



*"We the willing, led by the unknowing,  
are doing the impossible for the ungrateful. We  
have done so much, with so little, for so long, we  
are now qualified to do anything, with nothing."  
-Mother Teresa, via Doug E. Fresh*

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## Artist Supported, Community Driven

### MISSION

**Guerilla Arts Ink, LLC** is a community-based arts & education organization dedicated to improving the overall quality of life of the youth we serve through **quality arts programming, innovative curriculum design, and educational consulting**. In the advent of much needed arts and music education being cut from schools and after school programs, we intend to fill the void by providing authentic, hands-on arts training for youth – by any means necessary.

Founded by educator and award-winning Hip Hop artist, **Gabriel “Asheru” Benn** in 2005, **Guerilla Arts Ink** was formed out of a response to No Child Left Behind (NCLB) laws that stifled many arts and music programs in schools in favor of a more test results-driven, “standard education”. Having seen firsthand the effects of his unique style of Hip Hop and arts integration in the classroom, Benn realized that arts exposure is absolutely necessary in order to bring out students’ potential, regardless of ability level or learning style. Along this aim, the **GA Artist Registry** was formed to provide a platform for local artists to do what they love, help their communities, and make a buck all at the same time, while allowing for the flexibility in scheduling that many artists desire.

In this effort, GA specializes in recruiting, training, and hiring artists and young professionals of various media and background experience to become “**Guerilla Artists**”; those committed to sharing their talents and time in working collaboratively with youth to create art, music, literary and media productions that impact change within the communities in which they live. We are a for-profit company based in Washington, DC.



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## CURRENT GUERRILLA ARTS PROJECTS

**Hip Hop Educational Literacy Program (H.E.L.P.)** – In 2005, Guerilla Arts partnered to form Educational Lyrics, LLC, a company dedicated to providing culturally responsive teaching materials for the 21st Century Classroom. Our cornerstone program is **H.E.L.P., the Hip Hop Educational Literacy Program** – a supplemental reading curriculum and instructional training offering a cross-curricular, differentiated approach to effective literacy instruction.

**Guerilla Arts Afterschool Program (G.A.P.)** – A series of afterschool arts intensive workshops facilitated by Guerilla Artists and other young professionals. Sites include Ballou SHS, DC Housing Authority (DCHA) sites of Garfield Terrace and Park Morton, and Hope Community Charter School, and Cesar Chavez Parkside Middle School.

**Guerilla Artist Registry** -- GA is largely sustained through its efforts to recruit, train, and employ community artists and creative professionals to work directly in schools and youth programs to provide world class arts and cultural programming for youth of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities. GA serves our communities by facilitating this creative ecosystem; an interconnected network of schools & youth programs, artists & professionals, and community resources and funding.

## QUALITY ARTS & CULTURAL PROGRAMMING

### **FEATURED GUERRILLA ARTIST REGISTRY (shortlist):**

Gabriel "Asheru" Benn , Peabody Award winning Hip Hop artist & educator --media literacy workshops

Jay Coleman - Slickfish Education & Therapy (aquatic science program)

DJ RBI -- DJ showcase

DJ Munch - DJ Showcase/Event Planning

W. Ellington Felton - Theatre workshop

Terrence Nicholson - Yoga/Martial Arts

Ralston Smith - Photography

Lottie Reynolds - Mural Arts

KRSKO Group - Art installations, Illustration, murals,

Aniekan - Illustration/ oil painting

Khalil Gill - video production

Raquel Brown - creative writing

Lester Wallace - Chess workshop

Ivana Jackson - media production (PSAs)

Howard Gilmore - Team Sports

Marta del Pilar Lynch - dance

Konshens - Hip Hop songwriting/ music production

Rodney Valentine - sound production

Lisa Pegram, Mayors Arts Award recipient - poetry & playwriting

### **\*Early Childhood:**

Caroline Brewer w/ Jali D - storyteller

Ras D/Revel Youth Shine -- creative expression workshops

Jabari Exum - African Percussion workshop

### **COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS and CLIENTELE (past and current)**

DC Commission on Arts & Humanities (DCCAH)

DCTV Public Access Television

100 Black Men

DC Housing Authority (DCHA)

Oak Hill Juvenile Detention Center (New Beginnings)

Artisphere

DC Promise Neighborhood Initiative (DCPNI)

College Success Foundation (DC Achievers)

Northern Virginia Urban League

Public Media Corps

Various DC Public & Charter Schools

DC Summer Youth Employment (SYEP)

## INNOVATIVE CURRICULUM DESIGN

### **TESTIMONIALS for the Hip Hop Educational Literacy Program (H.E.L.P.)**

"As a former educator myself, I understand the importance of developing innovative ways to teach and to make a curriculum come alive for every student in the room.

I commend you for all the work you've done to develop H.E.L.P and make it come alive in classrooms..."

**President-Elect, Barack Obama**

"This is a reading program that uses the genius of hip-hop in order to become more empowered and more enabled and more ennobled so that youth learn how to read. I know reading has made a fundamental difference in my own life, so I want to thank brother Asheru and I'm with him 120%!"

**Dr. Cornel West, Princeton University**

"The Hip-Hop Educational Literacy Program is the most creative, innovative, and culturally responsive program ever produced for the hip-hop generation. Through its well-developed activities and engaging suggestions for pedagogy, it promises to produce positive change in classrooms around the globe. Every educator in the nation must get a copy of this program!"

**Dr. Marc Lamont Hill, author of *Beats, Rhymes, and Classroom Life: Hip-Hop Pedagogy and the Politics of Identity***

"H.E.L.P. is a great program. Kids like it and kids get it. It's so good that kids don't even know they are doing higher-level thinking..."

**Dr. Joseph Marshall, Executive Director, Omega Boys Club/Street Soldiers & Author, *Street Soldier: One Man's Struggle to Save a Generation, One Life At A Time***

"I believe H.E.L.P. is on the cutting edge with their materials to reach our youth. The program is culturally relevant and can reduce the dropout rate. I endorse H.E.L.P. and encourage use of their materials."

**Dr. Jawanza Kunjufu, Master Educator, Author of *Hip Hop Street Curriculum***



For HELP book titles, data, and more information, visit [www.edlyrics.com](http://www.edlyrics.com)

## EDUCATIONAL CONSULTING

### School Time & Out of School Time (After School) Arts Enrichment

Guerilla Arts Ink provides a customized, comprehensive programming for both charter and public schools. These programs will provide much needed arts & cultural enrichment workshops that we are in the process of aligning with the Common Core Standards to promote literacy and critical thinking skills. All workshops culminate in the creation of a youth produced project made in collaboration with the teaching artist, such as books, murals, CDs, video projects, art installations, and more. Visit [www.wethewilling.org](http://www.wethewilling.org) to see our work in action.

Schools will have the options of various workshops to choose from. Sample classes include:

- **Lyrics 2 Go-Songwriting/HELP Media literacy workshop:** students will analyze and critique popular culture and culminate in cd project.
- **Anti-Bullying Self Defense workshop:** students will examine the key points of self defense and basic techniques of conflict resolution such as Tai Chi and Wushu Martial arts.
- **Video & Media Production workshop:** students will learn the various steps necessary to create PSAs that address current issues that effect teens such as pregnancy,truancy, and youth violence.
- **Creative Writing workshop:** students will create an anthology collections of writings inclusive of a phot essay
- **Mural Arts workshop:** students will brainstorm and creata a mural that reflects the mission of the school
- **Aquatic Science workshop:** students will explore the basic of building and maintaing a 20 gallon saltwater fish tank.
- **Arts & Crafts workshop:** students will create arts and crafts of various media ; including acrylic paint, water color, and techniques such as illustration, sculpture, scale.
- **Chess workshop:** students will learn and practive the basics of chess game play, while examining the metaphort of chess as life and the abilty to effectively set goals, practice patience, and strategy.
- **School Beautification Projects:** students will collaborate with visual artists to create projects in the effort to beautify the school community & surrounding environment.
- **Young Men's/Women's Groups** – designed to help youth address social issues such as pregnancy, violence, seual health, friendships, leadership, and team-building. Groups are co-facilitated by a licensed social worker or youth counselor.

### **Professional Development Series**

Guerilla Arts Ink will provide professional development workshops for both Charter and DCPS schools for support staff, Instructional and Leadership teams. Once a needs assessment is conducted based on a self appraisal and examining clinical observation feedback, a PD plan will be developed and executed by Guerilla Arts educational consultancy team. Professional Development workshops will include:

- 21<sup>st</sup> century skills development
- Culturally responsive teaching strategies
- Compassionate Communication technique
- Equity in the Classroom
- Using the community as your Classroom
- Common Core Alignment workshops
- Hip Hop & Performing Arts integration
- 5 day Intensive for SpED teachers & staff

### **Artists in Residence Program (SEASONAL programming)**

The Artist in Residence program will provide both Charter and DCPS schools the opportunity to work with local community artists to expose the students to complexity of various art forms. These artists would provide various workshop formats, from in-class demonstrations to full school assemblies in alignment with school calendar events from Black History month, to Earth Day, to Hispanic Heritage Month. These demonstrations would be coordinated by Guerilla Arts Ink in order to provide exposure to school communities to the diversity and resources of the communities they serve.

### **School Month**

### **Instructional Theme**

### **Sample Activities**

<b><u>School Month</u></b>	<b><u>Instructional Theme</u></b>	<b><u>Sample Activities</u></b>
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>		
<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>Hispanic Heritage Month</b>	<b>Afro-Latino Poetry and Movement; Capoeira, Culinary workshops</b>
<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>30 Days of Giving</b>	<b>Arts &amp; Advocacy; arts in service learning projects, community beautification efforts, gardening, etc.</b>
<b>DECEMBER/JANUARY</b>		
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>Black History Month</b>	<b>Theatre performances, storytelling, Black Arts tribute, Black History Fair</b>
<b>MARCH</b>	<b>Women's History Month</b>	<b>Women speakers, Women's History Fair, etc.</b>
<b>APRIL</b>	<b>National Poetry Month</b>	
<b>MAY</b>		
<b>JUNE</b>	<b>Black Music Month</b>	



# culinary arts program

Go to Room A-122 for more details & an application  
3:30-5:30pm, Monday - Thursday



21st Century Community Learning Center

Guerilla Arts Ink, LLC  
[www.wethewilling.org](http://www.wethewilling.org)



# GUERRILLA ARTS AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Work with our super team of professional artists and teachers to enrich your school day and prepare for real world success!

21st Century Community Learning Center  
Go to Room A-122 for more information  
& an application  
3:30 - 5:30pm, Monday - Thursday

Hip Hop Educational Literacy Program  
Mural/Illustration Club  
Yoga & Movement  
Arts & Crafts  
Cooking Class  
Homework Help  
Multimedia Club  
Math Enrichment



[WWW.WETHEWILLING.ORG](http://WWW.WETHEWILLING.ORG)

# the mural club

Go to **Room A-122** for more details + an application

3:30-5:30pm, Monday - Thursday



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