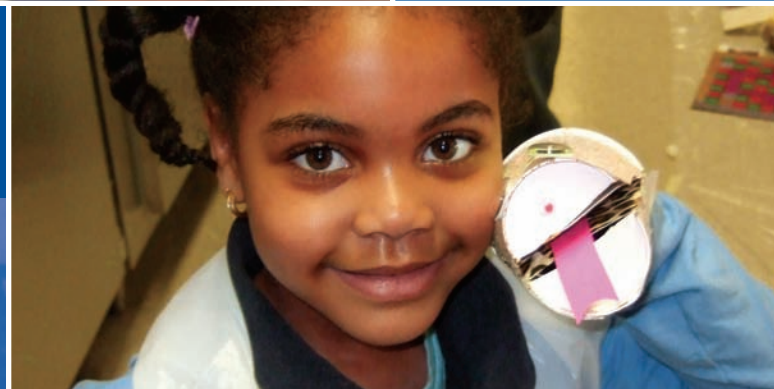
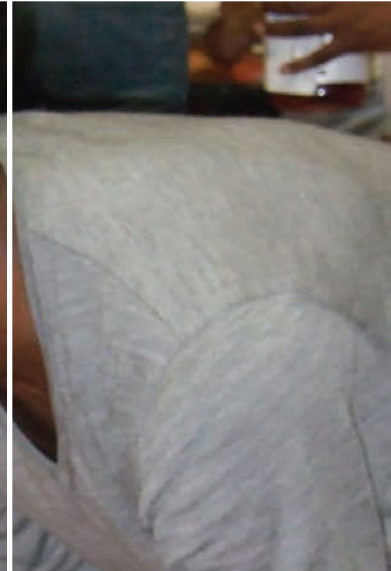


2007



Free Arts NYC
Art Heals. Mentoring Works.



ANNUAL REPORT



Mission

Free Arts NYC provides under-served children and families with a unique combination of educational arts and mentoring programs that help them to foster the self-confidence and resiliency needed to realize their fullest potential.

Need For Programs

Problem

Over a half million children in New York City live below the poverty line, and are frequently exposed to fear, stress and uncertainty, and, for some, violence, abuse and homelessness.

These children are at risk for entry into gangs, drug use, academic failure, future unemployment and getting caught in cycles of poverty from which it is difficult to escape.

Studies show that of all out-of-school programs for disadvantaged youth (arts, sports, academic and community involvement) youth in arts programs do better in school and their personal lives.

Yet, resources for arts programs continue to decline.

And, children are healthier and happier when they spend quality time with positive adult role models.

However, due to extremely high student/teacher ratios, and parents working longer work hours in a struggling economy, these opportunities have also diminished.

Solution

With the support of individuals and organizations, programs help children develop their inner resources to survive traumatic experiences and pull themselves out of difficult situations.

The Free Arts' model combines arts, mentoring and family/community involvement to help children improve their resiliency, self confidence, communication and social skills, strengthen family relationships and change destructive behavioral patterns.

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Elizabeth Thomas

Aimee Walker

Jill Ziccardi

Liz Hopfan, Executive
Director



You can come in a bad mood. But you can leave with a smile."

Marielle, age 7,
PACT Program Participant

Jillian embraces a new opportunity to play African drums at a Multicultural Arts Camp.

Programs

Helping children and families experience new levels of hope and creativity

Free Arts NYC helps low-income, homeless, abused and neglected children develop the inner resources they need to constructively express their emotions and build self-esteem. With the help of dedicated and caring volunteer mentors, we deliver creative arts programs that encourage children to express themselves in a supportive environment in order to develop communication and trust.

In 2007, Free Arts saw the number of children helped since inception grow to 24,000 by helping 336 through the [Weekly Mentor Program](#), 381 (incl. parents) through the [Parents and Children Together with Art Program](#), 876 through [Free Arts Days](#), 100 through [Multicultural Arts Camp](#), and 1,078 through [Cultural Enrichment](#) activities.



Our partnership with Free Arts NYC has continued to grow largely based on two reasons—the enthusiastic response of Goldman Sachs’ employees to these Free Arts programs and the fact that Free Arts brings its programs to communities that are under-served and truly benefit from an introduction to the positive and creative outlet available in the arts.”

Marilyn Duffy -
Chief Operating Officer &
Corporate Secretary,
The Goldman Sachs Foundation

Jasmine’s self-expression shines through in her ‘Going South for the Winter’ Beach Sculpture.



Weekly Mentor Program

Small groups of children pair with teams of volunteers throughout the academic year.

Using different artistic media each week, children learn to express themselves creatively, build self-confidence, and form positive, trusting relationships with their mentors.

Parents and Children Together with Art (PACT) Program

Children and their parents, or caregivers, pair with teams of volunteers for 8-week program segments.

Interactive, creative arts projects inspire collaboration, communication and teamwork within families. Working as a “design team” each family uses art as a vehicle to become stronger.

Free Arts Days

Saturday arts festivals for 100 children, each sponsored by an individual, family or corporation.

Volunteer “buddies” pair with children for fun, exciting days of creative arts. Children receive individualized attention while rotating through theme-based art stations, followed by lunch and interactive live entertainment.

Cultural Enrichment

Every child attends a live performance or cultural event.

To complement their involvement in other Free Arts programs, children and families visit museums and attend live music, dance, theater or arts shows. For many, these opportunities are the only chance they have to experience the power of a live performance.

Multicultural Arts Camp

Week-long summer camps where 100 children learn about art, music, and dance from different cultures.

Children in Free Arts programs spend a week working with volunteers and teaching artists enjoying fun creative arts workshops. These culminate with an exhibition, performance, or parade.

Teen Program (In development for 2008)

Skill-building and career-prep for youth ages 14-18.

Older youth are introduced to potential creative career paths through workshops and internships with successful professionals in the creative fields of fashion, music, theater, fine arts, design and photography.

Sites Served

Free Arts provides programs in places where the benefits of art are most in need—homeless and domestic violence shelters, group homes, schools, community centers, and housing facilities, among others. Agencies are selected because they are accessible to those Free Arts helps—under-served children who are exposed to social, physical, and economic risk factors.

Bronx Charter School for the Arts [Bronx]

Center for Court Innovation [South Bronx]

Children's Aid Society, Dunley Milbank Center [West Harlem]

Coalition for Hispanic Family Services [Bushwick, Brooklyn]

Community Roots Charter School [Fort Greene, Brooklyn]

NYC Department of Homeless Services:

Belt Family Center [Queens]

Jamaica Family Center [Jamaica, Queens]

HELP Bronx (Crotona) [Bronx]

Nelson Avenue Family Residence [Bronx]

Richard F. Salyer House [Manhattan]

Theresa's Haven [Bronx]

Urban Family Center [Manhattan]

Urban Transitional Family Residence [Brooklyn]

Women In Need, Casa Rita [Bronx]

Excellence Charter School [Bedford Stuyvesant, Brooklyn]

GO Project [West Village]

Good Shepherd Services:

Barbara Blum Residence [Park Slope, Brooklyn]

Euphrasian Hall East [Village]

Nelson Mandela House [University Heights, Bronx]

North Bronx Family Service Center [University Heights, Bronx]

St. Germaine's Residence [Corona, Queens]

Grand Street Settlement's Beacon Center [Lower East Side]

The Family Center [Bedford Stuyvesant, Brooklyn]

Future Leaders Institute [West Harlem]

Harlem Link Charter School [West Harlem]

Icahn House East LLC [Manhattan]

Icahn House West LLC [Manhattan]

I Have A Dream Foundation at Dehostos-Wise [Manhattan]

Lincoln Square Neighborhood Center [Manhattan]

Little Sisters of the Assumption Family Health Services [East Harlem]

Palladia Inc.

Dreitzer House [Harlem]

Stratford House [Soundview, Bronx]

P.S. 241 Family Academy [Bronx]

Sanctuary for Families [Manhattan]

STEPS to End Family Violence [East Harlem]

Union Settlement Association [East Harlem]

Success Story

8-year old Alicia's mom fought a drug addiction that nearly tore the family apart. Alicia and her mom needed the Free Arts' family program to heal old wounds.

"Thanks Free Arts for bringing my family together again. I'm so grateful! How can I ever repay you? This experience has changed our lives forever!" -Alicia

Accomplishments

In 2007, Free Arts NYC...

- **Refined its mission** to better articulate helping underserved children and families
- **Created a new Strategic Plan** to address growing numbers of children and agencies who need Free Arts.
- **Adopted a nationally recognized evaluation scale** to measure gains in each child's resiliency.
- **Expanded capacity** to prepare for unprecedented program growth.
- **Welcomed three new board members.**

Looking Ahead

From 2008-2010, Free Arts NYC will...

- **Raise \$1.8 million in order to complete our Strategic Plan**
- **Build new partnerships** with more agencies across the boroughs.
- **Develop new Teen Programs** to excite and meet career goals of older youth.
- **Expand space** staff, storage, project prep and trainings.
- **Double the number of children served each year.**



Luis and his volunteer buddy, Ivana, share their pride in the candy headdress he made during the 'Incredible Edible Art Day.'

*All names have been changed to protect the privacy of the children.

Financials

Balance Sheet

Assets	
Cash	182,496
Investments & Security deposits	413,193
Unconditional promises to give	177,735
Other	58,742
Total Assets	832,166

Liabilities and Net Assets	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	28,692
Unrestricted Net Assets	716,649
Temporarily restricted Net Assets	86,825
Total Net Assets	803,474
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	832,166

Revenue & Expenses

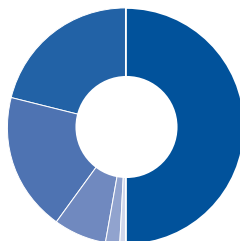
Support & Revenue	
Grants & Contributions	613,165
Donated services, materials and use of facility	55,230
Fundraising events	729,714
Other	25,555
Total Revenue	1,423,664

Expenses	
Program Services	1,026,152
Management and general	111,099
Fundraising	237,362
Total Expenses	1,374,613

Increase in Net Assets	
Unrestricted	49,051
Temporarily Restricted	86,825
Total Increase in Net Assets	135,876
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	667,598
Net Assets	803,474

Revenue & Expenses

- Corporations 7%
- Individuals 19%
- Foundations 21%
- Events 50%
- Government 1%
- Investments 2%



Left: Committee members Karen Duffy Tcherevkoff, Ferebee Bishop Taube, and Olivia Chantecaille arrive at the Young Benefactor Fall Benefit. **Right:** Board Members and Benefit Chairs Amy Sacco and Mary Alice Stephenson with Honorary Chair Liv Tyler at the Annual Art Auction Benefit. **Center:** Jesse Malin performs at a Free Arts NYC Benefit concert.

Free Arts NYC Accountability

- Recognized by the Better Business Bureau as meeting 100% of its Standards for Charitable Accountability.
- Named a "Top Investment Worthy Charity" by *Contribute Magazine* (2007 and 2008) for transparency, use of funds, accountability and fundraising efficiency

Fundraising and Special Events

8th Annual Art Auction Benefit

On April 23, 2007, Free Arts held its 8th Annual Art Auction Benefit, Portraits & Polaroids, sponsored by Vanity Fair and Dior at Milk Gallery in Chelsea. The silent and live auctions included works by Chuck Close, Barbara Kruger and Tom Friedman and raised over \$650,000 for our programs. The event was again hosted by Board Members Amy Sacco and Mary Alice Stephenson with Honorary chair Liv Tyler.

Other Fundraising Events and Partnerships

In 2007, Free Arts continued to forge relationships with partners in the worlds of fashion, art and business whose support of Free Arts NYC helped raise money for our programs through a variety of exciting and unique events. Free Arts was selected to be the beneficiary of either proceeds from ticket and merchandise sales or honorary donations through these events and partnerships:

- Lutz & Patmos and Liv Tyler Cashmere Collaboration
- Sari Gueron and Glamour Magazine T-Shirt Collaboration
- Miguelina Store Opening
- Dior and Vanity Fair Art Preview Party
- John Varvatos presents Jesse Malin in Concert
- Chapel Vintage T-Shirt Sale and Charity Auction
- Rolland Berry Raffle at the Blue Trade Show
- Bling on a String
- Koral Clothing Sale
- Bonpoint Store Opening
- Young Benefactor Fall Benefit hosted by Links of London
- Jacques Roizen and Daniel Ehrmann Cocktail Party at Pink Elephant
- Poleci Store Opening
- Level Global Holiday Cards
- ITG Holiday Cards
- Nohra Haime Gallery Artist Plates Reception
- Intermix Partnership
- JetBlue Partnership



Free Arts is thankful for the numerous foundations, trusts, and corporations which award grants and sponsor programs and events. This support sustains operations and creates new and innovative arts programs for children.

Foundations

Arts & Business Council of New York
The Catalog for Giving
Charles and Mildred Schnurmacher Foundation
The Children for Children Foundation
Credit Suisse Americas Foundation
Deutsche Bank Americas Foundation
The Endeavor Foundation
The Evan Frankel Foundation
Frank & Ruth E. Caruso Foundation
Frank J. Antun Foundation
The Fund for the City of New York
Gail L. and Arthur E. Benjamin Foundation

Generoso Pope Foundation
The Heckscher Foundation for Children
The Hitachi Foundation
J.C. Kellogg Foundation
The Jamie and Steve Tisch Foundation
The Keith Haring Foundation
Lily Auchincloss Foundation
Limited Brands Foundation/ Victoria's Secret Stores
M.B. and Edna Zale Foundation
Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation
Maxell Foundation
Milton and Sally Avery Arts Foundation

Muna & Basem Hishmeh Foundation
NYMEX Charitable Foundation
The Pinkerton Foundation
The Polo Ralph Lauren Foundation
Rush Philanthropic Arts Foundation
The Richard and Natalie Jacoff Foundation
The Rite Aid Foundation
The Robert Bowne Foundation
The Shulman Family Foundation
William M. & Miriam F. Meehan Foundation
William T. Grant Foundation

Corporations

Abas Accessories
Accessory Network
All Stars Project, Inc.
American Express
Anheuser-Busch
Artnet.com
ARTnews
Asia Society
Ballatore
Bloomingdale's SoHo
Boat Basin Café
Bonpoint
Born Footwear
Brette Sandler
Brooklyn Museum
Brownberry
Chantecaille
Chapel Vintage T-Shirts
Chelsea Art Museum
Coca Cola Bottling Company of America
Con Edison
DDB
Deutsche Bank
Dior
Donna D'Cruz
Duro Design

El Museo del Barrio
Exton Capital Management, LLC
Fishman Tobin
Foodtown/ PSK Supermarkets
FIJI Water
Fund for the City of New York
Gelo Factory
Glacéau
Glamour Magazine
Goldman Sachs
Hable Construction
HBO
Hemling Associates
Highline Ballroom
Home Depot
InStyle Magazine
ITG
JetBlue Airways
John Varvatos
KDP Enterprises
KenzoAmour
Kitchen Bar
L'Koral
Lancôme
Leah Esposito Design
Lee's Art Shop

Level Global Links of London
Live Auctioneers
Lutz & Patmos
Magnetic Poetry
Make
Marc Jacobs
Marquardt & Company
Miguelina
Milk Gallery
Moët & Chandon
Moët Hennessy USA
Museum for African Art
Museum of Chinese in the Americas
Museum of the City of New York
Nao Salon
Neuhoff Gallery
The Noguchi Museum
One Viking Productions
Pershing Square Capital Management
Phillips de Pury & Co.
Photograph
Phyto Universe
Polaroid 20 x 24 Studio
Ports 1961
Prada
Pravda Vodka

Pulse Creative
Reebok
Rolland Berry
Ronnette Riley Architect
SkyFrame
Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum
SPIN Magazine
SRI
Target
Thelen, Reid, Brown, Raysman
& Steiner, LLP
Thomas H. Lee & Ann Tenenbaum
Tracy Paul & Company
Universal Music Company
Van Wagner Communications
Vanity Fair
Victoria's Secret
Village Wines
W Hotels
Weil, Gotshal & Manges
Whitney Museum of American Art
William Grant & Sons
Wonderland Beauty Parlor
The Xchange
Young Artists International
zgrouppinc

Front Cover:

'Super Sheldon' is empowered by the cape he created with the help of his volunteer 'buddy.'

Tatiana re-imagines her world, transforming an ordinary coffee cup into a new "cuppert" friend.

Stencil art: Graffiti art created with 'love' by Chantal, 15, at a Free Arts Day.



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