Vol. 1 NO. 4 May 1,2022 Supporting Mount Pleasant Neighborhood and Surrounding Areas











Monthly Vewsletter

A Service-Learning program that helps underserved inner- city youth identify the issues impacting their communities and provide opportunities to act on continual challenge for people of color.



President and Artistic Director, 99treasures Int. Inc.14th year & Program Director of 99 Treasures Arts and Culture Inc.

Sister Raj conducts an intergenerational classes every Saturday teaching Art, Entrepreneurship and Financial literacy to community residents. This endeavor allows youth and their families to earn extra income, by selling their one-of-a-kind Arts4Peace products on our youth driven website 99treasures.org.Through this partnership an "innovative" evidence based, best practices curriculum has been developed

This initiative teaches the basic skills of owning and operating your own business through Art. The title of this project is Arts4Peace Project Ujamaa: to build and maintain our own shops, stores and other businesses and to "profit" from them together. Through this partnership an "innovative" evidence based, best practices curriculum has been

developed.

This initiative teaches the basic skills of Cooperative Economics. This multifaceted curriculum uses art in healing from trauma, violence prevention, healthy lifestyles, Rites of Passage, and drug prevention through education. After three months participants earn a certificate and acquire their own online store at 99treasures.org,

or come and just paint for fun with the family and the neighborhood community.



Coalition For a Better Life, dba Peace in the Hood, Inc. co-founder, Khalid Samad and his brother Rev. Michael Farley, Sr.

WEWS: Summer camp uses the arts to keep students on track, off the streets



By DaLaun Dillard, July 21, 2021

CLEVELAND — The power of the drums and the dynamic chants students play and shout are far from quiet, but they indeed bring peace to some of the students living in neighborhoods that are far peaceful.

The 99 Treasures Arts and Cultures Camp uses forms of creativity to help Black students overcome the pressures of life and make the right decisions.

"As a kid, I played with little drums, but I never did art like this," said high school senior De'Eric Johnson. "The art aspect opened many doors for me to express my feelings."

Khalid Samad is the co-founder of Peace in the Hood, the group that organized the camp.

"Arts and culture is healing and used from the healing perspective the trauma that a lot of young people have endured, the trauma, the violence... what they see and what they hear." The Center for Community
Solutions says Black Cleveland
Metro School District students are
just over one and a half times as
likely to be suspended compared to
white students.

Samad is attacking the issue at the root by using the arts and lived experiences, like Jeffrey Crosby's. He is 42 years old and shared his testimony with students during the camp.

Crosby said he's a former gang member.

"I initially got involved because I wanted to make money," said Crosby.

Decades later, Crosby turned his messy past into a message and he's delivering it to the ears of kids that are the age he was when he veered down the wrong path.

"It's the most important thing we can do, they are like sponges at this age," said Crosby. "They will soak up the information you give them."



99 Treasures & Art4Peace Curation of the Mount Pleasant Library



Sign up to help curate (add art) to the Mount Pleasant Library community wall. The arts and crafts learning programs and activities consist of specific methods such as journaling, sketching, drawing, painting, crafting, and mixed paint & mediums to create successive art. It also provides possible resources to those that are facing challenging economic times. In collaboration, the library provides a safe unity base for the programs to take place.

The arts have a powerful and often undervalued impact on communities, not just as a cultural amenity, but also as a catalyst for economic growth and social and political change.

Therefore, providing free activities to Northeast Ohio underserved families and individuals of Cuyahoga County can facilitate change and help to strengthen the underserved areas within and alongside the boundaries of the Mount Pleasant area. There is a lot of talent among those that reside within the communities that is untapped because of the lack of opportunities and family finances. Many schools scaled back arts programs because of budget cuts,

particularly within lowincome neighborhoods. Many families cannot afford after school programs or transport their children to them. 99Treasures wants to make a difference. whether bringing people together to volunteer, improving a child's education of the importance of art in their life, because the whole world is a canvas full of color and life, and finally to cultivate the artist skillset and become future entrepreneurs.



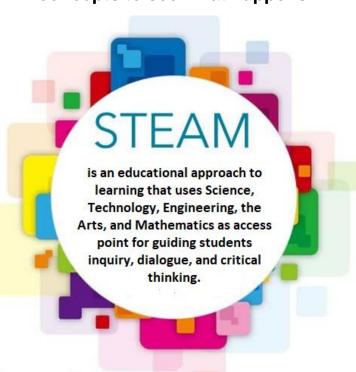
4000 Kinsman Road Cleveland, OH 44120 Phone: 216-623-7032 Manager: Shayla Boyce Mt.Pleasant.Branch@cpl.org

APPLY FOR A SUMMER JOB



The 2022 Summer Youth Employment Program.is now open. Applicants can call the Summer Jobs Info Line at 216-776-3900 or email them, and someone will assist you and explains how to apply and the documents you need to apply.

Youths testing art designs and concepts to see what happens.



8 99 TREASURES: CHILDREN'S ARTS4PEACE CLEVELAND











99Treasures Arts & Culture **Mission Statement**

Our mission statement is to provide Arts and Culture awareness to the underserved African American community, STEAM through art, artistic skill development, entrepreneurial training, reading and life skills. In addition, host events and special programs to help gain exposure for individuals in the community.

Vision Statement

Our vision is to be socially active, community-based organization that is committed to the optimal well-being of our community. This is accomplished through our intergenerational multifaceted curriculum. Through the Arts we will enrich the quality of life for talented and emerging artist/entrepreneurs in our community.

25th YEAR OPEN ENROLLMENT

Intergenerational Family Program ages(5) and up.

Register for classes by contacting Raj (216) 618-8806 text or Khalid (216) 538-4043

Email: 99treasures@gmail.com or coalitionforabetterlife@gmail.com

Check us out:

Website Store YouTube (99treasures) Instagram 99treasures1) Facebook (99Treasures)

Donate Today: Through our website 99Treasures.org., and PayPal 501-C3 non-profit organization is tax deductible:











































Peace Camp 2021 Final Ceremony



Participants in Peace Camp 2021 gather for a group picture.

On July 29, 2021, our youth, staff and volunteers gathered at the Mt. Pleasant NOW building to present a program to the community showcasing what they had learned during camp and their original artwork and crafts. Our keynote speaker was Sister Alex Stokes, journalist and granddaughter of the late Rep Louis Stokes who spoke about the importance of service to your fellow man and doing the right thing. She spoke about her late grandfather and uncle, Carl B. Stokes who were an integral part of Cleveland Black History particularly, and the history of this county. Most of our youth were either too young or not born when the Stokes brothers were making history, so she made them real to the attendees. Our program also included African dance and drumming and words of wisdom from our elders.

The support from the community was outstanding. The event was standing room only. Following the program, attendees enjoyed refreshments and were able to view the original artwork of our participants in the Mt. Pleasant Building. Our quests included representatives from My Com, the Cleveland Public Library, God Before Guns, the Cleveland Foundation, as well as representatives from other faith and communitybased partners and family members of the youth and staff. Our youth want our attention. Whether they get it for doing something positive or negative is our call as adults. Thank you to those adults who came out to give them attention for doing something positive!



99 Treasures Arts & Culture, Inc. is a local non-profit organization that helps young artists sharpen their skills and launch their passion into a career.

Underserved inner-city Multi-Faceted programming for youth in the Mt. Pleasant & Surrounding Areas



Kyle Walton, retired supervising agent from the ATF spoke about the gun violence epidemic in this country,



Artist Jade Davis

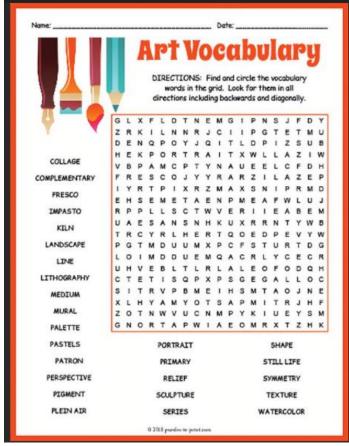
Artist Elhajii Niassi



Youths performing an African Dance entitled Fatu







99Treasures Arts & Culture Scheduled Wednesday Field Trips The Think Box June 22,29 & July 6 TBA SOON July 13 Socker July 20 Horse Stables July 27

2022 Summer Peace Camp for youth Includes:

Games

Art Lessons

On Site Activities

Unity Circle

Financial Literacy

Drumming & Music

Leadership Workshops

College Bound Resources

Historical & Traditional Storytelling

End of the Year Art Exhibit and Sale

One Day Field Trips (on Wednesdays)

At the center of all we do is our commitment to student success.

99Treasures Arts & Culture April Update & Meeting Summary

Thank you to all our youths, volunteers, staff members, community partners, resident leaders that attended our April 16 virtual zoom meeting.



The collective group talked about:

Guest speakers
Fundraiser for summer Peace Camp
Engaging within the community
Wednesday scheduled field trips
2022 Summer Peace Camp components
Revised website and operable date
Mount Pleasant Library Workshops
Futurepreneures Five Year Plan
99Treasures music/song for TV commercial