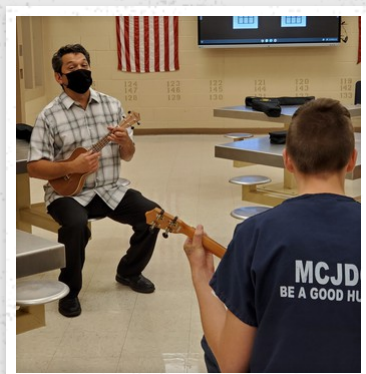


# Access the Arts

CREATE. CONNECT. INSPIRE

## WHEN WORDS FAIL, MUSIC SPEAKS

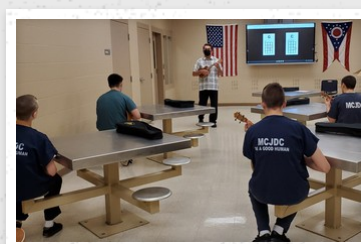
With funding through the generous grants from GPD Group Employees Foundation and the Medina County Arts Council, Access the Arts was able to purchase 10 ukuleles, 4 guitars, and several shakers, maracas and tambourines from Woodsy's Music. We began weekly ukulele lessons at the Medina Juvenile Detention Center in June and the Medina County Home in July. Rolando teaches the fingerings and cords in his easy-going style, and also has a way of slipping in some life lessons as well. The teens and adults are engaged and laughing along with him while learning new tunes.



LEARNING THE G CHORD



GROUP LESSON AT THE  
COUNTY HOME



ROLANDO'S POSITIVE  
VIBES AT THE JDC

## COVID RELEASE PARTY AT THE COUNTY HOME!

These folks had a great reason to party as their 6 month lock down came to an end. Throughout the winter and early spring, Covid cases required the residents to stay in their rooms without even gatherings in the common room for art or music sessions by Zoom.

Instead, Access the Arts volunteers created "take and make" crafts for them to do on their own. But this Covid Release Party was filled with good music from Rolando and great fellowship!



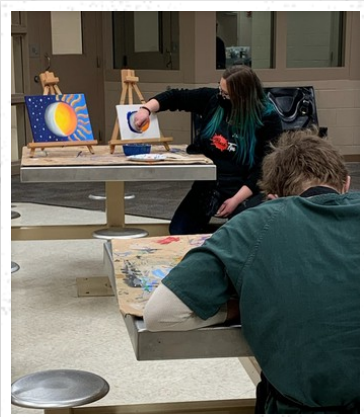
## A MOMENTOUS OCCASION



## PREPARING FOR THE PARTY



## MUCH TO BE THANKFUL FOR



Access the Arts is happy to continue funding Abbey Sweigert, from BrushTips Studio, who meets twice a month with the youth at the detention center to paint. She and Cheri Smith know how to give them a healthy emotional outlet in the form of therapeutic art. Abbey and Cheri genuinely care about these troubled teens, going above and beyond and volunteering extra time. The kids really look forward to creating, and their art will eventually be displayed in the Medina Juvenile Detention Center Art Show in September.

## THE SHARON SHOWCASE WAS A HIT!

Access the Arts loves to bring people in the community together, and this year we needed that more than ever. Seventy-nine vendors came out for this art and music festival in the circle of Sharon Center. Children's activities included Jungle Terry, face-painting and scouting fun from Troop 3411. Eight performances in the gazebo throughout the day culminated in a big evening concert with Rachel Brown and the Beatnik Playboys and the Buck Naked Band headlining the show. A generous donation from The Hillier Family Foundation helped make this event possible for the community. The concert donations and basket raffle made it a successful fundraiser for Access the Arts as well. Thank you to the Sharon Trustees, the Sharon Township Firefighters Association, Electrisound, and all of our corporate sponsors listed below who contributed. It takes a village!





GRACE AND HALEY  
DIRECT THE CHALK  
MURAL



BUCK NAKED BAND



SHARON TOWNSHIP  
FIREFIGHTERS

## MUSIC IN THE SHARON CIRCLE - RAIN OR SHINE!

Yankee Bravo kicked off our free concert season with a town hall performance of an Americana/Roots inspired set of original songs. This band had the audience in awe of their musicianship. June 16th was an evening of Sisters in Song in the gazebo, a quartet of talented women, including Sharon Center's own amazing vocalist, Rachel Brown. Mo Mojo came roaring into Sharon again on June 7th with a night of Zydeco and Cajun party songs. The rain resulted in another performance in the town hall. To experience this free concert in an intimate setting was a rare opportunity for attendees! Thanks to Chris Rettger, from Electrisound, for giving each band the best in quality sound production.





YANKEE BRAVO



SISTERS IN SONG



MO MOJO

## THE ART OF YOGA BRINGS HEALTH AND UNITY



RISE AND SHINE YOGA  
IN THE CIRCLE



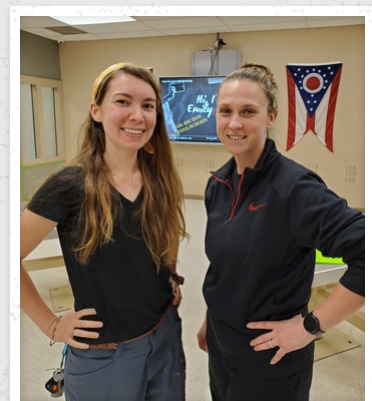
BECKY MILES FROM  
ROOTS YOGA LEADS THE  
FLOW



A COLLECTIVE  
EXPERIENCE ON A  
PERFECT DAY!

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

- More free Music in the Circle concerts and yoga events in Sharon Center this summer! Check out all the event dates below.
- AtA will be bringing arts and crafts, as well as concerts to the Medina County Home residents this spring and summer.
- Emily Buckingham is a digital and mural artist who will be directing a mural with the JDC teens in July. Look for this collective art project to be unveiled soon!



- Our "Fine Arts with Friends" program is in the planning stage. In the next few months, we will bring Medina County and Akron Public School children together to experience programs in the arts. The third graders will be able to learn about music, painting, sculpting, and dancing, among other disciplines. The best part is, while celebrating the arts, they will build lasting friendships with children of other cultures and backgrounds within this diverse group.



### 2021 Summer Event Schedule

All Wednesday concerts will be held 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm. Saturday yoga events will be held 10:00 am – 11:00 am. Sharon Showcase to be held 11:00 am – 11:00 pm.

**June 2<sup>nd</sup> - Yankee Bravo (Americana/Rock)**

Refreshments provided by Access the Arts

**June 12<sup>th</sup> - Sharon Showcase (music and art festival)**

**June 16<sup>th</sup> - Sisters in Song (Roots/Americana)**

Refreshments provided by Access the Arts

**June 30<sup>th</sup> - Mo Mojo (Zydeco/Cajun)**

Refreshments provided by Access the Arts

**July 10<sup>th</sup> - Rise and Shine Yoga in the Park**

**July 21<sup>st</sup> - Caribbean Night with Rolando (Latin, Calypso)**

Refreshments provided by Sharon Women's Club

**Aug. 4<sup>th</sup> - 42 South (Country Covers)**

Refreshments provided by Access the Arts

**Aug. 18<sup>th</sup> - Ohio Crossroads (Bluegrass)**

Refreshments provided by Access the Arts

**Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> - Rise and Shine Yoga in the Park**



## THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS!

Thanks to generous grants from The Hillier Family Foundation, GPD Group Employees Foundation, and the Medina County Arts Council, we have been able to plan an exciting year



full of free programming for underserved groups in our community. And we really appreciate the local businesses who support us each year as Sponsors of the Arts: Brush Tips Studio, Roots Yoga and Barre, Blue Heron Brewery and Event Center, Marigold Wellness Collective, Green Mountain Horse and Tack, The Ruhlin Company, AC Passage Enterprises and BKO Distillery. Our board and members are 100% volunteer, so the funds we collect go directly to help those in need. If you would like to support our programs, please visit our website link below to donate.



**ACCESS THE ARTS**  
create•connect•inspire



#### **Sharon Center Community - Arts...**

[accessthearts.net](http://accessthearts.net)

We are a non-profit organization bringing education, arts and entertainment to communities in Northeast Ohio via music concerts, festivals and teaching events.