



FrontLines

Summer Quarter 2001

Vol. 1 No. 1

Arts Corps at Bumpershoot this Summer

Though we don't have classes this summer, Arts Corps students from Garfield Teen Life Center, Miller Community Center, Showalter Middle School and Seattle Urban Academy will be performing on August 31st at Bumpershoot, Alki Room, 12-1pm. Check us out!

Executive Director

Lisa Fitzhugh
lisa@artscorps.org

Systems Administrator (P/T)

Stephen Nadal
stephen@artscorps.org

Facilities Coordinator (P/T)

Amy Maguire
amy@artscorps.org

Teaching Artist Coordinator (P/T)

Tina LaPadula
tina@artscorps.org

Professional Development Coordinator (P/T)

Lauren Atkinson
lauren@artscorps.org

ph.: 206-329-4442
fax: 206-329-6200
http://www.artscorps.org
info@artscorps.org



Tina LaPadula applies makeup to the young actors from Bailey Gatzert Elementary School as they prepare to perform "The Elephant's Child" (above); African Drumming students file into the Seattle Repertory Theatre with their djembes (right).



Arts Corps at the Rep

Arts Corps students, parents and friends took over the Seattle Repertory Theatre on June 15th for their last and final showcase of the year. Over 300 people came to watch 17 classes of students perform in the Leo K. Theatre and exhibit their artwork in the theatre's lobby. The event was nothing less than fabulous.

Just a few days before, the *Seattle Times* ran an article about Seattle Urban Academy's acting class taught by Arts Corps teaching artist Amy Maguire. Most of the students were featured in the article. Seeing themselves in print was real a boost for the students and attracted plenty of folks to the show.

Classes that performed or displayed their artwork included those from the following facilities: Aki Kurose Middle School, Bailey

Gatzert Elementary, Ballard Boys and Girls Club, Garfield Teen Life Center, High Point YMCA, Miller Community Center, Rainier Beach Complex, Rainier Community Center, Seattle Urban Academy, Showalter Middle School and Zion Preparatory Academy.

One of Arts Corps' volunteers wrote to us the following day saying, "the students were floating on air, their pride of accomplishment was palpable. And the community you have created through these shows is new and unique to Seattle."

Arts Corps holds a student showcase following every quarter of classes. Next year, shows will be scheduled the week of December 7, 2001 and the weeks of March 28 and June 14, 2002. Look for your invitation in the mail!



Seattle Urban Academy students perform their monologues (left); students from the Urban Hip Hop class perform on stage to a packed house (above).

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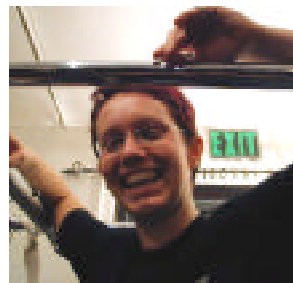


NESHOLM FAMILY
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Welcome New Teaching Artists

Arts Corps would like to introduce you to five fantastic artists who joined our faculty last quarter. You know it -- we have the best teachers around!

- **Sonya Boothroyd** (bottom right) – founder and artistic director of TURF (Seattle-based urban dance theatre company).
- **Rice Baker-Yeboah** (top right) – poet, vocalist and community activist who teaches improvisational self-expression and free-style hip-hop.
- **John Feodorov** (bottom left) – painter and installation artist, will be featured in the PBS series “Art For the 21st Century” this fall. He is currently serving on the Seattle Arts Commission.
- **Tomas Oliva, Jr.** (top left) – Son of the famous sculptor of the same name. A world-renowned sculptor and painter in his own right, from the Cuban artistic avant-garde.
- **Dora Oliveira** (center) – former dancer from the Brazilian folkloric dance troupe, Exaltacao A Bahia. Locally, Dora teaches Afro-Brazilian dance.



A Huge Thank You to Arts Corps Facility Hosts and their Wonderful Coordinators and Staff!

Thanks to **Rick Boudreaux, Domina Frankovic** and **Nikki Bautista** at Bailey Gatzert, **Derek Smith** at Ballard Boys and Girls Club, **Mazvita Maraïre** at Garfield Teen Life Center, **Val Seid** at High Point YMCA, **Martha Winther** and the gang at Miller, **Peter Brodtkin, Staci Williams, Travis Souksamare** and The Man Who Knows Everything **Jeff Hodges**, at Rainier Beach Complex, **Nanette Fuerte** and **Ian Hallock** at Rainier Community Center, **Sharon Okamoto** and the fantastic staff at Seattle Urban Academy, **Celeste Robinson** at Tukwila Community School, and **Anne Fillmore** at Zion Preparatory Academy!

We want to thank Sprout Hochberg for hosting five Arts Corps classes at Aki Kurose and being part of our inaugural year. Nanette Fuerte, congratulations on the baby and we look forward to seeing you back in action next year! Also, a fond and sad fare-well to Anne Fillmore, Nikki Bautista and Celeste Robinson. As you move on to new opportunities, know that we will miss you and thank you for your dedication and commitment to youth. You are all three exemplary role models as youth advocates and educators and we wish you all the best. And finally a special thank you to Lori Chisholm, who's been an Arts Corps advocate from the outset. Your enthusiasm, energy and guidance have been invaluable to us here at Arts Corps.

Thank you all for a fantastic first year.

What people are saying about us

“Arts Corps is bridging the gap between art, education, demographics and socioeconomic status...their classes have opened doors for students they never would have passed at all.”

– Anne Fillmore, Programs Coordinator
Zion Preparatory Academy

“Arts Corps provides arts training to children who are unlikely to find it in school and probably unable to pay for it out of school...in less than 12 months, Arts Corps has initiated a program that is nothing less than extraordinary and meets a need that is nothing less than enormous.”

– Susan Trapnell, Director
The Seattle Arts Commission

“I’ve learned from Arts Corps that if you think one way about the world, just because it’s that way, it can change. We can change and the world can change, and some things shouldn’t be the way they are but it can get better...We have to make it better.”

– High School Student
Seattle Urban Academy

“The program really made a difference in the children. They feel good about themselves when they see what they can accomplish with their own hands and talent.”

– The Pages, parents of Arts Corps students



Scene from Raisin in the Sun at Intiman Theatre, Photo courtesy of Intiman Theatre.

Arts Corps and Raisin in the Sun

Liza Comtois, the Community Programs Director for the Intiman Theater, invited Arts Corps students to “A Raisin in the Sun” with the hope of exposing as many young people to the play as possible. The students were encouraged to create artwork inspired by the themes in the play, and display it in the theater lobby.

The play is as relevant today as it was when the original production opened in 1959. Students explored the themes of racial and class struggle, the search for cultural heritage, the dynamics of living with extended family and the difference between renting and owning. This was a unique opportunity for young artists to view a play and respond to it through the various art forms offered by Arts Corps. Those that attended included students from: the Garfield Teen Life Center’s Digital Photography class, Miller Community Center’s Acting as Storytelling class, and Exploration in Art classes, from the Ballard Boys and Girls Club and Zion Preparatory Academy.

PONCHO Fundraiser

Arts Corps’ Drumming Ensemble played to a crowd of over 1,000 people on Saturday May 12th. The occasion was PONCHO’s annual auction, held this year at the Seattle Exhibition Center. Jah Breeze, one of our teaching artists, lead nine Arts Corps students from Aki Kurose Middle School, Rainier Complex and Miller Community Center in a short performance introducing PONCHO’s request for donations to arts education. PONCHO raised over \$150,000 from this portion of the program alone. Lots of auction patrons came up afterwards to rave about the performance. To the African Drumming ensemble--you are true professionals and we’re incredibly proud of you.



Arts Corps students jam at Studio Litho (above and below)

Studio Litho Field Trip

On Friday, May 1st, students from Jah Breeze’s African Drumming classes made another visit to Studio Litho, Stone Gossard’s (Pearl Jam) music recording studio. Arts Corps students came from Rainier Complex, Aki Kurose Middle School and Miller Community Center. For two hours, different groups of kids “laid down” some basic rhythms, each building on top on the other, to create a finished piece. It was a great jam session,

some of the students recorded a few rap pieces, and everyone got the chance to work the controls, try out something funky, and contribute to Arts Corps’ first music CD. We’ll let you know when the CD is complete and available to buy!



Arts Corps Teaching Artists, 2000-2001

Lauren Atkinson
Rice Baker-Yeboah
Sonya Boothroyd
Jah Breeze (Clarence Burrowes)
Shane Carpenter
Alexis Chamow
Sonia Dawkins
Vicky Edmonds
John Feodorov
Nancy Froehlich
Jean Hicks
Tina LaPadula

Amy Maguire
Anthony T. Manuel
Christina McNeil
Bill Moyer
Tomas Oliva, Jr.
Dora Oliveira
Sarah Peters
Brian Quist
Gina Sala
Lana Sundberg
Juliet Waller

To find out more about Arts Corps, our Teaching Artists, students or volunteer opportunities, check out our website at www.artscorps.org.

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1423 34th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98122

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