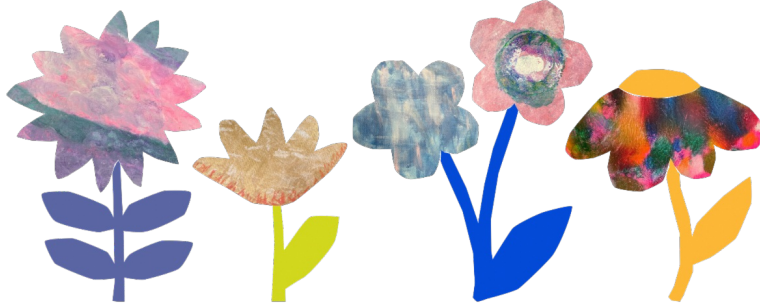




the arts empowerment project

April | 2024 | Newsletter

SPRING FLOWERS



GROWTH

Through The Arts & Social Emotional Learning.

We celebrated our 2nd Annual **FACTS & SNACKS**



Bringing Awareness to Child Abuse Prevention Month



@theartsempowermentproject

OUR FACTS & SNACKS EVENT WAS A BIG SUCCESS!

It was a pleasure to host over 40 people, including 15 students at our event! Our gathering featured visual, vocal, and performing artists who came out to support Child Abuse Prevention Month with support from the Guardian ad Litem Office.

Special guest, Angelica Foster, joined us to talk about how we can help the

most vulnerable children in our community and to create safe spaces. After the performances, visitors planted a Pinwheel Garden at VAPA in honor of Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Artists included:

BLUZ *spoken word poet*

friday jones *spoken word poet*

Vision Elite Royalty *dancers*

Twin Nation *dancers*

Daisa Hood *spoken word poet*

Kenya Templeton *singer*

Joanne Rogers - *curator and artist*

Thank you to all who came out to support and volunteer for this special event!

VAPA Calendar

Current Programming News



Throughout April, we continued our **Free Arts Program**, partnering with CMS elementary schools. We completed lessons on Neurographic Art, Georgia O'Keefe, and other fun projects to teach social and emotional learning components.

The children created their own masterpieces, and learned about 'looking closer' at things and people and seeing them close up, like Georgia O'Keefe did in her 'bugs eye view' paintings of flowers, skulls, rocks, and other items she found in nature. We talked about judging others, and how we can often look without really seeing someone, but when we look closer, we come to understand more about who they truly are, and learn to communicate better with one another.

SPRING 2024 ENCOUNTERS PROGRAM

In this month's Encounters Life Skills Seminar and Promoting Peace + Justice Program, our students concentrated on enhancing their social emotional learning through meditation (self-awareness). They showcased their introspection by creating numerous pieces of self-reflective art. Additionally, they fostered positive interactions with our local CMPD officials. These activities were not just engaging and enjoyable, but also significantly contributed to the students' self-growth and broadened their viewpoints.



Upcoming Events

We're gearing up for one of our biggest events of the year! Our second annual **"ARTVOCATION" DAY!** This event will be attended by 140 children in grades K-12. They will learn from a number of different visual, performing and musical artists about future careers in art. With hands-on interactive experiences, the kids will learn about making custom music, dancing, and the visual arts. This kind of exposure provides hope, opportunity, inspiration, and most importantly, makes learning with social emotional components + art **FUN!**

ART VOCATION DAY!

SATURDAY
JUNE 27TH



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THE VAPA CENTER
700 NORTH TRYON ST.
CHARLOTTE, NC

Join us for a day of creativity, art, and learning from visual and performing artists!

Kids K-12th grade
Lunch will be provided

For more information contact
crystal.durham@theartsempowermentproject.org



[Programs List](#)



HeART Packs

It's that time of year again!

Our End of the School Year HeART Packs are about to be distributed again! At the end of May, we anticipate distributing XX HeART Packs for children in the community from pre-school to high school ages.

Many of these children don't have opportunities over the summer or the means to attend camps or to be able to participate in a lot of other extracurricular activities.

Our HeART Packs provide opportunity for them to participate in art and other activities from home. These packs are brimming with colorful art supplies, drawing pads, toys, games, snacks, and even gift cards and messages of hope.

Please click on our wishlist link below to donate to this important program.

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2GC3ISWQICCE4/ref=nav_wishlist_lists_2



the arts empowerment project

If you're interested in helping us pack up these special packages, please email julia@theartsempowermentproject.org.



END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR HeART PACKS ARE HERE AGAIN!

Our End of the School Year HeART Packs are about to be distributed again! At the end of May, we will distribute HeART Packs for underserved children in the community in K-5th grade.

Many of these children lack the means for opportunities over the summer for camps or extracurricular activities. These packs provide an outlet for creativity, brimming with colorful art supplies, drawing pads, toys, games, snacks, and even gift cards and messages of hope.

Please click on our wishlist below for the link to donate.
Thank you!

HeART Packs Wish List Summer 2024



Give Today

Thank You For Your Continued Support!

We have many opportunities to participate or volunteer for our various programs. Our 2024 programming consists of our **Encounters/Life Skills Program, HeART Packs, Promoting Peace + Justice, Art Vocation/Career Day, Culinary Camps, and Fall/Winter Holiday events.**

Keep posted for more information about us -please email
info@theartsempowermentproject.org

Thanks to our volunteers, sponsors, donors, and team members who continue
to keep our programs operating to serve some of the most vulnerable children
in our community.



The Arts Empowerment Project is supported, in part, by the North Carolina Arts Council, Arts & Science Council, United Way of Central Carolinas, and a grant from South Arts in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts.



The Arts Empowerment Project | 700 North Tryon Street, Charlotte, NC 28202

[Unsubscribe nfrazierallen@gmail.com](mailto:nfrazierallen@gmail.com)

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