcedo

I first met Wendy Clinard this past year 2022 when she invited me to be a part of a project that turned out to be one of my favorite collaborations ever. The mix of flamenco, jazz, blues and rap along with the musicians she invited gave us all an opportunity to create a beautiful conversation. All of these elements together made me feel at home, they all captured Chicago's essence, the cultural diversity that makes this city unique. It is important to showcase projects like this one, because music and art is what brings us all together. For that and many more things I am forever grateful for the opportunity to share my music with the beautiful community Wendy has created in her studio and hope to continue to do so in the future.



Everyday People Everyday Action at The National Museum of Mexican Art. Photos by Akito Tsuda. Performers Chris Courtney, Marfil Aleman, Wendy Clinard, 2019.



Camilo Rincon, Son Jarocho artist, performing in Everyday People Everyday Action 2019. Photo by Akito Tsuda.



Co creations between Flamenco,
Blues, Jazz and Rap Sept 2022 in
Englewood at Sherwood Park in
conjunction with Night Out In The
Parks.



Project dedicated to explorations between Flamenco,
Blues, Jazz and Rap. Performance 2023 in
conjunction with the Chicago Flamenco Festival.
Performers: Joan Collaso, Billy Branch, Diego
Alvarez, Jose Diaz, Marija Temo, Patricia Ortega,
King Moosa and Wendy Clinard.

Teresa Antonino-Mora

I first met Wendy when I was 16 and while taking classes with one of her former students. At 18, I signed up for flamenco classes at Clinard Dance. Ten years have passed and I still continue to attend classes with Wendy. Clinard Dance has opened its doors and welcomed the community to join the flamenco world from student shows to free classes in a nearby community garden. Wendy embarked on an international project of creating songs based on the life stories of community members in Pilsen, including my mom. Clinard Dance has given me the opportunity to grow as a dancer, immerse myself into my flamenco studies, and the opportunity to practice flamenco to my mother's song.



Dancer, Nino de los Reyes, in rehearsal for Barrio en Barrio project 2022. Also in photo: Jose Diaz, Steve Gibbons and Jose Luis Rodriguez.



Body Confidence for Queens in residence at Clinard Dance 2020-present.



Joan Collaso in work in progress free showing of our Barrio en Barrio project 2022.



Rehearsals at Clinard Dance studio in Pilsen for the Barrio en Barrio Project, 2021. This project will premiere in November 2023 at Green Line Performing Arts Center in Washington Square (Arts and Public Life).



Free open studio evenings for the
public, sharing student studies
2019-present.



Company dancer and teacher
Marisela Tapia in a free open studio
evening at Clinard Dance's home
studio 2019-present.



Rap and Spoken Word
Artist King Moosa and
director of Clinard
Dance's Carcelera Project.
Summer 2022 at El Paseo
Garden in conjunction
with the annual Harvest
Festival.



Original co- creations
between Flamenco, Blues,
Rap and Jazz 2021-2023.
Participating artists are Joan
Collaso, King Moosa, Billy
Branch, Diego Alvarez,
Andrea Salcedo, Patricia
Ortega and Wendy Clinard.



Hip Hop artist Chris Courtney
in Everyday People Everyday
Action 2019. Photo by Akito
Tsuda.