

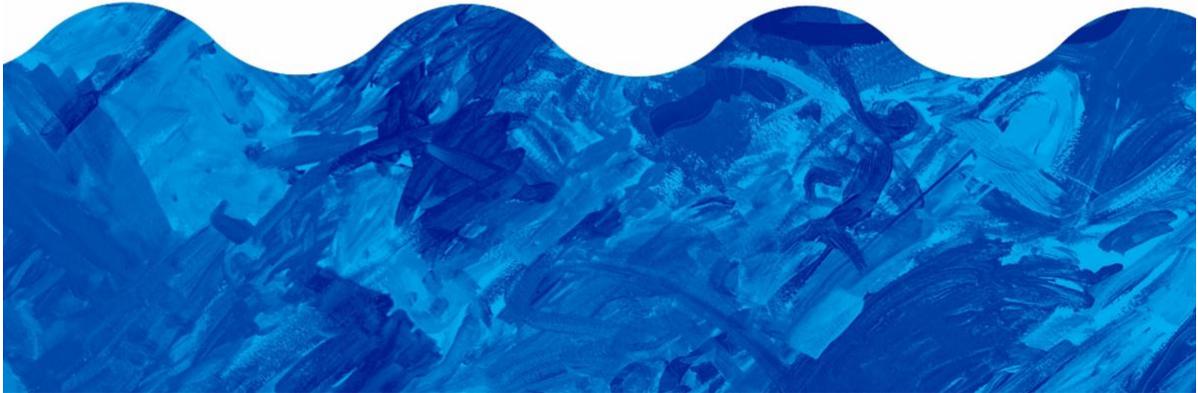
the arts empowerment project

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JUNE | 2025 | NEWSLETTER

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# SUMMER WAVES

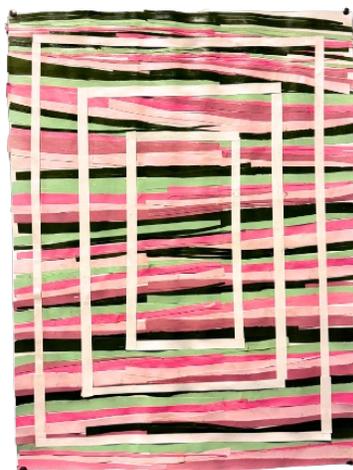
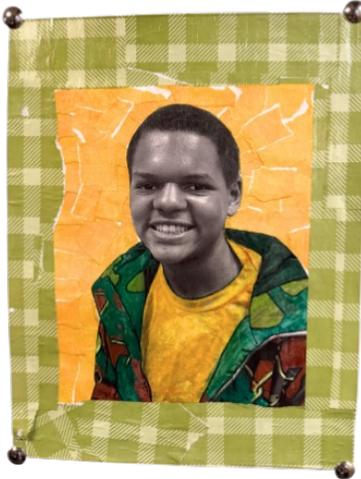




As we gear up for our exciting SHINE 2025 Fundraiser this Fall on October 1st, we are radiating positivity and creativity throughout the summer!

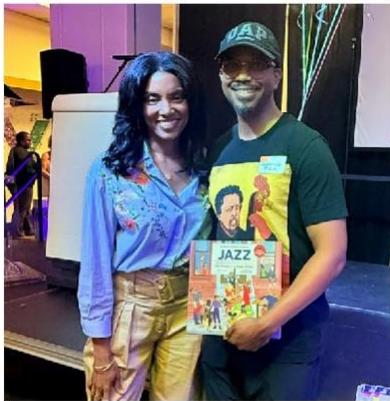
We're thrilled to announce our upcoming **Art Vocation Artist & Career Fair**, happening on **June 26**. This is a highlight of our summer programming that aims to inspire and empower our youth. By building sustainable connections within the community and introducing children to a diverse array of art styles and career paths, we're helping them develop the tools to make self-aware, positive choices.

Click [HERE](#) to watch a video of last year's Art Vocation on Instagram.









# ART VOCATION

## Artist & Career Fair

June 26, 2025

This series was all about dancing and learning new techniques. Our students boosted their confidence and practiced their moves alongside the amazing instructors from the Charlotte Dance Collective.

### FEATURED ARTIST & CAREERS

**NINE EIGHTEEN NINE**  
STUDIO GALLERY



**Joanne Rogers**  
Founder | CEO |  
Curatorial Director



@nineeightennine

**VAPA**



**Oluwanbe Amodu**  
Arabism Painting Style



@oluwanbeamodu



**Scott Spencer**  
Founder of **Market 138**



@market138store

**VAPA**



**Jeff Cravotta**  
Photographer



@cravotta\_photography



**Chef Valencia Garmon**  
Culinary Artist



@chefvalencia\_garmon



**Makayla Binter**  
Creative | Educator |  
Organizer | Artist



@makaylabinter\_



**Tinkahz Instinct**  
Singer Songwriter



@xoxotinkah

Lunch & Learn  
A Lesson On

# JAZZ HISTORY



Led By  
**Jerrard K. Polk**  
Artist | Speaker | Writer



@jerrardkpolk  
jerrardkpolk.com

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## THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

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2025 Art Vocation Volunteers



2025 Summer HeART Packs Volunteers

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## RECENT PROGRAMS

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# Encounters: Life Skills

## "Inside Out"

Dance Class with Charlotte Dance Collective

Class Dates: June 17, 18, and 19

This series was all about dancing and learning new techniques. Our students boosted their confidence and practiced their moves alongside the amazing instructors from the Charlotte Dance Collective.

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## Encounters: Life Skills

### "Sing It Louder"

With DJ Boyd

Class Dates: June 24, 25, and 26

Students learned the fundamental principles of music and explored the career possibilities for singer song writers. DJ Boyd was able to connect with youth and make them comfortable enough to sing along and gain confidence in themselves.

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## UPCOMING JUNE EVENTS / PROGRAMS

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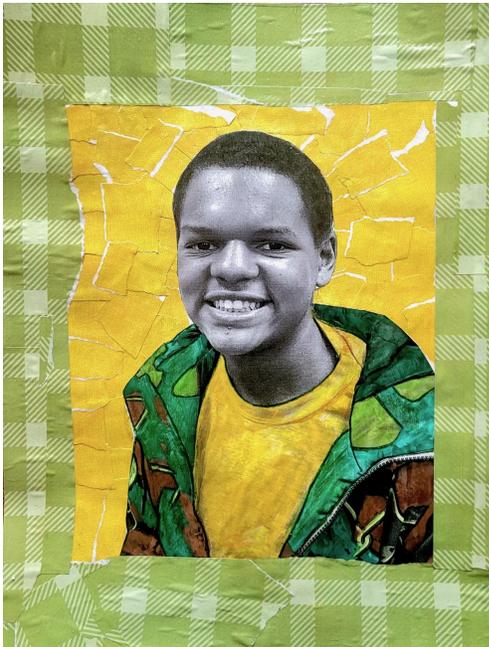
**CULINARY CAMP**



Mark your calendars for our 3rd Annual Art Vocation Artist & Career Fair on **June 26, 2025!**

This year, we're excited to give away **HeART Packs** to students attending the Career Fair. Help us fill these special bags with summer essentials, art supplies, snacks, and books by visiting our [Amazon Wishlist](#) to make a donation. Your support can make a world of difference this summer.

Click [HERE](#) to **VOLUNTEER** for the event.



## ARTS RESIDENCY

TAEP's Arts Residency Program, in collaboration with Nine Eighteen Nine Studio Gallery, has been an awesome journey for our students.

Students been diving into multiple disciplines and getting hands-on mentorship from our residency faculty: Oluwanbe Amodu, Pam Imhof, Trey Miles, Molly Partyka, Brenda Ramos, and Claude Whitfield.

**Our closing reception and art exhibition will be held on June 11.**

## JUNE ENCOUNTERS: LIFE SKILLS

Our June Encounters classes will feature "Dancing Inside Out" with Charlotte Dance Collective. The sessions will lead students through **Ballet, Jazz, and Hip Hop** styles of dancing.

**Class Dates:** June 17, 18, and 19

DANCING  
**INSIDE OUT!**  
WITH CHARLOTTE DANCE COLLECTIVE

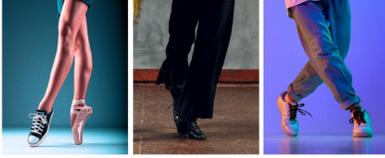
📍 VAPA • 700 N Tryon St, Charlotte, NC 28202

BALLET  
TUESDAY  
JUNE 17  
10AM - 2PM

JAZZ  
WEDNESDAY  
JUNE 18  
10AM - 2PM

HIP HOP  
THURSDAY  
JUNE 19  
10AM - 2PM

**\*MUST ATTEND ALL 3 CLASSES**



LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED

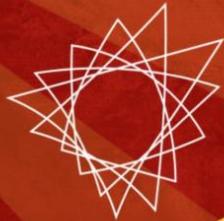
For more information, contact the Program Coordinator at:  
[crystal.durham@theartsempowermentproject.org](mailto:crystal.durham@theartsempowermentproject.org)

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# GET READY TO SHINE WITH US IN OCTOBER

This year's SHINE Fundraiser is in the works.  
Keep an eye out for more announcements!

SAVE THE DATE



the arts empowerment project

ANNUAL *Shine* FUNDRAISER

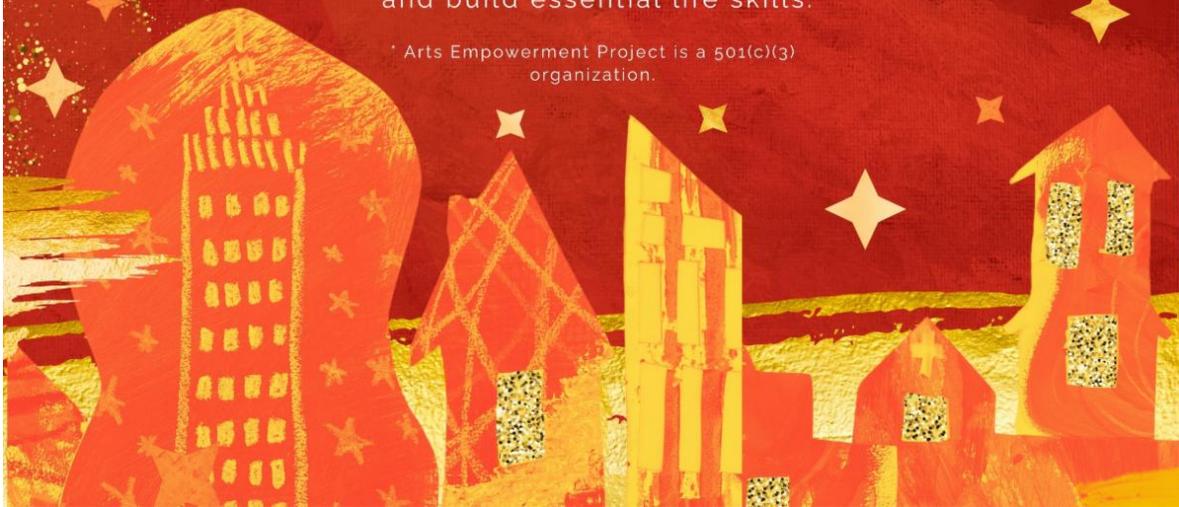
IGNITING CREATIVITY FOR BRIGHTER FUTURES!

WEDNESDAY | OCTOBER 1, 2025 | 6:00 PM

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.

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



EVERY CHILD DESERVES TO

# Shine

The Arts Empowerment Project is excited to announce its 2025 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](mailto:Natalie@theartsempowermentproject.org)



the arts empowerment project



Follow us to see more!



Give Today

# Thank You For Your Continued Support!

We have many opportunities to participate or volunteer for our various programs. Our 2025 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 visit [theartsempowermentproject.org](http://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.

How did you like this email?



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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