

Our Mission

The Legacy Circle is dedicated to empowering African Diaspora youth and adults in New York City through cultural arts education. Our goal is to awaken young people to their identity as African descendants and their legacy as leaders and Maroon Warriors. Our Training Institute will prepare African Diaspora teaching artists to initiate young people into grassroots action. It will impart tools for cultural arts educators such as leadership development and youth community organizing using arts and culture as the vehicle. Teaching artists will engage in residencies where youth will create cultural art pieces that affirm who they are and what they envision for their education and their communities. Youth will then use their art to organize for power in their villages.

WANT TO GET INVOLVED? CALL US:

- If you are a teaching artist and want to apply for the institute and residencies;
- If you want to host a residency at your school, community based organization, arts education program or after school program,
- If you are a youth community organizer and want to be a partner to a teaching artist;
- If you are a teacher and want to be a partner/resource to a teaching artist;
- Or To make a donation

Warrior Arts In Action Training Institute

Training Teaching Artists in Social Justice Education & Organizing

TEACHING ARTISTS, APPLY NOW! Download the application on www.thelegacycircle.org

Our trainings will support 10 specially selected teaching artists to learn about social justice and community organizing campaigns. The artists will partake in a seven-week training course; consisting of seven consecutive Saturdays. We will provide an introduction to community organizing and curriculum design. There will be intense mentorship from diverse arts, culture, and community empowerment leaders, and more. After designing your specific curriculum and mapping out the teaching artist residency, artists will be placed in residencies to bring their cultural arts and social justice projects to life. Each teaching artist will be partnered with a classroom teacher and a community organizer; forming a triangle of support to create and implement their particular curriculum.

Teaching Artist Residencies in Schools & CBO's

Schools, community based youth organizations, after school programs are invited to host a **teaching artist social justice leader** at their school. Teaching artist will lead intense cultural art residencies with youth; guiding youth to create art that will empower and strengthen their community. Students will identify pressing issues they care about and begin creating art to empower their community. Teaching artists and youth will receive the support of a youth community organizer who will engage the students on current, relevant campaigns taking place in their neighborhoods. Youth will create a final project, including videos, CD's, art installations, dance or music performances that will educate and inspire their community members to get involved. Youth will also design an organizing campaign that challenges decision makers to address their concerns.

Exhibition of Warrior Arts in Action by Youth at The Caribbean Cultural Center Spring 2008

Select works created by youth will be curated by a professional art curator, specializing in the African Diaspora, hosted at an interactive exhibition at the Franklin H. Williams/Caribbean Cultural Center Art Gallery. The work will tour New York City and will be accompanied by youth facilitated discussions and presentations about their artwork, vision for a stronger future and healthier youth. All elected officials, city agencies, power brokers, and community at large will be invited to view and respond to the issues raised by youth. The gallery experience will provide ample opportunities for the public at large to become involved, to take action, and support youth in their efforts for personal and community empowerment and social change.

Our Advisors & Mentors

Melody Capote: Director of External Affairs, *Franklin H. Williams Caribbean Cultural Center African Diaspora Institute.*

Cynthia Carrion: Director of *Manhattan Neighborhood Network's Youth Channel*, Cable Access and TV creation for youth.

C. Daniel Dawson: Photographer, filmmaker, arts administrator, and scholar on African culture, spirituality and art.

Omar Freilla: *Founder & Director of Green Workers Cooperative*, environmentally friendly cooperatives in the South Bronx.

Jesus Gonzalez: *Make the Road By Walking Membership Organizer*, youth organizing for Education and Power.

Cassagnol Oneza Lafontant: *Kongo Haitian Roots Music Educator & Artist.*

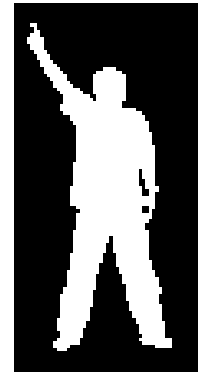
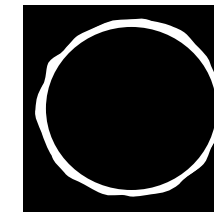
Loira Limbal Filmmaker, educator, & founder of the *Reel X Project for youth.*

Juan Usera: Teaching Artist of Caribbean music & dance, *La Tribu.*

Wanda Salaman: Director, *Mothers on the Move*, environment, education, housing organizing by adults and youth.

THE LEGACY CIRCLE

"Maroon Wake up, Culture Rise Up, Community Lift Up!"



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