

**CULTURE FOR ONE**

BRINGING THE POWER OF THE ARTS TO CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE

# HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2021



## OUR MISSION

Culture For One transforms the lives of New York City children in foster care through the power of the arts. We provide opportunities to inspire their creativity, stimulate their intellect, and introduce them to broader possibilities for their future. Our cultural excursions, creative workshops, art scholarships, and one to one mentoring nurture big dreams and encourage higher education and career planning.

Through exposure to the arts and positive role models we help these most at-risk youth build confidence, acquire life skills, and identify new interests, as well as improve their academic performance. Culture For One's programs deliver sources of motivation that these young people need to thrive ... not just survive.



# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



## ARTS SCHOLARSHIPS

We are proud to report that we now have **59 participants** in our Arts Scholarship Program, taking place at the following locations:

Barrow Group Theater \* Harlem School of the Arts \* Mark Morris Dance Company \* ESOTA Dance Studio in Queens \* Astoria Dance Center \* Arthouse Astoria \* Gotham Creative Writing Classes \* NY Sewing Center.

**A NEW AND EXCITING PARTNERSHIP WITH THE MARK MORRIS DANCE COMPANY.**

## CREATIVE ARTS WORKSHOPS

In 2021, throughout our foster agency partner residences, **1,100 youth** participated in **153 Arts Workshops** in therapeutic art, creative storytime, acting, creative writing, and podcast production.

## FAMILY ARTOGETHER PACKAGES

The **Family ArTogether Program** is a “shared art experience” designed for foster children and birth parents or foster parents to bond over literature and visual art. The program was designed for children who are transitioning from a residence to a foster home, as well as for birth parent visits to their children living in residences.

The **newly expanded program** includes teens living in foster homes, a group particularly hard hit by the isolation the pandemic created. We will send out 700 Packages this year, compared to 150 last year!

# NEW PARTNERS & CULTURAL CONNECTIONS



- A new partner, **City Living NY**, refers young adults who have aged out of care to us; we arrange career exploration meetings and mentoring opportunities to support them as they approach independent adulthood.
- CFO is one of 50 NYS non-profits invited to take part in a new **two-year program with the Theater Development Fund (TDF)** called the Passport Series. As a participant, we have access to deeply discounted Broadway and off-Broadway performances, meaning more youth and families/caretakers can experience the magic of live theater.
- We are providing our programs to **two new Good Shepherd Services residences**, The Brooklyn Youth Reception Center and McLaughlin East Harlem Residence.

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS



## **NEW MEMBERS**

We are proud to announce that Elan Rowe and Suzanne Tobak joined our Board in October. Elan is a Senior VP at Citibank and Suzanne is Director of Events at Serino Coyne. Both will bring fresh new ideas and skills to an already impressive Board.

## **YOUNG PROFESSIONALS BOARD**

We have for some time believed in expanding outreach through new voices and skills, and this past March we succeeded in creating a cohort of young people enthusiastic about supporting CFO's mission. They are off to an excellent start raising awareness and support for the children we serve.

# LET'S CONNECT

THE DEDICATION OF OUR VOLUNTEERS, PARTNERS, AND DONORS ALLOW CULTURE FOR ONE TO TRANSFORM THE LIVES OF NYC CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE THROUGH THE POWER OF THE ARTS.

## VOLUNTEER

Help chaperone a cultural excursion, become a mentor, or help out at our next event. For questions, contact [jennys@cultureforone.org](mailto:jennys@cultureforone.org)

## MAKE A CONNECTION

Provide us with introductions and access to potential partner organizations or companies involved with the arts, media or pop culture. For questions, contact [susank@cultureforone.org](mailto:susank@cultureforone.org)

## DONATE

For questions about giving to Culture For One, please contact [randir@cultureforone.org](mailto:randir@cultureforone.org)

## CONNECT WITH US



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