

PS 133 WILLIAM A. BUTLER SCHOOL IN BROOKLYN MEETS THE SWISS CONSULATE

In the context of the French language initiative «Adopt a School», the Consulate General of Switzerland launched its partnership with *PS 133 William A. Butler School in Brooklyn* last Friday with a modern dance performance by *Marie-Christine Giordano Dance*.



Dance Performance by Marie-Christine Giordano Dance in the gymnasium at PS 133 William A. Butler School in Brooklyn

Originally developed by the *The International Organisation of La Francophonie (OIF)* and *French Education in New York (EFNY)* in 2015, the initiative «Adopt a School» invites representations of French-speaking countries to «adopt» a New York City public school that has a French-English dual language program or another strong French language component. The idea to introduce this program at PS 133 came from parents of Swiss pupils. This eventually led to the Swiss Consulate General's engagement within the context of «Adopt a School» as a sponsor of PS 133.



Kids with Swiss baseball caps after the performance

Friday's dance performance marked the launch of the partnership between the Swiss Consulate and the school. The performance was attended by all children that are part of the bilingual program, their teachers as well as representatives of the OIF and the Cultural Services of the French Embassy. Just prior to the performance, Matthias Dettling, Head of Culture & Education at the Swiss Consulate, welcomed the audience with a few remarks about Switzerland and its connection to the French language. Swiss dancer and choreographer Marie-Christine Giordano continued with an interesting explanation about the medium of dance as an expressive, healing, and unifying art form which was

SWISS CONSULATE NEW YORK

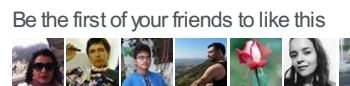
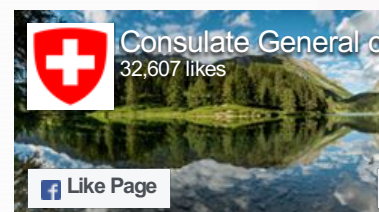


This is the official Tumblr of the Consulate General of Switzerland in New York.

- HOME
- ABOUT
- HISTORY
- SOCIAL MEDIA
- ART @ THE CONSULATE
- SECURITY ADVICE
- ASK

SOCIAL NETWORKS

Follow [@SwissCGNY](#)



EXTRAS

- [RSS](#)
- [Archive](#)



followed by her ensemble's smooth performance, both with and without musical accompaniment. The children were thus offered an unusual modern dance experience. After the performance, the children had the opportunity to practice their French and ask Ms. Giordano questions about her dance performance and her life as a Swiss living in New York.



From left to right: Dimitra Kritikou, Project Manager, Multilingualism and Culture, Représentation permanente de l'OIF auprès des Nations Unies, Sandrine Ligabue, Deputy Head of the Cultural Department at the Swiss Consulate, Marie-Christine Giordano, Matthias Dettling, Head of the Cultural Department at the Swiss Consulate, Blake Ramsey, French Dual Language Teacher / Literacy and French Dual Language Coach at PS 133 William A. Butler School, Dancers Marie-Christine Giordano Dance, Fabrice Jaumont, Education Attaché, French Embassy in the United States

The event highlighted Switzerland's dedication to multilingualism. For the children at PS 133 the event was both entertaining and a learning experience outside of the traditional classroom setting. The event also contributed to the goal of the «Adopt a School» initiative to protect the linguistic and cultural heritage of currently 22,000 French-speaking children in New York City.



Matthias Dettling, Head of the Cultural Department, and Sandrine Ligabue, Deputy Head of the Cultural Department at the Swiss Consulate

Marie-Christine Giordano is known for her hypnotic and magnetic performances. Having grown up in the French-speaking town of Fribourg in Switzerland, Marie-Christine Giordano came to New York to study at the Alvin Ailey American Dance Center. During her career, she has created a singular modern dance technique and Giordano Alignment, which she taught at various dance schools in New York City. In 2002, she founded [Marie-Christine Giordano Dance](#).

