



the arts empowerment project

November | 2024 | Newsletter

Watch our SHINE 2024 Fundraiser video below, showcasing Malachi, a TAEP student. This video was created in partnership with TAEP intern, Natalia Reyes Velasquez, who is a talented high school student.



Thankful Hearts: A Season for Gratitude and Reflection

As we embrace this season of gratitude, we are filled with appreciation for the abundance of collaborations and generous donations that have enriched our community. From inspiring partnerships to the heartfelt contributions of our supporters and [2024 SHINE Sponsors](#), we are reminded of the power of unity and shared purpose.

A special thank you goes out to everyone who attended our 2024 SHINE Fundraiser; your presence and support made a significant impact. We invite you to relive the wonderful moments from the event by clicking on the link below to access our photo album.

[SHINE 2024 Event Photo Album](#)

Warmest Wishes, The Arts Empowerment Project Team

Recent News



THANKSGIVING CULINARY CAMP HIGHLIGHTS

Our Thanksgiving-Themed Culinary Camp, led by the talented Chef Beth and Chef Danny, provided students with an enriching experience in the world of accessible cooking and culinary arts. Participants had the opportunity to develop essential skills in healthy eating, nutrition, shopping, and cooking—all while having a fantastic time!

Here's a look at the delicious menu they created:

- Mashed Potatoes
- Turkey Stuffing
 - Greens
- Cornbread Casserole
 - Sweet Potato Pie
 - Apple Pie
- Thanksgiving Empanadas



OUR NEW ARTIST IN RESIDENCY PROGRAM

The Arts Empowerment Project presents a new inspiring **ARTIST RESIDENCY PROGRAM!** This mentorship-based program invites students to embark on a creative journey with local artists who offer classes in a variety of disciplines, including:

- Fiber Arts
- Digital Design
- Process Painting
 - Collage
 - Podcasting
 - Photography
- Performing Arts
- Social Media
 - Music

In collaboration with our program partner, **Nine Eighteen Nine Studio Gallery**, students will have the opportunity to learn from talented local artists, enhancing their skills and creativity. Classes began on November 16th and will continue through June 2025, culminating in a student-led exhibition which will showcase the incredible work created over the 29-week program.

Sincere thanks to the Infusion Fund, a partnership among the City of Charlotte, Foundation For The Carolinas, and private partners for the



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PRESENTED BY

NINE EIGHTEEN NINE
STUDIO GALLERY

ARTS RESIDENCY

LEARN FROM ARTISTS, BE EMPOWERED.

**SIGN UP TO TAKE
CLASSES IN**

**FIBER ARTS
DIGITAL DESIGN
PROCESS
PAINTING
COLLAGE
PODCASTING
PHOTOGRAPHY
PERFORMING ARTS
SOCIAL MEDIA
MUSIC AND MORE**

**LED BY
LOCAL ARTISTS**



**CHOOSE FROM
DIVERSE CLASSES
BEGINNING**

**SATURDAY,
NOVEMBER
16
THROUGH JUNE 2025**

LOCATION:


**700 N TRYON ST,
CHARLOTTE, NC 28202**

AT THE VAPA CENTER



Engage in an art-based mentorship experience and expand your arts education by choosing from a variety of classes with professional artists designed to teach you the essential skills needed for various artistic careers and disciplines. **This program will culminate in a group exhibit featuring the works created by participants.** Whether you're interested in visual / digital arts, performing arts, and beyond, you'll acquire the tools necessary to thrive as a multidisciplinary artist. Trust in the process, embrace the adventure, face uncertainties with courage, and remember: you've got this! (For more information, click on or scan the sign up link)

FREE MENTORSHIP PROGRAM! ✨ SIGN UP BY NOV. 22ND

 **FULL SIGN UP LINK: <https://forms.gle/wZrWWgDVrzdii4Yw7>**

Upcoming



Winter Programs

Holiday HeART Packs

Join Us in Spreading Holiday Cheer!

This upcoming season, we're excited to continue our annual **Holiday HeART Packs** initiative, and we need your help! We're seeking donations of art supplies, drawing pads, toys, snacks, and gift cards to create special packages for children in underserved communities.

With your generous support, we aim to inspire and uplift over 250 children this holiday season. Together, we can make a meaningful impact and bring joy to vulnerable youth in our community.

Thank you for being a part of this wonderful cause!

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

[CLICK HERE TO BUY ITEMS ON OUR AMAZON WISH LIST](#)

[VOLUNTEER FOR PACK UP DAY ON SATURDAY, DEC. 7th](#)

the arts empowerment project



HOLIDAY HeART Packs

Help us gather supplies for our Holiday HeART Packs! Your support will enable us to create and deliver much needed packages to children from underserved communities. Each bundle includes art supplies, drawing pads, toys, snacks, and gift cards, inspiring over 250 children this holiday season. Together, we can spread joy and make a difference!

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

1

SHOP OUR WISHLIST
ONLINE DONATION DRIVE
THRU DEC. 6TH



Purchase items from our [Amazon wishlist](#) using the QR code or link below.



https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1D11LYHICUUD7?ref_=wl_share

2



SORTING + PACKING AT VAPA OPEN STUDIOS

DECEMBER 7TH | 12:00 PM- 2:00 PM

700 N Tryon St. Charlotte, NC 28202

For more information, please contact:

BRENDA RAMOS

✉ brenda.ramos@theartsempowermentproject.org

☎ 980-349-8091





**VOLUNTEER FOR OUR
PACK UP DATE:**

DECEMBER 7TH | 12:00 PM- 2:00 PM

700 N Tryon St. Charlotte, NC 28202



<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A4BAAA92EA0FAC07-53368944-heart>

For more information, please contact:
BRENDA RAMOS
✉ brenda.ramos@theartsempowermentproject.org
☎ 980-349-8091



2024-2025 Art Poster Contest

December 15, 2024 will be the start of our second annual Art Poster Competition in collaboration with **The Links Incorporated Crown Jewels (NC) Chapter**.

We are thrilled to invite students to participate and to explore the theme: **“What a Healthy Community Means to Me.”** Art is a powerful medium for self-expression and community engagement, and we can’t wait to see how young artists interpret this important theme.

The top candidates will be announced on February 15, 2025, with winners receiving exciting prizes and recognition for their artistic contributions. We look forward to seeing the incredible artwork that emerges from this initiative.

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2024-2025 ART POSTER CONTEST

★ CONTEST START DATE: END DATE:

DECEMBER 15, 2024

FEBRUARY 15, 2025

STUDENT AND PARENT PERMISSION FORMS WILL BE REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE

THEME:

“What A Healthy Community
Means To Me”

★ **PRIZES**
FOR TOP
PLACES ★

For more information, please contact:
CRYSTAL DURHAM

✉ crystal.durham@theartsempowermentproject.org

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



Linked in Friendship, Connected in Service
Crown Jewels (NC) Chapter

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/Promoting Peace + Justice, HeART Packs, Free Arts, Art**

Vocation/Career Day, Culinary Camp, and Fall/Winter Holiday events.

To learn more about us -please email us at
info@theartsempowermentproject.org
or visit <https://theartsempowermentproject.org/about/>

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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