



February | 2024 | Newsletter

IT'S A LEAP YEAR!



Through The Arts & Social Emotional Learning.



FIRST SATURDAYS

Join us at the VAPA Center on the first Saturday of every month for Open Studios! In

February, we started the month with a make-and-take brownie session. Guests indulged their artistic side, satisfied their sweet tooth, and reflected on Black History Month facts while exploring the art throughout the building.

Celebrate our 2nd VAPAVERSARY, Saturday, March 3rd with spoken word, live art, music, comedy, and guest speakers!

Mark your calendars

Arts Facilitator, Julia Winfield, will be leading a "Paint & Learn" workshop from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. We will be teaching art techniques including brushwork, sponges, and palette work while delivering Social Emotional Learning (SEL) components. Don't miss out on this special day of creativity and celebration at the VAPA Center!

Paint & Learn

WITH JULIA WINFIELD



@VAPA
OPEN STUDIOS
MARCH
3RD 12-3 P.M.

ft. brushwork,
artwork,
and SEL facts.



Throughout February, our Black History Month festivities have been filled with cultural discovery and motivation. We kicked things off by commemorating at the National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, DC, where we were reminded of the essential and dynamic contributions of the African American community. Our CEO also made a trip to the International African-American Museum in Charleston, SC, exploring the history of African Americans and the truth, trauma, triumph, and legacy that have molded a resilient community. Moreover, we celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Harvey B. Gantt Center in Charlotte, NC, founded to preserve and promote African-American history and culture. Throughout the month, we have spotlighted local black artists and their impact on our community. Discover these influential museums and back your local artists all year round!

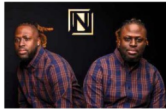
Featured Local Artists



Arthur
Rogers



TJ
(TAEP Student)



Sanwone &
Santae Benjamin



Davita
Galloway

Featured in "Artist of the Week"



Georgie Nakima



CHD:WCK!



Dionna Bright



Alvin C. Jacobs Jr

Featured Museums



National Museum of African
American History and Culture



International African
American Museum



Harvey B. Gantt Center for
African-American Arts + Culture

 @theartsempowermentproject

Current Programming News

We are still in the midst of running our Free Arts programs at Sterling Elementary, Lebanon Road Elementary, and Niner University Elementary. We offered some wonderful lessons honoring Basquiat and the Art of Mask Making with our kids, all with social and emotional learning components to teach life skills,

resilience, and provide hope.

Our kids proved to us, once again, they are master artisans!



In partnership with



Meet Our TAEP Program Facilitators!



Crystal Durham
Program Coordinator



Julia Winfield
Program Facilitator



Kimberley Thomas
Program Facilitator






Bunny Gregory
Program Facilitator



CMS Student Art




What Are Educators And Counselors Saying About Us?

 <p>"Learning comes in all forms, and the kids learned a lot about music, but they learned a lot about listening and following directions".</p> <p>— YWCA Counselor</p>	 <p>"A young man who came into the program was a bit standoffish initially, and his ability to explain what this process has been like for him has shown his growth. That kind of growth, you can't put into words."</p> <p>— Nazareth Counselor</p>	 <p>My students say "When is Arts Empowerment coming back?"</p> <p>— Niner University Elementary Teacher</p>
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Learn about our Programs by clicking below:

[Programs List](#)

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

SAVE THE DATE FOR

FACTS & SNACKS

"Making Hard Conversations Digestible"

VAPA 700 N Tryon St, Charlotte, NC 28202

APRIL 6 • 11AM-1PM

"Facts & Snacks"

is a special TAEP Event where we align ourselves with National Childhood Abuse Prevention Month (April) along with the Charlotte SHOUT festival.

@theartsempowermentproject @cltshout

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

Join us for our 2nd Annual Facts and Snacks Celebration! Stop by the VAPA center on Saturday April 6th where we are "growing awareness" and planting pinwheels in support of Child Abuse Prevention Month. Join us for a fun and educational day!

Visual & Performing Artists include:

- Bluz Rogers
- Friday Jones
- Claude "Backspins" as MC
- Twin Nation
- Vision Elite
- Art Activity with Joanne Rogers: "FLOW"



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 all of this and 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.



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Culture For All.



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of Central Carolinas

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NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT for THE ARTS
arts.gov



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FOUNDATION FOR
THE CAROLINAS

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

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