We are fortunate to partner with UMass Amherst Fine Arts Center Angel Ticket program which provides us with tickets to exciting performances. Holyoke and Springfield students experienced the exhilarating sound of the Eddie Palmieri Salsa Orchestra. Palmieri is a ten time Grammy award winning pianist of Puerto Rican descent. He is a phenomenal band leader, melding jazz and traditional Puerto Rican music, inspiring listeners to dance in the aisles.

On a separate trip, students from Holyoke watched the beautiful dancing of the contemporary Brazilian dance group Grupo Corpo. The company fuses ballet and modern dance with traditional Brazilian music and movements. Emily Lopez, says “I liked how precisely they danced, you could see every movement, every line. I especially liked the duet!” Students look forward to experiencing more arts through Upward Bound.