

## Art Studio Miami.org *Empowering Young Minds*

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Thank you for your interest in Art Studio! Enclosed you will find information about our Art Studio and the opportunities we offer. We hope you will join us as a partner in our mission to **empower young minds** using art to develop creative thinking so our at-risk youth can be a **catalyst for positive change** in our schools, communities and throughout the world.

We understand that you have a choice in which causes you support. Here at Art Studio, we are dedicated to developing mutually beneficial relationships with our contributors. Since 2007, Art Studio has taken action towards empowering young minds to lead successful lives and have hope filled futures. Please join us in taking action and collaborate in our mission to utilize the arts to create positive change in the lives of impoverished at-risk youth.

For **MORE** information please contact us at 786.250.ART1 (2781) or [info@ArtStudioMiami.org](mailto:info@ArtStudioMiami.org)

**“Empowerment = Hope in Action”**  
– *Our Art Studio Team*



**MISSION** - Provide Creative-Holistic Art Integration to At-risk Youth

The mission of Art Studio Inc, a 501c3 non-profit organization, is to *empower young minds* by providing a safe location where youth are inspired and guided by artists, teachers and professional mentors who support the student's education and career development through the integration of creative holistic arts.

**VISION** - Healing Systemic Poverty with Creative-Holistic Art Integration

The Vision of Art Studio Inc., is to collaboratively advance the sponsorship and implementation of (creative-holistic) art integration in impoverished communities and schools. By utilizing all arts & wellness mediums we promote solutions that support human rights, life skills and career development. With these tools our at-risk 'cradle to prison' youth will be guided out of systemic poverty, towards a path of healing and success.

America is the richest nation in the world, yet 37 million Americans live below the official poverty line and millions more struggle to get by every month. In America today, our prison systems are filled with high percentages of young adults from impoverished beginnings. This is America's pipeline to prison — a trajectory that leads to marginalized lives, imprisonment and often premature death; all of which costs our country far more in the long run than the educational solutions to fix it.

Art Studio, through creative holistic art integration programs, is committed to empowering at-risk youth with the tools needed to make their way off the path to prison. Our Art Studio preventative programs engage at-risk youth in solutions that reduce detention and incarceration, leading them out of poverty.

*"In the 21st century, the best anti-poverty program around is a world-class education. And in this country, the success of our children cannot depend more on where they live than on their potential."* - President Barack Obama  
*In his State of the Union Address*

ALL youth deserve a chance toward successful futures in a global community. Our Art Studio vision is for a world-class education to be available to all students by using art as a learning tool to expand the possibilities for at-risk youth in educational, emotional, and career development while instilling a sense of personal responsibility and a love for lifelong learning.

Art Studio aims to foster creative thinking and an entrepreneurial spirit in at-risk youth by providing a safe space within the schools or community, for project based learning to take place. Using art as a learning tool, and integrating creative-holistic arts with mentoring programs, our Art Studio programs are designed to enhance short-term educational outcomes while preparing each child for long-term professional success in a challenging and changing world.

***'Empowerment Transforms Hope Into Action!' – Our Art Studio Team***

Art-integration, mentorship, and the development of creative thinking are proven to increase a student's long-term chances for success. Using art to develop self-esteem, find interests, relevancy, and gain exposure to career choices creates a well-rounded person. Art Studio is taking action to change the "cradle to prison" scenario that is currently playing out for youth throughout the United States. Since 2007 we have focused our efforts to support our Haitian youth here in Miami, Florida by providing the tools needed to empower them towards successful futures.



## **WHO WE ARE & WHY**

Art Studio Inc., is a 501c3 non-profit organization, made up of skilled volunteers, teaching artists, professionals and mentors. Our purpose and goal is to empower young minds by providing a safe space within the schools and communities, for career focused, creative-holistic art integrated programs and mentoring to take place. Art Studio's engaging programs encourage creative thinking, personal responsibility, career development, environmental awareness, and positive self-images – all of which increase student's chances for self-sufficiency and long-term success.

Our core values include utilizing the arts as a resource in advocating for human rights, developing Life Skills and exposing our youth to attainable professional career path solutions.

**△ Human Rights** - Art Studio believes firmly in advocating for human rights. Because of the population we serve we have witnessed families and children living in 3<sup>rd</sup> world type poverty here in the USA. We hope to play a part in changing these conditions to match what is stated in Article 25 and 26 of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights.

Article 25. States that (1) Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the **health and well-being** ... including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services... (2) Motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance. All children ... shall enjoy the same social protection.

Article 26. (1) **Everyone has the right to education.** Education shall be free ... Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be **equally accessible to all** on the basis of merit. (2) Education shall be directed to the **full development** of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

**△ Life Skills** - Art Studio provides introductions to basic life skills such as managing daily house hold activities as well as budgets, opening a bank account and basic financial skills. Because the at-risk population of youth we serve have little to no support or exposure to common practical life skills they need guidance to learn the basics of being productive and responsible. Continuing to develop additional life skills is another crucial aspect to their success.

**△ Professional Careers** - Art Studio is dedicated to empowering youth towards successful futures – academically and professionally - in a changing, global environment. Each program aims to build self-discipline, entrepreneurial spirit, personal responsibility, and career readiness. Our Art Studio mentors and guest speakers expose students to a variety of accessible careers in today's global economy.



## **WHAT WE DO & HOW**

Our Art Studio works as a collaborative team, which includes skilled volunteers, teaching artists, professionals and mentors who work directly with the students to insure success. The themes and subject matter for our arts based programs come directly from our discussions with the schools and teachers so we are able to reinforce the educational needs of the classroom and support what is being taught in school. This supports standard testing as well as social skills, career exposure and a healthy holistic approach to learning. We also engage the support of parents and encourage participation from the family.

**Art Integration** - Art studio utilizes project based learning models with the integration of multiple art modalities, both creative and holistic to compliment standard educational requirements. A students learning style is recognized via multiple intelligence arts instruction, adding support to learning language, history, science, and math through the arts and wellness.

Art studio believes in the integration of multiple art and wellness modalities. To best serve a students learning style we use a cross-over method of teaching that compliments each area of instruction. Visual Artists and Holistic Artists present their primary roles and assist each other while each instructs in their area of expertise. They co-teach the art activity and coordinate their mentors/volunteers based on skills and interests. Art becomes a tool for learning and the development of creative thinking, which is a formula for success in all career paths and all aspects of life; body, mind & soul.

**Creative Thinking** - Developing creative thinking skills allows youth living in poverty to formulate options that empower them to do more than just survive the circumstances they were born into. Due to budget cuts many schools in low-income communities do not offer even the basic arts to their students. Key to the mission of Art Studio is the development of creative thinking skills. Art, and the creative thinking it inspires, empowers our youth with the tools and skills needed to build successful careers and maintain successful lives. Creative thinking and innovation are vital career skills needed to participate in the global economy of tomorrow. We empower youth with the tools to become active citizens in a challenging economy.

**Balanced Wellness** - Our Art Studio philosophy on wellness is based in the science that 'everything is energy'. We believe wellness is a gift that we choose to create and give ourselves on every level of being; body, mind and soul. We believe our health is determined and influenced by our lifestyle choices. When we are balanced and in good health we are positioned for success.

The areas of wellness Art Studio strives to bring awareness and balance to are:

BODY - Our Physical Bodies - how we care for ourselves, the body our soul lives in

MIND - Our Mental & Emotional Bodies - how we convey our thoughts & emotions to ourselves and others

SOUL - Our Spiritual Bodies - how we connect to our higher power and express faith, love, gratitude, and peace

**Environmental Awareness** - Art Studio is committed to integrity in every aspect of our programs. This includes instilling a strong sense of environmental responsibility as one of our core values. Our specific Eco-Art projects for go deeper to bring environmental issues into our youth's consciousness. Throughout all of our programs our youth are taught the '3 Environmental R's'. From recycling to reusing to reducing - awareness and action are important as we work to fulfill, sustain and model our environmental commitment to our world and developing environmental responsibility in the youth we serve.



**Film, Media & Technology** - Because of the importance of documentation, and the power of film & media to create social change & empower youth, Art Studio is committed to making Film, Media and Technology apart of every program. Our use of film is eagerly embraced by our youth. This helps us retain the attention of transient youth and offers a solution to tracking and evaluating the success of the programs.

To further promote these documentation mediums Art Studio has partnered with 'AMPLIFYME'.

AmplifyMe is a nonprofit organization that engages people in positive change through the use of media arts. We use pop culture to inspire people to think differently about their power to create change in their lives and the lives of others through civic engagement.

**Supportive Mentorship** - Art Studio provides a safe structured setting for mentors to guide, support, and inspire at-risk youth. These valuable mentoring relationships have immediate, positive effects on behavior and self-esteem. Modeling dependability, commitment, kindness, integrity, wellness, professionalism and the gratitude of mutually beneficial service, Art Studio mentors empower by creating relevancy and providing the creative thinking tools that motivate and enable our youth towards upward mobility out of poverty to become positive citizens in their own communities.

Because of the severe traumatic issues facing the at-risk population of youth we serve, one-to-one mentoring is preferred in programs for our students. Continuing to develop additional mentoring support for youth in our programs is crucial to their success. In severe poverty situation at-risk youth are often difficult to track and retain in out of school programs. Mentoring role models help increase student participation and consistency, and also enhance the individual impact of programs and services.

According to our affiliates, the national mentoring organization 'Big Brother Big Sister', children who meet regularly with a mentor are:

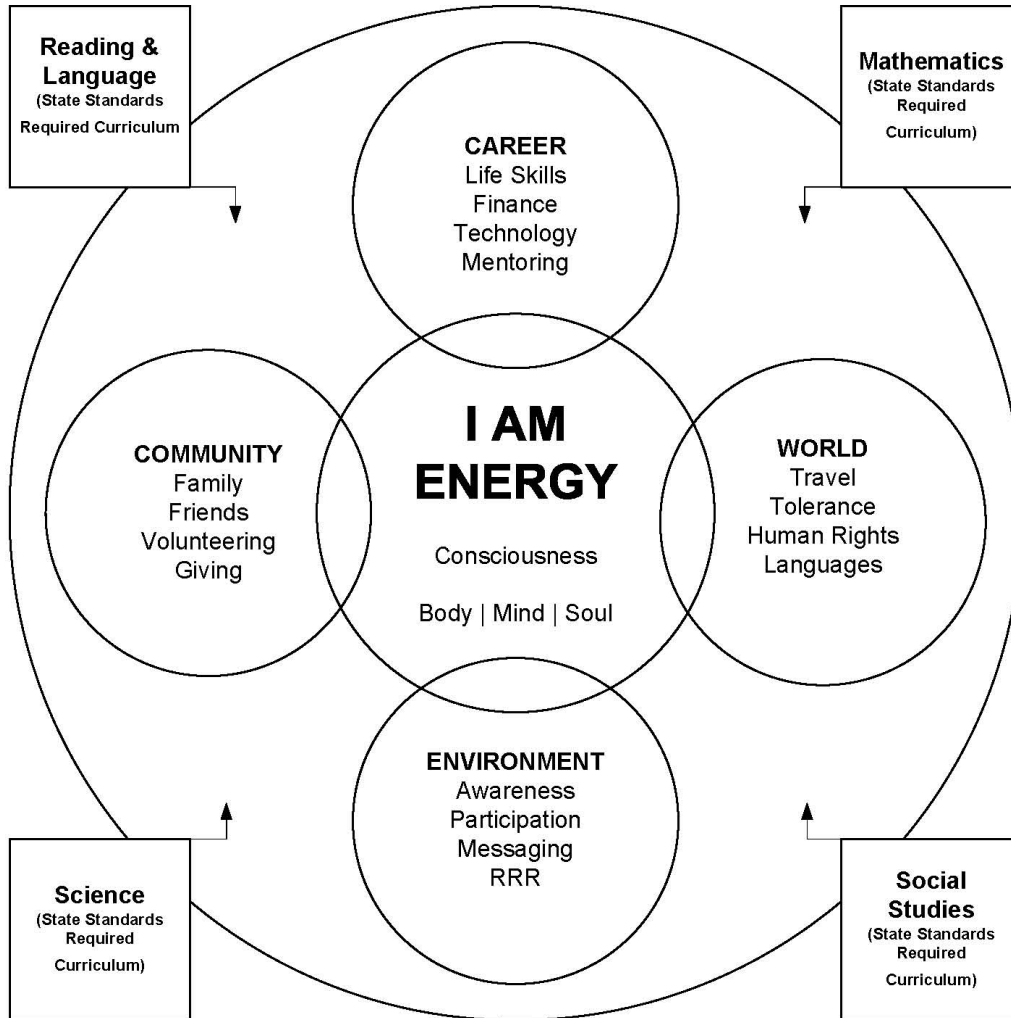
- » 46 percent less likely to start using drugs
- » 27 percent less likely to start drinking
- » 52 percent less likely to skip a day of school
- » 33 percent less likely to hit someone

## Support Of Foster Care Youth

**Art Studio in the Schools, Communities & at Home** - Art Studio uses art as a tool to enhance educational, emotional, and career development. Our Art Studio programs directly complement and support in-school curriculum, using multiple intelligences to reinforce classroom learning with creative, engaging, and proven methods. Art Studio teaching artists will meet with teachers to share curriculum and provide supplemental arts based opportunities for delivering subject matter using project-based learning.



**ART STUDIO WORLD > Educational Department of  
Creative-Holistic Art Integration & Project Based Learning**



The Educational Department of Creative-Holistic Art Integration will act as a model for supporting the schools primary curriculums by providing classroom teachers with an alternative means for delivering their subject matter. Classroom teachers would meet with teaching artists and share curriculum that would then be customized into an arts based learning project such as a mural, a product line, a photography or video project, sculpture pieces, performances, story books, musical pieces or spoken word poetry. Any art form can be used.

This department would also focus on career path training, life skills and character building. Additionally through the healing arts and positive psychology standards this department will focus on helping the students to develop awareness of SELF, their COMMUNITY and their part within our WORLD.

This departments goal is to support the classroom teachers and the testing goals of the school with alternative tools for learning the required curriculum. The end goal is to see the students achieve success.



## Art Studio Miami.org > Programs

**Programs** - Art Studio collaborates with experts in all areas of the creative and healing arts to offer well rounded programs that develop our youth in body, mind and soul. With a collaboration of art integrated education programs Art Studio creates options and relevancy by providing urban youth with a variety of creative tools for advancement out of poverty.

Our programs are co-created through affiliations with amazing organizations such as:

- **MENTORING** Support with **Big Brothers Big Sisters** [www.WeMentor.org](http://www.WeMentor.org)
- **DASH Portfolio Preparation** & Art History Presentations with Miami's **Arts for Learning** Teaching Artists [www.a4lmiami.org/artists.html](http://www.a4lmiami.org/artists.html)
- **Tutoring & Language skills** with specialized support
- Professionalism and **Career Preparedness** with **Dress For Success** [www.DressForSuccess.org/miami/](http://www.DressForSuccess.org/miami/)
- **EMPOWERED YOUTH** Life Skills and Career Planning with Program Director **Colleen Adams** of [www.EmpoweredYouthUSA.org](http://www.EmpoweredYouthUSA.org)
- **Etiquette** and Social Skills Programs with **Lovley Payoute** [www.EtiquetteMiami.com](http://www.EtiquetteMiami.com)
- **Drama, Theater & Dance** for Self-esteem with Teaching Artist **Anna Blash** of [www.MiamiChildrensTheater.com](http://www.MiamiChildrensTheater.com)
- **Stand Up For Those Who Can't** with "Playing The Game Of Life"® Holistic Healing-Arts by **Jeannette Egozzi** of [www.ECQC.net](http://www.ECQC.net)
- **Nutritional Wellness** with **Cindy Hill** [http://site.cindyhill.biz/Once\\_Upon\\_Carrot\\_B6SQ.html](http://site.cindyhill.biz/Once_Upon_Carrot_B6SQ.html)
- **Youth Travel** – globe trekker cultural exposure programs with Carson Case of [www.sea-of-flame.org](http://www.sea-of-flame.org)
- **Fairchild Tropical Botanic Gardens** environmental education programs with **Erin Healy** [www.FairchildGarden.org](http://www.FairchildGarden.org)
- **Eco-Arts** Recycling & Found Objects Clean-up with Teaching Artist **Veronica Rivera** of [www.MakeArtMatter.info](http://www.MakeArtMatter.info)
- **Environmental Awareness Community Projects** with **Estevan Acosta**, creator of 'Mother Planet the Violet Race' Action Animation Series about saving our planet
- **Peace & Tolerance** themed PSA Animation & Film Making Programs with Film Maker **Israel Dayan** [www.OrangeStain165.com](http://www.OrangeStain165.com)
- **Film & Media Programs** with Miami Film Students Directed by **Patrick Norville & Beverly Alvarez**
- **Cultural Arts** Programs with [www.HaitianHeritageMuseum.org/programs.html](http://www.HaitianHeritageMuseum.org/programs.html)
- **Eco-Fashion & Creative RETAIL PRODUCT LINES** with Designers **Megan Moore & Abigail D'Souza**
- **GRATITUDE & GIVING** service documentation programs with media & publishing components sponsored by Ellen Burton of "Do Unto Others" [www.DUOmagazine.com](http://www.DUOmagazine.com)
- **Magazine Publishing** Programs with Nor Blazekovic & the Irreversible Artists Group [www.irreversiblemagazine.com](http://www.irreversiblemagazine.com)



EVERYTHING IS ENERGY

**PROGRAM STAGES:**

Stage 1) AWARENESS > I AM & I LOVE ME

Introduces youth to self-esteem & character building, awareness of basic human developmental functionality in relation to Body (physical-nutritional), Mind (mental-emotional), Soul (spiritual-energetic) and awareness of our relationship to the planet. It includes a basic overview of green careers and introductions to educational and career path options.

Stage 2) COMMUNITY > WE ARE & I DO CARE

Introduces youth to a natural progression from learning to care for and respect themselves to developing and implementing community-based projects that build social skills and entrepreneurial skills. Professionalism is highlighted further in this stage as is developing a professional website, resume and biography.

Stage 3) CONNECTION > OUR WORLD & WE ARE ONE

Introduces youth to global opportunities through travel based service projects that include writing projects, film and media documentation and video/photographic journalism that continues to reinforce self-esteem and career options.

