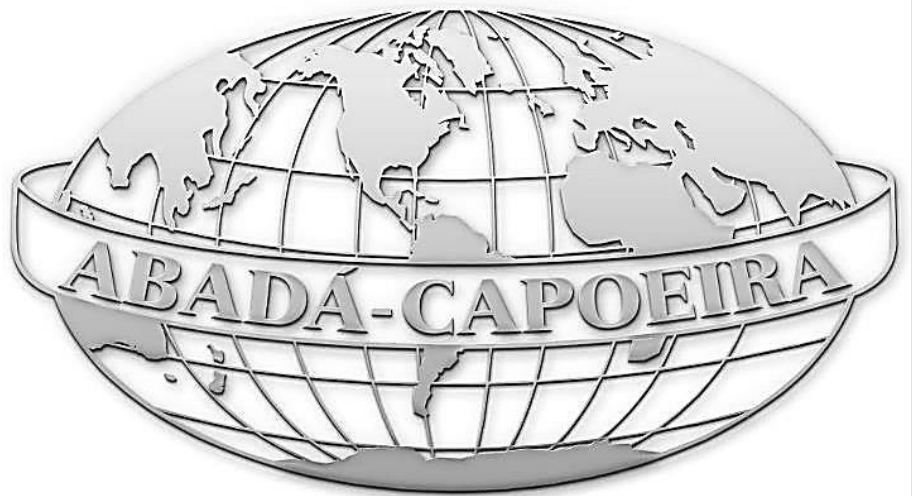


Abada DC

2025/26 Annual Report



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

What a year, Abada-Capoeira DC family!

We kicked things off with performances in Alma Dance Studio's end of year exhibition. It was great to have so many students participating. We had a nice group travel to the International Festival & World Games 2025 in Brazil — workshops, lectures, rodas, competitions, the works! Three new Mestres were recognized, 14 new Mestrandos graduated (shoutout to the new Mestrandos in the USA, Mestrando Côco and Mestrando Jabuti!), and back home we couldn't be prouder watching Instrutora Charada earn her purple cord and Instrutor Colmeia rise to purple-brown!

This year was non-stop. We closed out our park season with a training weekend alongside friends from NY, followed by our last outdoor roda of the year with the wider DC capoeira community. And in November, as always, we paused to honor our roots with a special training on Zumbi dos Palmares and Mestre Bimba. "My Queen Maleficent Drinks Golden Milk At Breakfast." (The ACDC people will get the reference.)

On the program front, we launched a brand-new After School program in Woodley Park for middle schoolers, had the honor of joining Strathmore's Spring Camp (complete with a performance and a capoeira-inspired art exhibit!), and brought capoeira to new faces at Pine Spring ES and Freedom HS in Virginia.

We showed up for our community too — sharing capoeira at the Kensington Library, Inova Hospital Center, and our first-ever appearance at the Reston Multicultural Festival. We got our hands dirty with a roadside cleanup, gave back through blood drive and winter coat donations, raised awareness during Yellow September, and kept our scholarship program going strong for young people who need it most. And of course — we still made time to play! Beach days, water parks, a spooky Halloween bash with Alma Dance Studio, and our unforgettable Holiday Party full of games, gift exchanges, great food, and heartfelt gratitude.

Spring brought us together hand-coloring cordas for our annual graduation ceremony — because in capoeira, every cord is made by hand for the student wearing it, a tradition we love. We also hit the road to cheer on our Abada family in San Francisco, NY and Utah — always a joy to celebrate with friends across the country.

And 2026 is already roaring! Our Virginia Academy has a gorgeous new home in Chantilly, just across the street from the old one — come check it out! Our brand-new website just dropped too (www.abadadc.org — go take a look!). Capital Games & Batizado 2026 brought the house down with special guests Mestrando Coala, Mestranda Gigi, and Mestrando Côco, all while collecting food donations at the door for Manna Food Center.

We also picked up grants from the Maryland State Arts Council (who even made a documentary about us!) and 4Imprint, and we welcomed four gorgeous new babies into our ACDC family — congratulations to Instrutora Mandarim, Serena, Uirapuru and Instrutor Colmeia!

Thank you for making this art form — and this community — so alive.

Here's to an even bigger, bolder 2026/27.

Nycole (Cigana) Klein
President, ABADA-Capoeira DC

Abada DC Mission

The mission of ABADÁ-CAPOEIRA DC is to promote, spread, and support Brazilian arts and culture through the practice of Capoeira, and to use our practice of Capoeira and associated arts to build a healthy and more closely connected community within the Washington, D.C. Area. We are organized to accomplish charitable and educational goals including working to lessen socio-economic inequality.

Background

ABADÁ-CAPOEIRA believes that the study of Capoeira involves dedication to all the various aspects of the art, including the relentless pursuit of technical mastery of the physical elements of Capoeira; constant evolution of the technique to improve efficiency and prevent injury; understanding of and reverence for Capoeira's rich history; individual competence and knowledge of the music and instruments of Capoeira; preservation and recovery of the instruments, rhythms, and games of Capoeira; and participation in the larger Capoeira community, in Brazil and throughout the world.

ABADÁ-CAPOEIRA's teaching methodology is both challenging and supportive, rooted in the belief that encouragement and positive role-modeling enable Capoeira to enrich the lives of all students, regardless of skill level or background. ABADÁ-CAPOEIRA provides all students with leadership skills and tools to develop into competent professionals.

ABADÁ-CAPOEIRA in the Washington, D.C. Area shares the name and philosophy with the international organization of over 70,000 members, founded in 1988 by Mestre Camisa, and based in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The acronym ABADÁ-CAPOEIRA, translated into English, stands for "Brazilian Association for the Support and Development of the Art of Capoeira."

Abada-Capoeira DC Values and Philosophy

Our work is inspired by commitment to principles that include:

- positive appreciation for diversity;
- equal respect for each and every individual's contribution to our community;
- personal integrity, honesty, and accountability;
- demonstration of leadership by serving as a positive role model;
- lifelong pursuit of education and knowledge; and
- cultivation of community, a sense of belonging, and camaraderie.

Following in the footsteps of and traditions initiated by the founder of ABADÁ-CAPOEIRA, Mestre Camisa, we teach Capoeira with a view of using the practice of the art as a tool for individual and communal growth. Pursuit of technical mastery of Capoeira movements is intended to promote discipline and mental and physical awareness. With mastery of movements, students gain the ability to participate in group Capoeira play called a “roda,” or circle, which requires and helps players to develop creativity. As students progress in skill, they transform into the teachers of the next generation, developing their leadership potential and building a closer community. Students and teachers alike serve the broader community as artistic and cultural resources by sharing the art of capoeira through public performances. Throughout the world, ABADÁ-CAPOEIRA promotes social integration among people of different backgrounds, and instills good character and dignity in its students. We pursue these goals by coming together regularly outside of classes to share celebrations, and to give back to our community through activities, including blood donations, street cleanings, and food, toy, clothing collections.

Abada-Capoeira DC Board of Directors

Nycole Klein

President

John Patton

Director

Ashley Gam

Director

Yara Cordeiro

Treasurer & Executive Director

Ruth Lezama

Director

Carla Verkoren

Director

Thu Do

Secretary

Liane Agulto

Director

“It's been year three for our son to be a part of Abada Capoeira in Chantilly location. I simply have no words to express how amazing the experience was! The sense of community and really learning what Capoeira is all about is what you get when you sign up. You never have to worry about learning the technical moves of Capoeira but you also will learn to understand its heart. Oh, and if you find yourself in a tough situation, this community will be right behind you supporting you!”

2025/26 Goals

- ✚ Promote superior quality Capoeira training, including regular classes, trips to special events and trainings, and musical and cultural education. We aspire to:
 - ✓ Increase the number of students
 - ✓ Implement the scholarship program for at least 5 students (3 kids / 2 teens-adults)
 - ✓ Increase paid classes outside of regular training (schools, private schools, senior homes)
 - ✓ Promote the 17th batizado, and workshops with a Master Guest Instructor
 - ✓ Receive approval for at least one grant
- ✚ Share the art and history of Capoeira with our community and country. We aspire to:
 - ✓ hold regular outdoor rodas;
 - ✓ offer public demonstrations in schools, for civic groups, and at events like community festivals;
 - ✓ Create a new website
 - ✓ Improve the social Media outreach.
- ✚ Improve our fundraising capacity. We aspire to:
 - ✓ Execute at least 4 fundraising activities
 - ✓ Create & maintain business support list to use for Batizado sponsorships
 - ✓ Create & Maintain raffle prize donation list
- ✚ Exert a positive influence on our students, families, and community. We aspire to:
 - ✓ organize food, toy, blood, and clothing drives;
 - ✓ keep the “Adopt a Road” campaign, bringing awareness about the importance of keeping the city clean; and
 - ✓ host student and family group bonding activities.

2025/26 Goals Report

During the 2025/2026, once again, we kept our in-person/virtual hybrid model to attend some students that currently live far from DC, and also some of the VA students would take advantage of the classes in MD and vice-versa. We had a total of 26 new students joining our program. We had over 80 people experiencing capoeira through our free trial class service.

- ✚ Abada DC continues with its outdoor Saturday classes during the months of May to October, enjoying the outdoors and sharing capoeira with the community into their summer break.



- ✚ Mentorship program: We were honored to be granted a scholarship by the Maryland State Arts Council 2025, MSAC.org for a mentorship program. Besides the support to the Aprendiship process, they were so kind to make a short documentary for us. You can watch it at our YouTube channel: @abadadc
- ✚ We shared the art of capoeira with the community through several events reaching a public of over 4,000 with them.



- ✚ We had the honor to repeat our partnership with Strathmore to offer capoeira classes at their spring camp.



- ✚ We traveled to support other branches of Abada-Capoeira in the North America, participating in events from west (NY) to east (CA) coast, passing through Utah as well.



- ✚ We also travel to Mexico, Europe and Brazil to take part in the major events from Abada-Capoeira in the world. One very special trip was the trip to Brazil, for the Abada_Capoeira International Festival, where we were very proud to witness the promotion of Instrutora Charada to purple cord and Instrutor Colmeia to purple-brown cord. These higher graduations can only be received in Brazil and with the approval of the council of Masters of Abada-Capoeira worldwide.





✚ We received the visit of Abada-capoeira members from out of town as well.



✚ And we joined other DC metro area capoeira groups for some community interaction.



- ✚ We had our annual Batizado (graduation ceremony) with guests coming from Brazil and many USA locations and we also held the third edition of the Capital Games, a competition open to Abada-Capoeira members from all over the country.

Workshops with Mestrando Coala



The Capital games



The Batizado



- As one of the most important parts of our mission, we continued promoting successful social campaigns of charitable significance. We maintained our community outreach activities such as our VDOT street cleanings of Newbrook Drive in Chantilly, VA, our batizado food drive, blood drive, a mental health and breast cancer awareness campaign, a winter clothing drive to benefit Women Giving Back and a donation of diverse items for Goodwill in VA.



- A very special activity we did this year was to come out, even at sub-freezing temperatures, to support the Monk's on their @walkforpeace.usa. Our message for freedom in capoeira aligns perfectly with their message for peace and it is always what the world needs more and the most. For us, it was a solemn moment to greet them along their path, honoring their journey with respect and gratitude.



- Our fundraisings included activities such as bake sale, kids capoeirathon as well as online campaigns.



✚ For our social activities, we had a Halloween party during the fall together with the Yolit Flamenco community with whom we share the Alma Dance Studio space; a Sunday fun at a water park, a nice potluck Holiday Party and our Anniversary Aulão (big class), all of them with a great turnaround of students and family.



Financial Report

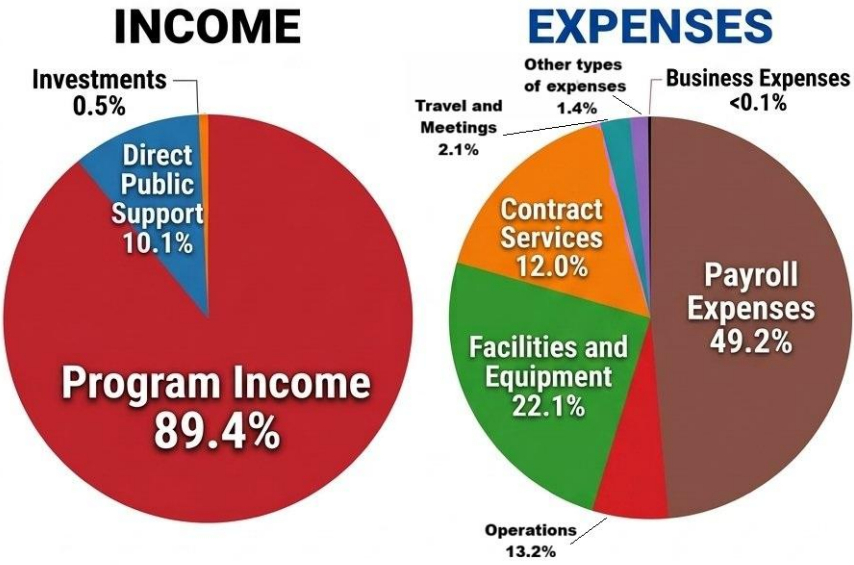
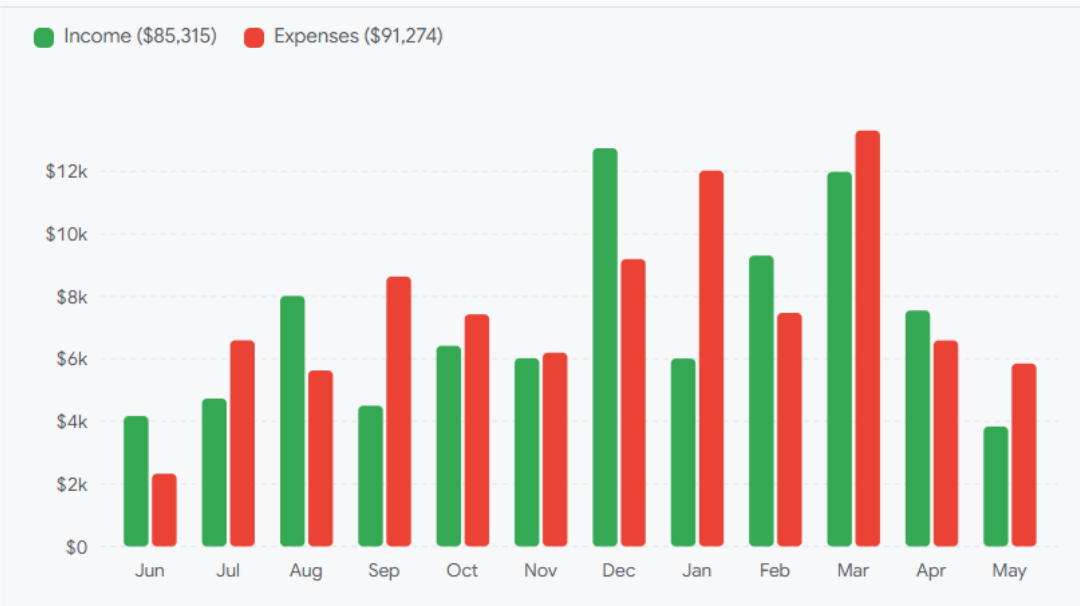
In comparing the 2025–26 proposed and final budgets, we see that our Net Income was slightly lower than expected. Although our program income reached its goals, the public support contributions from our fundraisers fell short of expectations. It was a difficult year overall, with inflation and economic uncertainties that we believe affected our contributors as well. Unfortunately, rising prices also increased our expenses. Unlike past years, we could not keep our costs under budget; instead, our expenses increased quite a bit. For the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic, we ended the year with a negative balance. We were fortunate to cover this deficit with funds from our savings, and we are already working on increasing our income for next year to recover.

Even with the challenges, we were able to keep a very high percentage (86%) of the regular expenses dedicated to the programs, and only 14% used for administrative costs, and all fundraising was conducted at no cost to the organization as they were promoted by students, and the profits were later donated to the organization.

In a closer look of our month-to-month income vs expense graphic, the expense of July includes the June rental as well, that is why it is higher. The same happened in October when the payments for October and November rental were posted on the same month. We also see an increased income in August followed by an increased expense in September, that is due to the Woodley Park after school program registration, followed by the payment of the rental and payroll. The same is noticed in the December – January period. The December income

also brings the extra income from the Giving Tuesday campaign, and the January expense includes the costs of rental for our March Graduation ceremony event. March increase in both income and expense reflects the Batizado and Graduation ceremony as well.

Overall, it was a challenging year, Merchant fees, rentals for events, plane tickets were higher than expected. For the next year we have already made changes on our bank and merchant provider as well as on our fundraising plans and recruiting of new students to make sure we have a positive balance at the end of the year.



2025-26 PROPOSED BUDGET**Ordinary Income/Expense****Income**

Direct Public Support	
Individ, Business Contributions	10,000.00
Total Direct Public Support	10,000.00
Investments	
Interest-Savings, Short-term CD	250.00
Total Investments	250.00
Program Income	
Batizado & Games	10,000.00
Performance	1,200.00
Tuition	65,000.00
Total Program Income	76,200.00

Total Income	86,450.00
---------------------	------------------

Expense

Business Expenses	
Business Registration Fees	55.00
Total Business Expenses	55.00
Contract Services	
Accounting Fees	4,500.00
Outside Contract Services	3,500.00
Total Contract Services	8,000.00
Facilities and Equipment	
Rent, Parking, Utilities	17,000.00
Total Facilities and Equipment	17,000.00
Operations	
Computer and internet	200.00
Merchant fees	4,000.00
Postage, Mailing Service	40.00
Printing and Copying	250.00
Software-others	800.00
Supplies	500.00
Batizado Supplies	2,500.00
WellnessLiving software	2,000.00
Total Operations	10,290.00
Other Types of Expenses	
Insurance - Liability, D and O	700.00
Meals	500.00
Transport	100.00
Total Other Types of Expenses	1,300.00
Payroll Expenses	
Taxes	3,500.00
Wages	42,000.00
Total Payroll Expenses	45,500.00
Travel and Meetings	
Travel	3,000.00
Total Travel and Meetings	3,000.00

Total Expense	85,145.00
----------------------	------------------

Net Income	1,305.00
-------------------	-----------------

2025-26 FINAL BUDGET**Ordinary Income/Expense****Income**

Direct Public Support	
Individ, Business Contributions	8,641.80
Total Direct Public Support	8,641.80
Investments	
Interest-Savings, Short-term CD	400.15
Total Investments	400.15
Program Income	
Batizado	11,106.96
Performance	1,350.00
Program Service	1,260.00
Tuition	62,482.57
Total Program Income	76,199.53

Total Income	85,241.48
---------------------	------------------

Expense

Business Expenses	
Business Registration Fees	41.70
Total Business Expenses	41.70
Contract Services	
Accounting Fees	4,200.00
Outside Contract Services	6,282.00
Total Contract Services	10,882.00
Facilities and Equipment	
Rent, Parking, Utilities	19,969.50
Total Facilities and Equipment	19,969.50
Operations	
Bank services	150.00
Gymdesk - software & Merchant	103.00
Merchant fees	5,747.76
Postage, Mailing Service	23.78
Printing and Copying	780.59
Software-others	2,007.98
Supplies	871.53
WellnessLiving software	2,246.00
Total Operations	11,930.64
Other Types of Expenses	
Insurance - Liability, D and O	769.01
Meals	448.06
Transport	51.01
Total Other Types of Expenses	1,268.08
Payroll Expenses	
Taxes	3,182.42
Wages	41,266.87
Total Payroll Expenses	44,449.29
Travel and Meetings	
Travel	1,859.89
Total Travel and Meetings	1,859.89

Total Expense	90,401.10
----------------------	------------------

Net Income	(5,159.62)
-------------------	-------------------

2026 - 2027 Goals

- ✚ Promote superior quality Capoeira training including regular classes, trips to special events and trainings, and musical and cultural education. We aspire to:
 - ✓ Increase the number of students
 - ✓ Implement the scholarship program for at least 5 students (3 kids / 2 teens-adults)
 - ✓ Increase paid classes outside of regular training (schools, private schools, senior homes)
 - ✓ Promote the 18th batizado, and workshops with a Master Guest Instructor
 - ✓ Receive approval for at least one grant
- ✚ Share the art and history of Capoeira with our community and country. We aspire to:
 - ✓ hold regular outdoor rodas;
 - ✓ offer public demonstrations in schools, for civic groups, and at events like community festivals;
 - ✓ Improve the social Media outreach.
- ✚ Improve our fundraising capacity. We aspire to:
 - ✓ Execute at least 4 fundraising activities
 - ✓ Create & maintain business support list to use for Batizado sponsorships
 - ✓ Create & Maintain raffle prize donation list
- ✚ Exert a positive influence on our students, families, and community. We aspire to:
 - ✓ organize food, toy, blood, and clothing drives;
 - ✓ keep the “Adopt a Road” campaign, bringing awareness about the importance of keeping the city clean; and
 - ✓ host student and family group bonding activities.

ABADA-CAPOEIRA DC

A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization

**For more information about our organization or to register for a trial class
Please visit our website or email us**

(301) 947 5806 | www.abadadc.org | info@abadadc.org

Classes held at:
12221 Parklawn Dr #160 – Rockville, MD (Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays)
4315 Walney Rd – Suite B - Chantilly VA (Wednesdays and Fridays)

To contact us by mail or to send a donation, please mail to:
144 Barnsfield Court – Gaithersburg MD, 20878
(Your donation to us is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law)