

2021

**ANNUAL
REPORT**



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LETTER FROM LETI



LETITIA LOPEZ
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As we enter into a new year, I look back at 2021 and despite all of its challenges we worked tirelessly and championed through! Our artists created, our students danced, and our families and community grew stronger and brighter because of it. We are proof that art and culture are an integral part of our daily lives. That when we feel our most vulnerable we can turn to music, theatre, poetry and art to give us hope and to remind us of our resiliency and strength. I am forever grateful and privileged to work among so many creatives and wonderful people who make our city, our world, a better place.

It goes without saying that this work couldn't be possible without the support of our funders, donors, families, volunteers, and my amazing staff and board. This year has already begun with so much energy and opportunity and our calendar is filling up fast. We also get to share the amazing news that we are now owners of the building we have called home for the past 3 years. Though we were tenants, the congregation and governing board of Archwood United Church of Christ made us feel more like partners. We could not have asked for better partners. They are some of the most kind and generous people I have met. This building and now our gift has transformed our center in the most unexpected ways and I am so excited to see what this new adventure has in store for us.

So here's to 2022! Let's get started!

In gratitude,

Leti

MISSION & VISION

The Julia De Burgos Cultural Arts Center transforms lives by preserving, educating, and promoting Latino heritage through the teaching and practice of history, culture, the visual, performing and literary arts.

**CREATIVITY IS OUR PRIMARY FOCUS AT
JULIA DE BURGOS CULTURAL ARTS CENTER.**

**WE CELEBRATE AND PROMOTE
LATINO CULTURE AND HERITAGE.**

**WE BRING THE COMMUNITY
TOGETHER AS ONE.**

Our primary focus is on the teaching and practice of the visual, performing and literary arts. We work to preserve Latino heritage among all generations and across multiple artistic disciplines. We are passionate about celebrating, and sharing our history and heritage with the wider community.



CREATIVITY

CULTURE

COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

CLASSES &
WORKSHOPS

UNIDOS POR
EL ARTE

PUBLIC
ART

CELEBRATIONS
& EVENTS

YOUTH
LEADERSHIP

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Dance Classes:

Flamenco with ABREPASO
Ballet with North Pointe Ballet
Adult Salsa
Latin Social Dance

Art Classes & Workshops:

Dinosaurs
Aliens
Anime
Vejigante Mask Making
Clay Earrings
Christmas Crafting
Cooking class for boys

Book Clubs:

Peluda
Clap When You Land
In The Dream House
Tales From La Vida
Harvest of Empire
Mexican Gothic

Theatre Classes:

Creando Teatro



UNIDOS POR EL ARTE ARTIST INITIATIVE



Latinx artists are invited to join the Unidos por el Arte collective with Julia de Burgos Cultural Arts Center. By joining, you are signed up for artist opportunity emails every other week and access to space and resources through the center. Unidos artists are contacted for paid opportunities through Julia de Burgos Cultural Arts Center and connected to grants like the one below.

SCAN TO JOIN THE INITIATIVE!

2021 SUPPORT FOR ARTISTS RECIPIENTS

These artists were selected to receive support for artist grants, funded by the Cuyahoga Arts and Culture Support for Artists program.

A collage of ten artist portraits, each with a white cutout border, arranged in a group on the left side of the page. The artists are diverse in age and appearance.

CARLOS CRUZ **WORLDBUILDING: CLEVELAND**

Zine featuring Cleveland community leaders as video game characters.

NATHALIE BERMUDEZ **CELEBRACIÓN DE LA VOZ LATINOAMERICANA**

Paintings & vases inspired by Uruguayan writer Eduardo Galeano.

ARCELIA GANDARILLA **VEJIGANTES MASK WORKSHOP**

Workshops on the history and making of Puerto Rican vejigante masks.

STEPHANIE GINESE **UNTO DOGS**

Book of poetry inspired by womanhood and Puerto Rican history.

HIGO GABARRON **EMOTIMONSTERS**

Illustrated book and cards to help children understand emotions.

ALICIA VASQUEZ **STARS OF THE UNIVERSE**

A series of portraits based on the poems of Julia de Burgos.

MOISES BORGES **BRAZIL ARTIFACTS**

Virtual interviews with the Pataxó indigenous tribe in Brazil.

MANNY SANTIAGO **URBAN TAÍNO**

Photo showcase of local community through a cultural lens.

BRIDGETT MARTINEZ **LIKE ME**

Original play devised with teen girls based on self-love.

ELISA CLARK **SEPARATED**

A short film that deals with immigration in the U.S.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

PUBLIC ART



10 ARTISTS FEATURED

Higo Gabarron, Gil Rivera, Alicia Vasquez, Nathalie Bermudez, Glori Feliciano Fanesha Fabre, Gabriel Marcano, Mariela Paz, Bruno Casiano and Hector Castellano.

Fabrication and Installation: Westcamp

4 MURAL LOCATIONS

El Museo de Mi Barrio:

Reading Garden Frames (above), Zubal Books Arches (right), and the Weber Building Panels

Parking Lot Community Mural (top)



CREATIVE FUSION

CLEVELAND
Foundation

Elevando Raices is an ambitious and vibrant fashion collection, part of Julia de Burgos Cultural Arts Center's Creative Fusion Project. The collection hired 4 designers, 22 models and stylists, and 2 photographers and videographers. The project culminated with a video and photo shoot at the Cleveland Botanical Gardens.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

2021 CELEBRATIONS & EVENTS



Rooting CLE with Twelve Literary Arts
¡Celebrando! Spring Celebration
Parade the Circle
Piano Cleveland Concert
¡Celebrando! Hispanic Heritage Month

Cafe & Conectando
Amor es Amor with PFLAG
In The Heights with the Cleveland Cavaliers
On the Axis with MOCA
Parrandon Navideño

YOUTH LEADERSHIP



Miss Latina Image 2022, Dariana Rivera Orta & First Runner Up 2022, Cecile Diaz Hernandez.



Offered in collaboration with Yasin Cuevas, Program Director, the Miss Latina Image Leadership program is for young girls ages 13 to 17. The participants are taken through an intense six month course which concentrates on the areas of self-esteem, personal development, confidence, diction, public speaking, organization, social behavior, cultural awareness, community service, interview skills, academic achievement, etiquette, photography, and modeling. In addition, the girls will have many opportunities to represent the Julia de Burgos Cultural Arts Center by participating in cultural and community events where they are able to put into practice the skills and knowledge that they have learned and will carry with them for a lifetime.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

FUNDERS & PARTNERS



STATISTICS

350
STUDENTS
TAUGHT

72% LATINX
73% FROM CLEVELAND
AGES 4-68

58
ARTISTS
SUPPORTED

95% LATINX
PAINTERS, ILLUSTRATORS,
DESIGNERS, MUSICIANS, POETS,
THEATRE ARTISTS, TEACHERS,
PHOTOGRAPHERS, MODELS, ETC.

13,035
CONNECTIONS
ON SOCIAL

10,260 FACEBOOK FOLLOWS & FRIENDS
1,600 INSTAGRAM FOLLOWERS
215 YOUTUBE SUBSCRIBERS
960 MAILCHIMP SUBSCRIBERS

MEDIA & PRESS



CAN JOURNAL

CREATIVE FUSION: JULIA DE BURGOS CELEBRATES LATINX DIVERSITY THROUGH COUTURE

MARCH 2021

Authors: Michael Gill and Damaris Puñales-Alpizar



WKYC

JULIA DE BURGOS CULTURAL ARTS CENTER TO PRESENT ITS HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATION

SEPTEMBER 2021

Author: Roselyn Muñiz



FRESHWATER CLEVELAND

UNIDOS POR EL ARTE SHINES LIGHT ON LOCAL LATINX ARTISTS

OCTOBER 2021

Author: Marc Lefkowitz



IDEASTREAM

NORTHEAST OHIO LATINX ARTISTS COME TOGETHER FOR 'DOORS TO MY BARRIO' PROJECT

NOVEMBER 2021

Authors: Dave DeOreo and Natalia Garcia

FOX 8

CLICK TO WATCH VIDEO FROM FOX 8 ABOUT OUR 2021 HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATION!



A HOME ON ARCHWOOD

In 2021, Julia de Burgos Cultural Arts Center jumped into many important improvements to our beautiful campus. With the generous support of donors and volunteers, we were able to remodel the reading garden, create artist studios in the house, install ballet mirrors and barres for our dance classes, improve security on campus and fully restore the damaged parking lot! The work doesn't stop here, as we are now officially the owners of the buildings previously owned by Archwood United Church of Christ.





**Now in 2022 we're thinking even bigger...
reimagining the center and how we can grow.**

**How can we meld the history of the
center with who we are now and our
dreams for who we want to become?**

**This year we're digging into this question and paving the
road to our answers.**

Are you part of a foundation or group that would like to be a part of this growing vision?
Reach out to us: info@juliadeburgos.org with the subject line: *Reimagination*





Thank you!

From the board and staff at Julia de Burgos Cultural Arts Center, a huge **thank you** to everyone who supported our annual fundraiser this year.

While some of our programming is covered through grants, we rely on support from companies and individual donations to help cover operational expenses. This way we may continue to offer our students and families quality programming at no or minimal cost.

Julia De Burgos Cultural Arts Center is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization and donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. We are more than happy to accept any amount of donation. No donation is too small! Help us continue this great work and make a gift today.

STAFF

Letitia Lopez
Executive Director

Nahomy Ortiz-Garcia

Bridgett Martinez

Lydia Diaz Torres

Nelson Ramirez

McKenzie Merriman

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mariely Luengo
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**SCAN TO
DONATE
NOW!**

