

June - Change for Change

The Change for Change for June will be: ArtWell
Make Check payable to "ArtWell"
Address: 100 West Oxford St., Suite E-1200, Phila., PA 19122
Contact person: Susan Teegen
Telephone: 215-386-7705
UUCR Contact: Cathy McCoubrey

ArtWell was founded in 2000 to respond to the chronic community violence in Philadelphia by introducing a preventive, educational, arts-oriented approach to reach underserved communities and youth facing discrimination, poverty, violence, and the everyday challenges of growing up. Our mission is to support young people and their communities through multidisciplinary arts expression, education, and creative reflection to celebrate their strengths, thrive while facing complex challenges, and awaken their dreams.

ArtWell has grown to partner with over 400 organizations and serve more than 35,000 youth in the Greater Philadelphia region. At least 85% of the young people we work with are residents of low-income neighborhoods in Philadelphia. In 2016, we served more than 1,000 students in the greater Philadelphia area ages 5-18, including youth from private, public, and disciplinary schools, as well as community organizations and libraries.

Our innovative approach utilizes best practices in Critical Pedagogy, Multicultural Education, Asset Based Youth Development and Social-Emotional Learning. Workshops are student-centered and combine the building and mastery of arts skills with dialogue, inquiry, and reflection to explore "big ideas" and essential questions that are relevant in young people's lives. Teaching artists engage youth in critical thought and often difficult dialogues through creativity and self expression by creating a community where students feel safe to be their authentic selves, share stories, take risks and grow. By fostering creativity, enhancing communication and literacy skills, ArtWell helps individuals from diverse cultures and faith traditions to deepen their understandings of themselves and their community and to ultimately reduce violence and increase peace within our city and region.

ArtWell lifts up the voices of those unheard, helping individuals work together to build stronger communities. To learn how you can become a volunteer, participant, or bring a program to a school or organization in your neighborhood, please contact ArtWell Associate Executive Director Julia Terry.