

i reject **fear** as a teaching tool;  
**courage** and **care** build better  
dancers. i believe **honesty** is a  
form of **respect** and respect  
means high standards. no to  
cages; **it takes a village to starve  
an artist.** i want schools to be  
tough, safe, and **transformative.** i  
want dancers who are **strong,**  
**curious,** and free. humor belongs  
in the studio; laughter is part of the  
training. **the public is not stupid.** i  
want audiences to **rise with us,**  
not watch from over there. i insist  
on **dancing fully;** we are not  
baking cookie-cutter dancers.  
**stop using dance as a  
garnishment.** dance is  
infrastructure and deserves real  
support. i choose **collaboration**  
over competition. **the dance  
world is small enough to be  
kind.**

*Armando Braswell - 2025*