FOLUKÉ 2024 Annual Report and 2025-2026 Service Goals



Foluké Cultural Arts Center was organized as a faith-based initiative in 2002 at Lane Metropolitan CME Church in Cleveland Ohio and became community- based non-profit organization in February, 2003. The word Foluké (Foh LOO' keh) originates from the West African Region of Nigeria meaning "Under God's Protection". The West African Adinkra symbol \bigcirc Gye Gye Nyame (Jeh NYAH' mae) originates from Ghana and represents the immortality of god.



"The ARTS: One of the Most Valuable Tools for Building Relationships and Community



The economically disadvantaged Children and Youth of Cleveland's Central 'Promise' Neighborhood need innovative intervention to overcome their environment, in order to become productive and successful adults. Failure to address the educational achievement needs of this population will result in a generation lost.

Foluké Cultural Arts Center is committed to making performing arts and arts education available to all, particularly those who live in "underserved' areas. The programming of Foluké is family oriented with focus on at-risk children youth, and teens, Seniors and disabled adults. The goal is to be a beacon in the Central Community to actively engage more of its residents in participatory arts and culture programming through partnership with other arts organizations; Implement arts and culture activities that will develop positive community 'norms' through the belief that it takes a village to raise a child, and that the older people are keepers of the culture and must remain dynamic members of society to provide younger generations positive role models

Arts education is central to a youth's individual and social development. Research shows it raises overall academic performance and builds skills necessary for workplace success. The arts excel in helping students develop thinking skills (creative thinking decision making, problem solving, imagining and imaging, and knowing how to learn); social skills (speaking and listening, cooperative work, capacity to teach others, negotiation and conflict resolution skills, and tolerance for differences), and personal skills (individual responsibility, perseverance, self management, and integrity)

"Developing Minds and Creative Expression Through Engaging Arts Activities"



Cast of "GospelFest:Foluke in God's Hands"

Programming Goals for 2025-26

- Continue the development of Community Arts partners..
- Expand Children, Youth, and Teen programming,
- Expand SaturdayArts programming @ Friendly Inn
- Expand After School Arts programming
- ♦ Continue LegacyArts (Creative Aging) Programming
- ♦ Plan Capital Campaign (Building Fund) for 2025



Private donations and grant funding allow us to continue serving the Children and Youth of Cleveland. Your tax deductible donation is greatly appreciated. **Please** make checks or money orders payable to Foluké Cultural Arts Center, and mail to P.O. Box 93046, Cleveland, OH 44101-5046. Donations may be made via text-to-give at 844-844-6844 and text FolukeArts, online at www.folukearts.org, or by scanning the QR Code.



Foluké Cultural Arts Center, Inc is a 501c3 Organization Committed to providing After School Arts Activities for Children and Youth Foluké Cultural Arts Center, Inc. c/o Friendly Inn Settlement 2386 Unwin Road Cleveland, OH 44104

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Dava A. Cansler, Founder/Executive Director







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2023 Achievements

January - December 2023

• Received a Challenge America Grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to develop Arts programming for Senior Citizens: LegacyARTS

• "Central Renaissance: An Evening of Jazz and Culture" - Fundraiser - Highlighting the history of the Central Neighborhood, featuring local adult artists and vocalists.

• Implemented Out of School Time (OST) arts programming conducting classes in Theater, Visual Arts, Drumming, Photography and Film, and Horticulture to over 800 students from Friendly Inn Settlement, CMSD schools, and 3 inner ring suburban High Schools.

• Produced a FREE stage presentation of "SpongeBob Square Pants the Musical" at Friendly Inn settlement in partnership with Rock The House Entertainment: 25 students from the Greater Cleveland area, ages 7 - 18 participated.

• Produced a stage presentation fundraiser in partnership with Karamu House called "GospelFest: Foluke in God's Hands", depicting the history of Gospel Music, featuring local adult vocalists.

• Implemented a new OST Program "The World Around Me", which is a Cultural immersion program, that started with the introduction to Japanese arts and culture

Operating Budget for 2023 was \$375,344



"SpongeBob Square Pants the Musical" @ Friendly Inn Settlement

2024 Achievements

January - December 2024

• Implemented Out of School Time (OST) arts programming conducting classes in Theater, Visual Arts, Drumming, Photography and Film, and Horticulture to over 500 students from Friendly Inn Settlement, CMSD schools, and 3 inner ring suburban High Schools.

• Implemented a new music program with an introduction to choral music during the summer that continued into the after school program at Friendly Inn Settlement. Students were learning the scales and how to harmonize.

• Partnered with FriendlyInn for the 2024 Summer Camp, providing arts programming for 50+ students.

• Students participated in the Bustop Forecast KIDS Photoshoot held at the WKYC-TV 3 Studios

• Began the onboarding process to begin arts programming at the Cuyahoga County Juvenile Detention Center.

• Implemented a new Creative Aging Program (LegacyARTS) with a workshop entitled "Elder Blooms Flora Wisdom Botanic Imprints" It was held at Future Ink Graphics located in the Pivot Center, in partnership with Cultura Clothing, and funded by the National Endowment for the Arts

Operating Budget for 2024 was \$217,216



"Elder Blooms Flora Wisdom Botanic Imprints" Workshop for Seniors @ Future Ink Graphics (FIG) in the PIVOT Center