



Metropolitan Youth Arts & Technology for Students

Imagine 70 youth art entrepreneurs coming into the Downtown District as practicing artists. Imagine a program for teens to decrease drug use and delinquency, improve grades, and help build life skills while improving relationships and attitudes about work and their future. The youth from our city would like you to be a part of a program that will change their future.

MyARTS is the only youth center in the Downtown revitalization project located in the heart of the arts movement that allows teens to express themselves creatively while providing an opportunity to design, create and sell their art products. MyARTS was conceived in 2006 and aspires to produce productive, highly skilled and dependable young artists who will be an asset to society and our city. Teens ages 15 to 19 from every corner of the city may enroll in MyARTS for an opportunity to explore their creative abilities in five fully equipped art studios. They can focus on Visual Arts, Silk Screen, Ceramics, Photography, and Graphic Design. Each youth enters into a 72 hour volunteer apprenticeship program. The apprenticeship program places metropolitan teens in small groups with professional lead artist. Upon successful completion of the apprenticeship program, the artist qualifies for a paid part-time entrepreneurship position.

MyARTS also conducts business management training beyond the creative aspect of the program by providing speakers and workshops focused in training areas that include entrepreneurship, business law, accounting, selling, promotions/marketing, and research. The teens and mentors collaborate on creative projects and meet after school from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. With MyARTS, young people are given an opportunity to not only be artistic, but to become self-reliant, confident in their abilities and determined to make a bright future for themselves. Fourteen out of seventeen artists in the MyARTS program are now in college.

You can support this program by providing sponsorship to the 3rd Annual MyARTS Benefit titled *Urban Expectations*. Last year eighty six organizations participated in the fundraiser, Second Nature either as a sponsor or as an in-kind contributor. Your much appreciated contribution is tax deductible. See the enclosure with more details about this exciting event. To learn more about MyARTS and inquire about this event, contact Angela Castle at 816-985-2520 and visit the website at www.myartskc.org, or mail donations to MyARTS, 1522 Homes, Kansas City, MO 64108

Sincerely,

Angela C. Gravino
MyARTS Executive Director

Y o u t h A R T
“For Our Future”

MyARTS Annual Benefit

We all have different interpretations of the influence that urban living has upon our youth. Perhaps this influence is best represented through tangible expressions of individual experiences, the urban fabric for this year's theme. The MyARTS Annual Benefit, *Urban Expectations*, is May 7th, 2010 from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. at 1522 Holmes Street, KCMO 64108. This year's event will allow a look inside the mind of the young artists, encompassing works of personal eccentricity. Urban living has provided the youth with a giant sketchbook of ideas built upon their environment. So, what to expect? Join us on May 7th and be prepared for the artwork to be exactly what you expected and nothing that you expected.

The event's festivities will include a silent auction featuring multiple art pieces created by the youth from each studio, hors d'oeuvres, beverages and live entertainment including a fashion show. Becoming a sponsor will allow your corporate name to be printed on all programs, invitations, and materials including posters. Sponsors donating over \$2,000 will receive all of the above with the addition of your corporate logo and name listed in all media exposure plus the banners at the event.

Sponsorships can include financial donations, food, beverages, and raffle items. Contributions of any amount and type are appreciated. To inquire about becoming a sponsor of this event, contact Angela Castle at 816-881-3113 and visit the website at www.myartskc.org. MyARTS looks forward to working with you to change the future of the youth in our city.

2010 MyARTS Fundraiser Committee:

Chair, Annie Premis-Prudential Kansas City Realty

Director, Angela Gravino (Castle)-MyARTS

Abby Breithaupt, Beth Foster, **Premier Consulting**, Christina Bernstein, Cindy McClain-**McClain Enterprises**, Colin Stoner, **The Stoner Lawfirm, LLC.**, Deana Bellamaganya-**Jackson County Prosecutor's Office**, Dianne Sicola-**Salon Capelli**, Francie Moretina, John Gravino, Kristin Armstrong, Lindsay Sierens-**Sierens Real Estate Inc.**, Mark Hassenflu, Sarah Smitka-**Pink Pear Design Co.**, Tom Lannon-**Global Views**