



CREATIVE ARTS CENTER OF DALLAS



OCTOBER 2017 | At the Center + In the Community

Register for Session 6 Classes

Finish the year off right with by enrolling in an art class at CAC. Classes begin this month. Get your spot today!

[More info...](#)



CAC @ NorthPark On-site Workshop Series

In collaboration with NorthPark Center, CAC is again offering a series of three-hour workshops exploring different art mediums every week through November 2nd.

These extraordinary art experiences will be held in NorthPark's Nordstrom Court or outdoors in its beautiful greenspace, CenterPark.

[More info...](#)



Join us at NorthPark Center and Klyde Warren Park

Stop by Klyde Warren Park for our monthly Art as a Second Language event from 2-4pm on Sunday, October 9th and on October 19th from 6-8pm for Crafts & Cocktails. Then later in the month join us for NorthPark Center's ArtRocks! event on Saturday, October 21st from 1-4 pm. All events will have plenty of family-friendly art activities.



Thank You for Supporting Our Cause...

Thank you to everyone who took the time to give on behalf of North Texas Giving Day. CAC received over 6K in donations! We can't tell you how much it means to us that you stepped up in support of our cause.



White Rock Lake Artists' Studio Tour

October 14th & 15th from 10am - 5pm (both days) is the return of the annual White Rock Lake Artists' Studio Tour...

Located in the neighborhoods that surround White Rock Lake, this year marks the event's 25th year in providing the public with access to over 50 artists (including CAC instructors, Lynn Wilkes Armstrong, Glo Coalson, Susan Giller, Juli Hulcy-Kessinger, Susan "Tink" O'Neal, Terri Stone and Terri Thoman) and art centers (including CAC). Take advantage of this free, self-paced tour, that is completely open to the public.



At CAC we will have two exhibitions to see: *Process 2 Product* (a student & instructor show) and *unseenamerica* (the resulting exhibition of a free eight-week program offered by CAC instructors at nearby Bayles Elementary that teaches digital photography skills and provides the students a voice in their community).

[More info...](#)

Save the Date for Etsy Dallas Jingle Bash

Stop by and see us at the 2017 Etsy Dallas Jingle Bash on November 11th. We'll be set up from 10 am to 5 pm at the "make and take" table creating fun and festive holiday crafts.



[More info...](#)

On Creativity...

I had the opportunity to hear Tomas Alvarez speak at last week's Momentus Institute Conference. Celebrated as a CNN Hero for his groundbreaking work combining traditional talk therapies with hip-hop, Alvarez is re-imaging mental health, inspiring a global movement for "at-promise" kids. Yes, at-promise not at-risk as is the current narrative, and is one that CAC also uses when writing



about our outreach programs - Camp MetalHead, Feasts of Clay & Glass and unseenableamerica -in grant, press and promotional materials.

That's about to change as I now realize that although the term "at-risk" is easily understood by funders and the media, it ultimately denies students and their families the dignity they deserve by focusing on the negative and not the positive. As one of those kids myself growing up identified as at-risk, I always felt on the brink of being viewed as a throwaway by society. After dropping out of high school and spending a couple of years on the streets and starting to become all too familiar with the criminal justice system, I somehow came out on the other side. I was damn lucky, always believing in my own scrappy potential even when other people no longer did. I was able to go back to a self-paced, alternative high school, then community college, then a four-year college and finally graduate school - slowing and painstakingly putting one foot in front of another until I had built a life of promise for myself.

Alvarez is right - we need to reexamine the language we use to affirm the people we work with because as he said, "language is powerful." Check out the work that Alvarez is doing through the organization he founded [Music, Beats & Rhymes](#).

And while you are at it, take a look at the work Dallas artist Will Richey is doing right here through his spoken word performance and youth development organization, Journeyman Ink, and the [Daverse Lounge program](#).

Diana Pollak
Executive Director

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