Foluké Cultural ARTS Center, Inc.

2021 Annual Report
and
2021-2022 Service Goals

The economically disadvantaged Children and Youth of Cleveland’s Central ‘Promise’ Neighborhood need innovative intervention to overcome their environment, in order to become productive and successful adults. Failure to address the educational achievement needs of this population will result in a generation lost.

Foluké Cultural Arts Center is committed to making performing arts and arts education available to all, particularly those who live in “underserved” areas. The programming of Foluké is family oriented with focus on at-risk children, youth, and teens, Seniors and disabled adults. The goal is to be a beacon in the Central Community to actively engage more of its residents in participatory arts and culture programming through partnership with other arts organizations; Implement arts and culture activities that will develop positive community ‘norms’ through the belief that it takes a village to raise a child, and that the older people are keepers of the culture and must remain dynamic members of society to provide younger generations positive role models.

Arts education is central to a youth’s individual and social development. Research shows it raises overall academic performance and builds skills necessary for workplace success. The arts excel in helping students develop thinking skills (creative thinking decision making, problem solving, imagining and imaging, and knowing how to learn); social skills (speaking and listening, cooperative work, capacity to teach others, negotiation and conflict resolution skills, and tolerance for differences), and personal skills (individual responsibility, perseverance, self management, and integrity).

Private contributions allow us to continue serving the Children and Youth of Cleveland. Your tax deductible donation is greatly appreciated. Make checks or money orders payable to Foluké Cultural Arts Center, and mailed to P.O. Box 93046, Cleveland, OH 44101-5046. Donations may also be made online at www.folukeculturalarts.org. All major credit/debit cards accepted. Thank You.

Foluké Cultural Arts Center, Inc is a 501c3 Organization Committed to providing After School Arts Activities for Children and Youth.

Programming Goals for 2021-2022

- Continue the development of Community Arts partners.
- Establish virtual programming on various platforms.
- Expand Children, Youth, and Teen programming.
- Expand SaturdayArts programming @ Foluke Center.
- Expand After School Arts programming
- Expand Instrumental Music Program
- Establish Scatter Sites throughout the community

Foluké Cultural Arts Center was organized as a faith-based initiative in 2002 at Lane Metropolitan CME Church in Cleveland Ohio and became community- based non-profit organization in February, 2003. The word Foluké (Foh LOO’ keh) originates from the West African Region of Nigeria meaning “Under God’s Protection”. The West African Adinkra symbol Gye Nyame (Jeh NYAH’ mae) originates from Ghana and represents the immortality of god.

Videotaping of “Men Don’t Cry” & “Anansi and His Six Sons”

“The ARTS: One of the Most Valuable Tools for Building Relationships and Community”

“The ARTS Experience @ FolukeARTS”

“Developing Minds and Creative Expression Through Engaging Arts Activities”
2020 Achievements
January - December 2020

- Continued partnerships with CMSD School - George Washington Carver, Cleveland Classical Guitar, Cleveland Print Room, and Children’s Hunger Alliance, providing after school Arts Activities, and hot meals.
- During the pandemic shutdown we created an online presence that served as informational for the community, utilizing puppets. ‘Mr. Stevie’s Neighborhood’ created PSA’s for COVID Awareness, Voting, and Census.
- Served as a COVID meals site thru partnership with the Childrens Hunger Alliance, providing shelf-stable meals, reading books in partnership with the Kids Book Bank, and ART-To-Go boxes filled with art supplies.
- Re-Started in-person Saturday ARTS programming offering classes in visual arts, theater, and dance

Operating Budget for 2020 was $185,883

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2021 Achievements
January - December 2021

- Relocated Foluke Cultural Arts to Friendly Inn Settlement
- Provided after school arts activities for Friendly Inn Students
- Hired additional teaching artists for the upcoming SummerArts programs.
- Thru partnerships with Friendly Inn, Burten, Bell Carr CDC, and Students of Promise - Closing the Achievement Gap (CTAG) we implemented SummerArts experiences for students aged 5 thru 17, June 14 - Aug 6 providing classes 2-4 days a week in Dance, Theater, Photography, and Visual Arts. Classes were held at Friendly Inn Settlement, George Washington Carver, Warrensville Heights HS, Cleveland Heights HS, Maple Heights HS and Bedford Heights HS.
- Participated in the Ward 5 Festival and other community events. Dance instructors performed, Reading books and ART-to-Go boxes were distributed, arts and craft activities were available, and special appearances by Foluke Puppet’s.
- Partnered with George Washington Carver School thru Burten Bell Carr CDC to provide onsite after school Arts programming, offering classes in Theater, Visual Arts, Dance, and Drumming.
- Created and presented virtual presentations of ‘Men Don’t Cry’ and ‘Anansi and His Six Sons’ housed on The FolukeArts YouTube Channel
- Implemented Saturday Arts classes providing classes to Children Youth and teens on Saturday from 10AM - 2:30PM offering Visual Arts, Dance, Theater, Drumming, and Guitar.

Operating Budget for 2021 was $207,442