



the arts empowerment project

June | 2024 | Newsletter



Through The Arts & Social Emotional Learning.

Welcome to the June edition of our newsletter!
We are excited share updates about our focus on the theme of
"Making Waves Through Social Emotional Learning."

In the spirit of making waves, we are thrilled to announce that June has been full of exciting news, as we received two major donations!



Thank you to the City of Charlotte's Arts and Culture Board for selecting our organization to receive an Opportunity Fund grant of \$40,000! These funds will allow us to offer an Artist Residency Program which aims to cultivate personal growth, mentorship, self-confidence and resilience in the students we serve.

[CLT Opportunity Fund](#)



We are grateful to the Genesis Inspiration Foundation for awarding our organization a \$50,000 grant! This generous investment will help us further our mission and support our work to provide youth in grades K-12 with life skills, positive self-expression, social emotional learning, and community connections through the arts

[Programs List](#)

Thank You **TO OUR GRANTORS!**

As we gear up for our summer session of Encounters and Promoting Peace + Justice programs, we are excited to announce that artists in our upcoming residency program will be leading various youth workshops as part of their residency program. This summer promises to be eventful and full of opportunities for growth and creativity.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to the arts. Let's make waves to build and enhance our community's youth together!

Sincerely,
Natalie Allen | Founder & CEO
The Arts Empowerment Project

Recent Programming News



What an incredible experience -- our Art Vocation Day was a success! Over 100 students joined us and immersed themselves in various art forms and gained valuable insights into the business and career aspects of the creative world. It's heartwarming to see our youth being inspired to become leaders and self-advocates for their goals and aspirations.

A massive thank you to all the talented VAPA Center artists and our special guest, award-winning illustrator Gordon C. James, who so generously shared their time, expertise, and passion, making the day truly unforgettable for our visiting students.

We also want to extend our deepest gratitude to everyone who supported this special event, from our hardworking staff to our wonderful volunteers. Your contributions and commitment to our community made this day a resounding success. Together, we are building a positive and empowering community!



Upcoming Events



Get ready for an exciting summer ahead!

We are thrilled to offer two amazing opportunities for students to engage in learning and growth through the arts.

Our first program, includes the **Encounters/ Promoting Peace + Justice** summer workshops and seminars. Our classes will be packed with lessons that promote SEL skills such as self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, positive relationship building and responsible decision-making skills. We will provide students with a 3-week series, allowing students to explore topics such as communication, personal branding, positive community engagement, alternative dispute resolution, and career and educational goal setting. Guest artists and motivational speakers will guide students in appropriate and effective social interactions based on best practices.



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Summer ENCOUNTERS

PROMOTING PEACE + *Justice*

Class Dates:

July 9-11: Self Awareness

July 16-18: Self Management

July 23-25: Decision making

 All sessions are 11am - 4pm

 Must attend all class dates.

 VAPA

700 N Tryon St,
Charlotte, NC 28202



STUDENTS WILL DEVELOP AND PRACTICE LIFE-SKILLS THROUGH ART AND:

Mindfulness activities with Youth Meditation, activities with Planet Improv, and engaging in impactful conversations officers in the Charlotte Mecklenburg community.

For more info, contact the
Program Coordinator at:
crystal.durham@theartsempowermentproject.org

In addition to our life-skills program, we are excited to host our **Culinary Summer Camp!** This program, led by professional chefs, will immerse students in the world of cooking and culinary arts. The themes for this summer's camp are "Summer Hosting" and "Best Celebration." Students will develop skills in healthy eating, nutrition choices, shopping on a budget, meal prep, cooking, and etiquette. Participants will also have the opportunity to explore various career tracks in the culinary arts.



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Grades K-5

Summer
CULINARY CAMP!

August 7th & 14th

🕒 10am-3pm * Must attend all class dates.

📍 VAPA • 700 N Tryon St. Charlotte, NC 28202

This program, led by professional chefs, will immerse students in the world of cooking and culinary arts. The themes for this summer's culinary camp are "Summer Hosting" and "Best Celebration", where students will develop skills in healthy eating, nutrition, shopping, and cooking. Participants will also have the opportunity to explore various career tracks in the culinary arts.



For more info, contact the Program Coordinator at:
crystal.durham@theartsempowermentproject.org



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TEEN Summer Camps

Summer
CULINARY CAMP!

Tuesdays & Thursdays on:
August 6th, 8th, 13th & 15th.

🕒 10am-3pm * Must attend all class dates.

📍 VAPA • 700 N Tryon St. Charlotte, NC 28202

This program, led by professional chefs, will immerse students in the world of cooking and culinary arts. The themes for this summer's culinary camp are "Summer Hosting" and "Best Celebration", where students will develop skills in healthy eating, nutrition, shopping, and cooking. Participants will also have the opportunity to explore various career tracks in the culinary arts.



For more info, contact the Program Coordinator at:
crystal.durham@theartsempowermentproject.org

Both of our summer programs offer a unique and enriching experience for students to learn, grow, and have fun. We can't wait to see the creativity and talent that our students will bring to these programs.

SAVE THE DATE - October 16, 2024 6:00 PM



the arts empowerment project
INVITES YOU TO OUR ANNUAL

Shine
FUNDRAISER

October 16, 2024 - 6:00PM

**THE MINT MUSEUM UPTOWN
CHARLOTTE, NC**

We invite you to join our cause to help children and teens embrace new opportunities that foster resilience and build essential life skills.

*The Arts Empowerment Project is a 501(c)(3) organization.

SAVE THE DATE

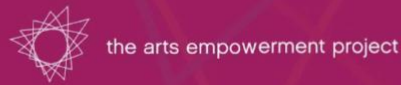
““ DON'T BE AFRAID TO
Shine
THE WORLD NEEDS YOUR
LIGHT ””
- TIMI NADELA

The Arts Empowerment Project is excited to announce its 2024 Annual Fundraiser!

Proceeds from this event will help continue the organization's mission of breaking cycles of violence and trauma by providing art opportunities that ignite change in vulnerable youth. Invitation with ticket and event details to follow.

We look forward to having you join us!

Contact us for more information at:
Natalie@theartsempowermentproject.org



Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity to support vulnerable youth in our community and follow us on socials to see the impact you've made!



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 Camp, and Fall/Winter Holiday events.**

Keep posted for more information about us -please email

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 US

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