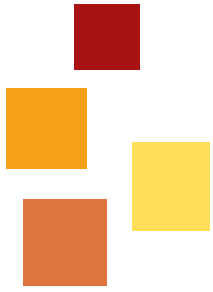




HEALING BROKEN CIRCLES



the BUILD IMPACT REPORT

transformative creative opportunities for personal growth, self-expression & positive reintegration for youth & adults who are incarcerated

2024
—
2025

FREESTYLE RAP THERAPY WORKSHOP @ JUVENILE INTERVENTION CENTER

A safe and supportive program to explore emotions, release stress, build skills and gain personal insights through the art of freestyle rap Oct 2024-March 2025

Yes definitely!
100%

Would you recommend this program to your friends?

Yes a lot! or Yes
100%

Did you experience something helpful in this program?

36

Average # of youth served each week (2025)

5

Average # of classes per week (2025)

What word would you use to describe your experience in this program?

Teamwork (6) ● Confidence ● Self-esteem (3) ● Interesting (2) ● Different ● Teamwork-ethic ● Awareness ● Turnt ● Fun (6) ● Exciting ● Second chance ● inspiring ● Leadership ● Helpful (3) ● Cool ● Respect ● Mindful ● Joyful ● Coping ● Amazing ● Very social ● Good experience ● Creativity ● Impactful ●

Feedback from STAFF at the Juvenile Intervention Center:

- From beginning to end you see the growth within the youth
- I noticed the programmer helps the youth use their music in a more therapeutic way and more positive manner that helps the youth let their emotions out in a way I haven't really seen before. The youth really like the program and it really helps them in a positive way
- Youth get to use teamwork during the program and youth maintain positive behavior
- The youth are able to open up and express themselves even if they cannot rap
- Speaking on trauma and life experiences gives youth an outlet to talk about their emotions
- Youth were happy to be in the program. The kids wish they had more time in the program.
- I feel like this program could help the youth in this facility realize the talent that they have and use it for good and opportunity
- This gives them a chance to interact with each other and get whatever is bothering them off their chest in a positive way. The youth respond very well to Mr. P.
- Being on that stage can relieve a lot of pain and hopefully some minds can change



**Teaching Artist:
Peniel Cromwell**

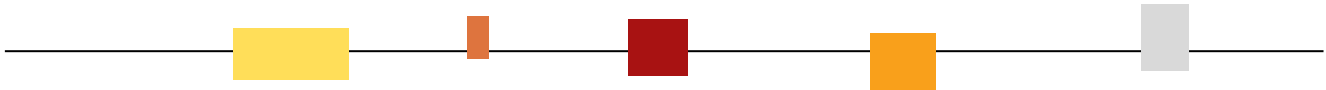




Feedback from YOUTH at the Juvenile Intervention Center:

- This helps me put my pain and how I'm doing in a verse and go with the flow. This experience helps me with my coping skills and taking me out my comfort zone
- I learned how to speak in front of everybody
- I get to share my music to other people
- It's fun and cool to do
- Joyful, must come back
- We get to see how music is being produced
- It's a cool opportunity
- I feel like this is a good experience for a lot of youth in this facility. I feel like this takes a lot of stress off my mind in that I can vent to you. This would be a good thing for a lot of people to get in to
- A lil chill program
- I think this would impact other people by allowing them to listen to new ideas. I think this also can get someone more confidence and a new experience
- I feel like this would be the best thing for more youth in the building because I can say that this is a program that would help a lot more people. A lot of youth be crashing and they need some programing. Make some music keep yo head off nonsense, don't do no crashing
- This program has a stage so that people can be heard. It can relieve a lot off people's mindset
- This program is helpful because it can help the people who wanna be heard, heard
- I learned how to use my words
- Therapy is good for me
- Makes me better
- They good teachers
- I think this program is good for the youth because first of all we show our music to someone else that from the outs and I think it's good to vent and rap and take some of the angry and stress off my mind and we can see who rap and who you might have something in common. this is a great program I appreciate it
- This class has helped me with my vocabulary
- This program has been a benefit to me, teach me different things
- This program is dope tight like some rope
- Something to do to get up in the morning
- I learned that MC can mean a lot of different things
- I learned about the rules of freestyling
- Helpful with taking my mind of my situation and it's a good learning experience
- It's a positive thing to do in life
- I learned about breaking the words down to get paid
- Therapy is good for me
- This group is helpful to young youth because we can express ourselves to Mr P and through music
- It helps me keep my head on track and get ready to come back next week and rap on recorded music. Other youth in the JIC should feel the same way if they rap, mix emotion, crash, or make music
- I learned to break the words down to make different meanings
- I like this group a lot! It helps me with rapping and more
- This program is good to be around

**Because this program is 'open-door,' and also due to constant population shifts in the institution, feedback from youth and staff are collected at random intervals 2 times month*



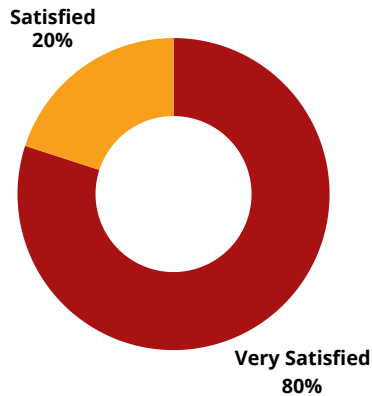


POETIC EXPRESSIONS WORKSHOP @ JUVENILE INTERVENTION CENTER

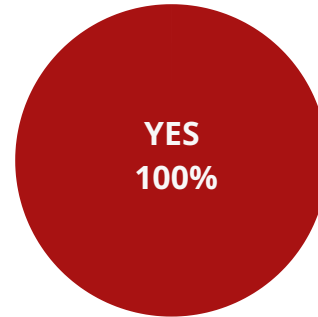
8-week program empowering young girls who are incarcerated through creative writing, self-exploration, and shared storytelling, providing a brave space to express emotions, build confidence, and uplift one another through the power of words

Served 33 unique individuals Feb - April 2024

How satisfied are you with this program?



Would you recommend this program to a friend?



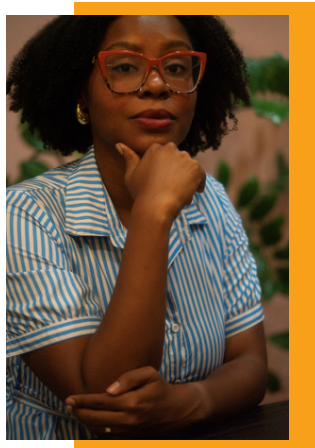
In your own words, how has this class been a benefit to you and your writing?

- It has helped me be able to express how I feel when I write in my journal
- Every time I come here I feel better. It makes me more open minded about how I write
- Helping create my own way into how I feel
- It helps me express myself in words as a rap
- It helps me express myself about people. My feelings are easier to express
- Yes, I only been to 2 so far but you should come back to the JIC

What did you enjoy?

- The poems and books
- The writing
- The poems, buton poetry and Ms Ajanae
- Being able to express how I feel while being in JDC
- People express how they feel in a poem
- Ms Ajanae's personality
- The writing prompt or poems and the beautiful face I walk in to
- How happy Ms Ajanae always is

Teaching Artist:
Ajanae Dawkins



What could we improve?

- Nothing, coming out more
- I honestly don't know
- More inspiration
- Nothing much, I like it so far
- Nothing (in a good way) The program was great!
- Literally nothing Y'all great
- Nothing in my eyes
- Stay longer



BBG WORKSHOP @ FC COMMUNITY-BASED CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

8-week program using beats and poetry to engage in self-expression and skill-building, while learning about storytelling, lyricism, delivery, technique, structure, composition, collaboration and rhythm

Served 22 unique individuals July-Sept 2024

“We know that you know how to put words together! So please freestyle some last words about this program:

“Helps a lot / Turnt my thoughts into plots / kept me grounded like black tops / Just to get all my have nots / I feel it / Taught me how to be da realist / and illist / so I hope you can feel dis”

“You know what they be sayin Practice makes perfect Blakk help me elevate my craft And show me that I worth it Now I see with my talent I barely scratched the surface Now imma put this pen to this pad and spend the time and put the work in”

“I like the program I love the way you do it It gives me the motivation and desire to just pursue it”

“Come prepared to be creative Stand on your feet as you be innovative”

I appreciate this class, helping time move fast, Writing in my pod make songs bout my past, Spitting hot fire you never thought it was trash

Man I love this class And I got so much up out it It showed me how to improve an showed me What I can get out of it

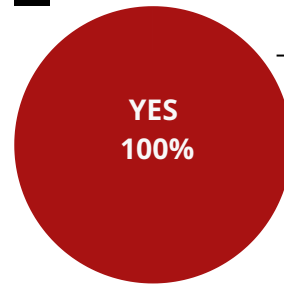
Today the last one / Blakk said put it down / the sound I found / caress the message / God he blessed us / Trust and believe he planted his seed / redeemed my heart / the unseen my dream / hallelujah

How will this class benefit you and your reentry?

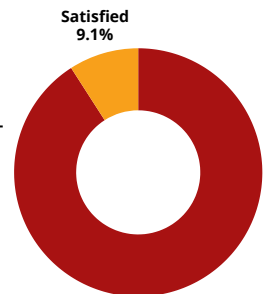
- I was challenged to become better
- It's a positive influence!
- Helped me learn how to accept positive criticism
- Help me get out my pain in the right way
- Shows me there's people who went through what I've been through
- Helps me get out more of myself through my words
- Blakk challenged me to hone my skills. He showed me that I can do many things if I just try
- It help me release emotion
- Made me share my stuff
- For me, it showed me my value
- It helps me to be prepared and creative
- It helped me to be a better writer
- It helped we with my stage fright
- This has helped me with my confidence
- I'm not as nervous to do my thing in front of people.
- It made me more confident and it also has me looking forward

100% of participants agree or strongly agree that making art:

- helps me better handle and process difficult situations
- helps me appreciate who I am and what I can achieve
- helps connect me to my thoughts and feelings



Would you recommend this program?



How satisfied are you with this program?

What did you enjoy?

- The challenge of different things
- The atmosphere and Blakk
- The inspiration and the way its taught thru Blakk
- Hearing everybody's style
- The feedback and constructive criticism
- Hearing different styles of music
- Everything (2)
- Seeing all the improvement and it brought us together as a group

Teaching Artist:
Michael Powell
(Blakk Sun)

