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Mayor's Office of Arts & Cultural Affairs

Arts Corps is a 501(c)3 tax exempt organization. Contributions to Arts Corps are tax deductible.

★ **The Arts Corps Fall Showcase** Keep your eye open for the date and place of the Arts Corps Fall Showcase!

★ **In support of "Baja to Vancouver,"** check out Arts Corps' core hip hop and spoken word young performers in the Lobby at the Seattle Art Museum, Friday, November 7th, at 6pm, then stay to see the film Dogtown and Z-Boys in the auditorium.

★ **Save the date!** The 2nd Annual Arts Corps Festa del Arte Fundraiser is scheduled for **March 27th**. We'll be back at the Asian Art Museum, and it goes without saying that **this event is not to be missed.**

## WHAT'S COMING UP



1423 34th Avenue, Seattle, WA 98122

THE ARTS CORPS FALL SCHEDULE IS AVAILABLE ONLINE. YOU CAN ALSO DONATE TO ARTS CORPS ONLINE.

[www.artscorps.org](http://www.artscorps.org)

**Invest in Arts Corps today...And help kids make art anyway.**

Our strongest long-term base of support comes from individuals. Please consider a donation to Arts Corps. Checks and in-kind donations (art supplies, computer equipment and office supplies) are welcome and may be mailed or delivered to:

**Arts Corps, 1423 34th Avenue, Seattle, WA 98122**

**\$20** pays for a student's art supplies for one Arts Corps course. **\$250** pays for a student to participate in one Arts Corps course. **\$2,500** pays for 10 students (approx. size of one class) to participate in one Arts Corps course.



VOLUME 3 NO 2

PHOTO © DOROTHEE BRAND PAMEL

### IT'S WHAT'S INSIDE THAT MATTERS

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Make art Any Way

"I AM ABLE TO EXPRESS MYSELF WHEN I WASN'T ABLE TO BEFORE. AND YOU CAN'T JUST SAY THAT A PERSON IS NO GOOD, BECAUSE THEY HAVE A WHOLE DIFFERENT PERSON UNDERNEATH."

KRISTIN, GARFIELD TEEN LIFE CENTER

# front LINES

ARTS CORPS

FALL.2003

## HIP, HOT NEWS: THE TEACHING ARTISTS, THE STAFF AND THE BOARD AT THE FIRST EVER ARTS CORPS RETREAT

We carpoled, we took an early morning ferry, and we arrived at Islandwood, an environmental learning school on Bainbridge Island. For the unprecedented first time, Arts Corps staff, Teaching Artists and Board came together to discuss, explore and learn together...overnight! Lucky for us we had two amazing people join us to help facilitate. Daveda Russell, founder of Nyawela Consulting, an organization committed to supporting people through their development as leaders and learners, helped the Teaching Artists delve into developmental learning theories, multiple intelligences and the latest ideas in emergent curriculum. Meanwhile, Liza Sheehan, a consultant who guided Arts Corps through a strategic planning session last summer, structured the Board's discussion about our organizational vision and the Board's job. This retreat was an amazing opportunity for all of us to deepen our relationships and our collective commitment to the powerful movement that is Arts Corps.

This photo of our teaching artists and staff is ridiculously incomplete...because we only remembered we had the digital camera with us after half of us left for home.



PHOTO © DAVEDA RUSSELL

## ARTS CORPS STAFF

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Elaine Bild (Secretary)  
Ron Rabin (President)  
Val Seid  
Mahnaz Sherzoi (Vice President)  
Christine Stickler  
John Vadino (Treasurer)

## ARTS CORPS VOLUNTEERS

Michelle Abanes	Kim Lambert
Hope Anderson	Angela Larsen
Alexandra Argo	Michael Lee
Bria Bahr	Amanda Leonard
Emmy Bean	Kathy Lindenmayer
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Natalie Grant	Julie Wang
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Ro Gunderson	Dave Weed
Guy Hardin	Joan Williams
Jack Hilovsky	Cindy Williamson
Aura Lee Honkanen	Ellie Williamson
Evette Jasper	Nancy Winberg
Meghan Kent	Andy Yeckel
Cassidy Laffan	

## ARTS CORPS FACILITIES

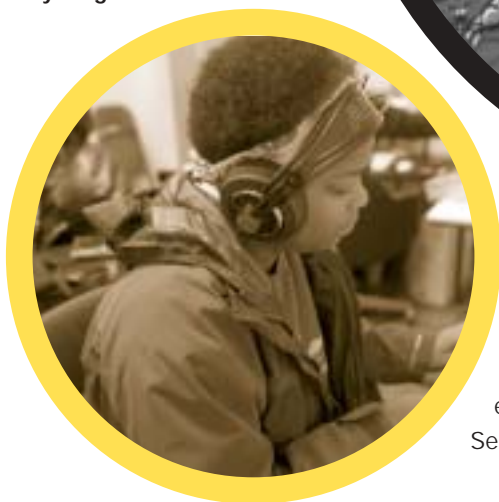
African American Academy  
Aki Kurose Middle School  
Burien's New Futures at Vintage Park  
Apartment School  
Cascade View Elementary School  
Denny Middle School Community School  
Garfield Community Center  
Garfield Teen Life Center  
Hutch School  
King County Career Development  
Learning Center  
Madrona K-5  
Miller Community Center  
Rainier Beach Complex  
Rotary Boys & Girls Club  
Saint Therese Catholic School  
Seattle Urban Academy  
Showalter Middle School  
Southwest Community Center  
Thorndyke Elementary School  
Tukwila Elementary School  
Valley View Elementary School  
Yesler Community Center  
YMCA's Community Learning Center at  
Bailey Gatzert Elementary School  
YMCA's Community Learning Center at  
Concord Elementary School  
Zion Preparatory Academy

# THE CHANGE WE WANT TO SEE IN THE WORLD

## Three years ago, we started

this organization called Arts Corps. It was to be an after-school arts education program for youth from low-income communities. We hired a core group of exceptional teaching artists and placed them in a handful of after-school facilities across Seattle. Year one was difficult, class size was low, attendance was hit or miss. But we put together a showcase of student work after the first quarter at the Speakeasy Café, and it was thrilling, every last second of it.

We have since grown to serve **4 times as many facilities** as when we began, and **we now reach over 1,200 kids a year**. Our last student showcase at the Seattle Rep drew over **500 cheering supporters to celebrate the fearless self-expression of young people**.



Every year, we survey parents and students about how Arts Corps changes the students it serves. This year, like last, we have some data to share with you. Our comprehensive annual evaluation report will be available to any and all by the end of September. What follows is just a sample.

## As a result of taking Arts Corps classes:

- 94% of students say they feel excited to try new things, take risks and be creative.
- 81% of students say they have changed (become more self-confident, etc.).
- 83% of students are interested in taking more Arts Corps classes.
- 80% of high school students see more possibilities for themselves in the future.

## When parents were asked about their child's experience:

- 100% of those surveyed said their child had developed a competency in a particular art form.
- 84% saw improvements in their child's self-confidence.
- 83% saw improvements in their child's compassion and respect for others.
- 77% saw improvements in their child's interest in learning.
- 69% saw improvements in their child's problem solving abilities.
- 31% saw big improvements in their child's language and communications skills.

And 54% saw big improvement in their child's interaction with friends and peers.

Twice a year, once for our **annual fundraiser** and once upon completion of **our annual evaluation**, we specifically ask our investors to write a check. We don't ask more often because we believe we have to demonstrate **results** first and ask for **support** second. So please use the envelope and **invest in us today**.

When Arts Corps first started, we couldn't guarantee our students would be the next generation to lose their fear, take risks and open their hearts to the "other." But the courage they take to display a burgeoning, 8-week old dance talent to a crowd of strangers, the mutual respect they show other performers, older and younger than they, and the confidence they reflect in their individual efforts on stage or on paper is all the evidence we needed to know that **this work does indeed change the world**.

PHOTOS © SUSIE FITZHUGH

## NEW PARTNERSHIP WITH SOCIAL VENTURE PARTNERS

Arts Corps is beyond excited about its selection by Social Venture Partners (SVP) to be one of its new investees this year. Together with the White Center Community School, we were selected to receive multi-year funding and capacity building expertise to help deepen Arts Corps' organizational foundation. SVP, a local philanthropy non-profit, has inspired like programs around the country and serves as a model for strategic non-profit investment and cultivation of the ethic of philanthropy. Just 3 months in and we are already reaping the benefits of an outside perspective, with keen recommendations for risk management, human resource management and financial planning. We look forward to future work with SVP and its amazing partners and staff.

## WELCOME NEW STAFF AND TEACHING ARTISTS

**John Abodeely** will assist Executive Director Lisa Fitzhugh with grant proposals and finances. John has rich experience in administration with the Washington State Arts Alliance and Three Dollar Bill Cinema. John's passion for social justice and the arts fits perfectly with Arts Corps' mission. We are excited to have the organizational and creative support John will give all of us.



**Lara Davis**, Program Assistant and Special Events Coordinator, will wear many hats to improve organizational strategies and communication across the board. Lara's experiences with the YWCA, ACORN, Pacific Science Center, and Enatai Elementary School brings a breadth of knowledge and participation by new communities to our organization. Lara's passion for the belief that art can inspire and build confidence and self-esteem reinforces Arts Corps' mission and goals. We look forward to Lara's spark and enthusiasm as we deepen our experiences with our youth.



**New Teaching Artists** include: Digital Photographer **Rachel Adams**, Muralist and Mosaic Artist **Yegizaw Michael**, Spoken Word Poets and Performers **Laura "Piece" Kelley** and **Rajni Eddins**, Photographer **Rita Alcantara**, Media Artist **Sarna Lapine**, and a former teaching assistant and co-teacher who will now have their own classes, Photographer **Laura O'Quin** and Artist/Capoeirista **Ezekiel Rothman**. To learn more about the amazing talents these fabulous people bring to Arts Corps and the youth we serve, read about them online at [www.artscorps.org](http://www.artscorps.org).

PHOTOS © STEPHEN E. NADAL, LMP

## A DEBUT CD, SUPPORTING PERFORMANCES, AND AN AWARD AT BUMBERSHOOT

The evolution of the popular Make It Happen class, merging and collaborating with our other spoken word classes has become...Make It Happen Productions led by Teaching Artists and Project Directors Aaron Straight and Rice Baker-Yeboah. This new project is proud to present an original hip hop EP entitled Extended Play, created by some of our students in collaboration with their teaching artists mentors. 100% of the proceeds return to the program to make this opportunity free to more young, emerging artists. The young artists had the opportunity to plug their new work and share the bill with such luminaries as Damien Jurado and 33 Fainting Spells at SAM's After Hours Goes Outdoors, at the future site of the Seattle Art Museum's Olympic Sculpture Park. Their debut CD was released at Bumbershoot, where the artists responsible for the compilation performed on the Literary Stage...on the very same day that Arts Corps won the Seattle Arts Commission's 2003 Mayor's Award for "Outstanding contribution to arts education." A special thanks to Stone Gossard, Litho Studios, Parks and Recreation, and B-Side Records for making this collection of music possible. Stay tuned for more information on this year's program and upcoming performances from these amazing young artists. To purchase your very own copy, go to the Arts Corps website.



EXTENDED PLAY DESIGN © COURTESY OF MAKE IT HAPPEN PRODUCTIONS

PHOTOS © STEPHEN E. NADAL, LMP

## NEW FACILITY NEWS!

Arts Corps branches out in **West Seattle**, stays close to home in **Madrona** and welcomes **the return of a charter Facility!**

On the 2003-04 roster we add **St. Therese School**, where artist/parent **Tom Flood** and visionary principal **Eileen Gray** spent several summer mornings with us hammering out an in-school Arts Corps program for the year. The **Madrona neighborhood** (where we have our office) is becoming quite the home for Arts Corps classes and teaching artists! **Lauren Atkinson's** eclectic **Explorations in Art** will be there all year for K-5, and **Dora Oliveira's Capoeira Angola** class will get the middle school youth moving through the fall.

In **West Seattle**, we join another **Community Learning Center** family at **Denny Middle School** with **Ron Davis** at the helm. Ron worked with Arts Corps at Garfield Teen Life Center, and when he took over at Denny, he wanted to bring us along. Denny Community Learning Center students are not only hosting **Jerome Aparis'** popular **Breakdancing** class, they're traveling to **High Point YMCA** for **Jason Parker's Music Production** class. Thanks to **Val Seid** for hosting Denny at the Y, and Ron, thanks for working it all out!

And then there's the **Southwest Community Center**, adjacent to Denny Middle school. We first met **Asst. Coordinator Dena Schuler** back in 2000 when she was at Miller Community Center. She was an early and ardent Arts Corps supporter and we're delighted to bring **Dora Oliveira's Brazilian Dance** to all the young people at Southwest. Nice to work with you again, Dena!

And in a triumphant return:

**Video Production** Teaching Artist **Brian Quist** had a meeting with Video Teacher **Kim Sullivan** at **Aki Kurose Middle School**. He was so excited by the video program already in place there, he called Arts Corps. "I want to go to Aki." After Kim and Brian described the partnership they envisioned between Aki, Arts Corps, and points beyond, we were in complete support, and happy to be back at one of our very first sites!

## TEACHING ARTISTS

Rachel Adams  
Rita Alcantara  
Jerome Aparis  
Lauren Atkinson  
Rice Baker-Yeboah  
Carla Barrağan  
Sonya Boothroyd  
Jena Cane  
Rajni Eddins  
Vicky Edmonds  
Laura Kelley  
Tina LaPadula  
Sarna Lapine  
Brent Latta  
Amy Maguire  
Eduardo Mendonça  
Yegizaw Michael  
Monad  
Bill Moye  
Dora Oliveira Newman  
Laura O'Quin  
Jose Orantes  
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