

PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Contact Info



Administrative
412.815.0471
Office
412.815.0271



achclearpathways.org



510 Heldman Street
Pittsburgh PA 15219



To learn more and donate,
text WALKINGTOUR
to 44-321



For android users,
download app:
"QR Code Reader"

There are several ways that you can partner with ACH Clear Pathways in its mission to provide more community outreach through the purchase of the Kaufmann Center. Your time, your talents, and your financial resources are all needed. The choice is yours! If you would like to be involved in an arts organization that benefits youth and adults, then ACH is where you belong.

Once the renovation of the Kaufman Center is complete, we would like donors to have the opportunity to leave their mark in the community and invest in this project. Purchase a brick with your custom engraved message on it! Your message will bless ACH Clear Pathways sustainability over the next decade.

\$250.00 per Memory Stone.

Volunteer Opportunities

Choose your days and hours that you are able to volunteer.

There are only a few requirements for volunteers.

1. Love children
2. All volunteers must have PA State and Federal Child Abuse Clearance Certificates.

If you are interested, please contact our Administrative Assistant at the office .

Foster Grandparent Opportunities

If you desire to be a Foster Grandparent, please contact Wesley Family Services at 412-660-6841 and let them know that you want to serve at ACH Clear Pathways



FALL /WINTER
2019 EDITION

PRESENTS

VISIONS REALIZED!

“In all human affairs there are *efforts*, and there are *results*, and the strength of the effort is the measure of the result. "Gifts," powers, material, intellectual, and spiritual possessions are the fruits of effort; they are thoughts completed, objects accomplished, and visions realized” (James Allen, 1903) These sentiments are exemplified by the efforts of the Executive Director, Tyian Battle, and the Board Members of ACH Clear Pathways. Due to their commitment to nurture the creativity of our under-served youth and families, many of the visions of its founder have been realized. ACH began its first after school class in 2010 with less than 7 students in the Blakey Center. That number has grown to approximately 50 students per academic session and we now have 60 students in the Creative Camp. While the increase in participation is wonderful, nothing can tell the story of “visions realized” better than the voices of those involved. In this edition, we will share the stories of ACH participants, Board members and its staff.



ACH recipient of 2019 Pittsburgh Business Choice Award for Charitable Organizations.

A MOTHER’S STORY

Mrs. Aubourg-Pamphile is the mother of 8 year old Ella Rose. Her daughter has been a participant in the ACH after school program and the Creative Camp since she was five. As the protective mother of an only child, Mrs. Aubourg-Pamphile came to the Creative camp meeting for parents with great trepidation; however, that meeting was the beginning of a relationship with ACH. She immediately felt a sense of family with the ACH staff and its Executive Director. She said, “I felt like I was leaving her in family care”. Ella Rose was a shy child who didn’t want to be involved with other people or in activities. Now, three years later, Ella Rose has blossomed into a child who volunteered for her school talent show without even telling her mother. The family was shocked to see Ella Rose dancing on the school stage. Her mother credits ACH for helping develop a spirit of “I can do it” . She says she is amazed at the transformation in her child. When asked whether she could afford to send her child to a different arts program which provided a similar level of instruction, she stated emphatically, “NO, because there is such a broad range of art! I couldn’t put her in all those different programs like art, dance, music, theatre, poetry, and creative writing.” Mrs. Aubourg-Pamphile says she would love to see other campuses of ACH so that children from distant neighborhoods could get the same exposure that Ella Rose receives. She says that she hopes people will not only donate money to ACH, but also volunteer in the program so that the children could broaden their exposure to different people and cultures.



Mrs. Carla Aubourg-Pamphile



Ella Rose Pamphile Age 8

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Visions of the artist.....2
- A new Board member.....3
- The next Vision level.....4
- The love of Grandma Mary....5
- Partnership Opportunities....6

PLEASE COMPLETE AND MAIL TO ACH CLEAR PATHWAYS--510 HELDMAN ST. PGH, PA. 15219

Contact and Billing Information

CHECKS: Make checks payable to ACH Clear Pathways

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Phone _____ Alt. Phone _____

Billing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zipcode _____

Credit Card No. _____ Exp. Date _____ CVC _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Sign me up to receive email updates: Email _____

United Way Contributing Agency Number #10532885

I want to give \$ _____

Make my gift

One time _____

Monthly _____

Memorial Stone (Please contact the office for message)\$250.00



#10532885

VISIONS OF THE ARTIST REALIZED



TAKARA CANTY
ACH RESIDENT TEACHING ARTIST
ART EDUCATION PROGRAM COORDINATOR

“It was the beginning of 2011 and I was working in the Blakey Building for another program. A friend told me about ACH and its programs. She said they were looking for an art teacher. I began at ACH teaching a two hour class on Fridays and now serve as a full time teaching artist. The children at ACH love doing all types of art and that was where my heart was--just ART! I fell in love with the children and the ACH program that Tyian was developing. It was the perfect fit--and now, nine years later, I'm still here.”

Takara comes to ACH with a plethora of visual arts qualifications. She works in textiles, welding, sculpture, ceramics, painting, drawing, photography, and epoxy resin finishes. She is the lead designer on the wall murals that ACH has become known for in the Hill District. This year, Takara and the students painted a mural in honor of the Soul Train, which they call the “Creative Train”. This mural depicts a period of time which lasted for over 35 years and featured a variety of genres in music. While Takara is a talented artist who loves creating art, she loves the kids even more-- and they love her back. It is not unusual to hear several children calling Miss Takara’s name throughout the day.

When asked “why do you stay at ACH rather than going someplace else, her answer was simple, “I stay because I can be creative. Tyian gives me a theme and then allows me to develop the artistic content for the children.” Takara said that the growth in the organization is amazing. The first showcase for the children’s work was held on the tennis court behind Ammon Recreation Center; whereas this year, it was held on the stage of the Kaufmann Auditorium. Takara also explains that “the community sees the changes and now they believe in ACH as much as I do. I must admit that I never believed ACH would be what it is today, but our Executive Director’s vision has been realized and I’m glad I was here to be a part of it.”

As public schools have reduced their budgets, teaching staff for arts programs decrease, and the amount of children with access to arts-based programs dwindles, Takara believes that ACH can be a vehicle to remedy the situation. She sees ACH as a resource for children who have not been accepted into traditional performing arts schools like CAPA. At ACH these students with limited access have a chance to develop their talents and enjoy the growth and skills of other children like them.

Takara says that greater community involvement for the next level is important. The community consists of not only parents and local residents, but foundations and other collaborative organizations. ACH Clear Pathways exists because of the **DETERMINATION** of our founder. We can’t wait for the next level.



RENDERING OF THE CREATIVE TRAIN MURAL LOCATED ON MANILLA STREET IN THE HILL DISTRICT OF PITTSBURGH



THE LOVE OF GRANDMA MARY

Her name is Mary Pope Thompkins, lovingly known as “Grandma Mary”! She has been a part of the ACH family for 7 years. Grandma Mary is a retired paraprofessional of the Pittsburgh Public School System. She has worked in several schools, but her favorite was at Thaddeus Stevens where she worked with children with special needs. She loved working with children so much that she became a part of the Foster Grandmother program before she retired. Grandma Mary loves helping the children with their homework and going on field trips with them. Whether it’s the zoo, or Kennywood Park or swimming in the summer, Grandma Mary is right there every step of the way. Most people are surprised to learn that she is 86 years old. Her excitement and energy is shared with everyone. She says she stayed these past 7 years because she saw the need for additional help with the children. The Executive Director, Tyian Battle, made her feel welcome and treated her with love and respect.

Grandma Mary has two daughters and two grandchildren who live out of state. She currently lives alone, but because of her involvement with ACH, she is never alone nor lonely. The ACH children are her grandchildren in Pittsburgh. She still visits some of the children who have outgrown the program. While one of her daughters would love for her to move to Maryland where she lives. Grandma Mary is not sure she want to leave her children here at ACH.

She currently lives in the Bellefield Dwellings where she is a part of the ACH team and children who prepared the “Starry Night” mural in the courtyard of the building-- a work for which she is very pro

It is in this courtyard that she likes to sit and just look at this wonderful work of art. If Grandma Mary’s vision was to help the children, then her vision has been realized by so many of our children. Thank you Grandma Mary! We love you.



STARRY NIGHTS AT BELLEFIELD DWELLINGS

During the school years of 2018-2019 ACH Clear Pathways afterschool students collaborated with local artist Takara Canty and the senior citizens from the Bellefield Dwellings. They created a vibrant space of color and relaxation for its occupants that lived there. The two-story mural was painted by Takara Canty with the help of Eric Duffy, an assistant artist at ACH. The larger ceramic tiles were painted and tiled by ACH Clear Pathways young artists. Senior citizens that occupy the apartment building tiled the smaller tiles. The mural represents the wholeness of the community thru its labyrinth and entanglement of beauty.



Grandmothers paint fingernails too! Just us girls



CREATIVE SPARK FLAME AWARDEE

THE NEXT VISION LEVEL ACH CLEAR PATHWAYS KAUFMANN CENTER & ELSIE HILLMAN AUDITORIUM



"To nurture creativity through visual and performing arts to under served youth and families."



R3A ARCHITECTURE Massaro CONSTRUCTION GROUP



Stage performances



Set up for banquet use
Our neighbors can rent the facilities for private functions

A NEW BOARD MEMBERS SAYS, YES! I WANT TO BE A PART OF THE VISION



Jessica Mann, Ph. D

Dr. Jessica Mann became a member of the Board of ACH Clear Pathways in April 2019. ACH was not new to Dr. Mann because she had been partnering with ACH for two years as the Director of the Center for Community Engaged Teaching and Research at Duquesne University. In that role, Dr. Mann and the Executive Director, Tyian Battle, collaborated on various programs to benefit the community. When asked why she became a Board member, she said, "...so that I could deepen my work and commitment to ACH Clear Pathways and the important work that the organization is doing to support youth and the community." Dr. Mann said that the authenticity and compassion of everyone involved in ACH keeps her connected. From the board to volunteers, the individuals that are working with ACH believe in the mission and are dedicated to the organization's growth because they are passionate about the arts and the students in the program. Dr. Mann supports the vision of growing the organization to support all community members, beyond young children. She sees needs that the organization can meet for members of the Hill and beyond, including professional and career development opportunities for adults, college prep planning for young adults and other community opportunities.

She sees the next level of ACH as purchasing the Kaufmann Center, stating "It is a huge move for ACH. By having a home for programming and eliminating that variable from logistical programming from season to season, ACH will be able to focus on evaluating existing programming while developing new programs and initiatives to better serve the community."

Dr. Mann hopes that others will become a part of the visions' reality. She says, "**DONATE!** Whether it's your time, talent, or ideas--ACH needs your help in realizing its potential. Every bit helps."

ACH CLEAR PATHWAYS IS A UNITED WAY CONTRIBUTING AGENCY

In 2011, the United Way of Allegheny County designated ACH Clear Pathways as a Contributing Agency, Vendor ID#10532885. Since then, more than 55 individuals have donated to our organization through their employers. When you support ACH Clear Pathways, you do more than help families in urgent need. Your support is a meaningful and lasting change that impacts everyone. By joining together to ensure the vitality of human service programs during tough economic times, you are helping families today in ways that make communities stronger. If you are interested in donating, please contact your employer and fill out a contribution pledge form and list ACH Clear Pathways.



Collaboration with Duquesne University in Music Center



Collaboration with Duquesne University Reading Program

You are part of the next level. ACH Clear Pathways looks forward to the continued and increased use of the ACH Clear Pathways Kaufmann Center and Elsie Hillman Auditorium facilities by the members of the community. Whether you are planning a small business meeting, an elaborate summit or the wedding banquet of your dreams, ACH will be honored to assist you in your planning. As we prepare to renovate and upgrade our new home, we're excited about the opportunities for new programming that our space provides. We view the purchase of our new home as a joint venture where ACH and the community shares in the benefits of ownership by having access to new and reimagined activities and opportunities in our brand new space.

The Board, the Executive Director and staff are welcoming you to visit us at our new home in the Spring of 2020 and we want you to **MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME!**



Contribution number 10532885