

Cultural Arts Coalition

2018/2019 Annual Report

We kicked off our **Science Clubs** Oct 15th and went through May 30th, 2019. We served 6 sites: Clarence Kelly Recreation Center, Cone Park Library, Wilhelmina Johnson Center, Resilience School Southeast Boys and Girls Club and Caring and Sharing School.



Our dynamic Volunteers, too numerous to list here, but just a few: Chris DeScenza physics activities, Bio Medical Technology, Alachua County EPD, Hands On, Alachua County Energy Program, and Erin Patrick (Environmental Engineer). Field trips included the Cade Museum, FMNH, Devils Millhopper, UF Physics bldg. Payne's Prairie, Morningside FMNH and Blue Springs.

Two of our clubs had gardens where they learned Sciences. They also raised 20 pounds of sweet potatoes along with other herbs and vegetables. Most of the harvest was donated to the Food of the Mighty. Students also prepared meals with vegetables from their gardens.



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In March, Sierra Club hosted its annual overnight camping trip to Suwannee River. Club members enjoyed setting up campsite with tents and preparation for meals. They hiked, cooked, played games and enjoyed the outdoors.

At one of our Clubs, the school noticed that students who attended our weekly Science Club meetings scored higher on state FSA than their classmates. The Science Curriculum Supervisor has asked us to bring the club to the classroom.

CAC received a mini grant to create a pilot using hip hop to teach science. Our chemistry volunteer created the rap and we worked with George Washington Carver group to test the activity. Students had fun and were memorizing the info by the end of the activity. Some of the field trips for clubs were Cade Museum, Florida Museum of Natural History, Morningside Nature Center, and Blue Springs. Volunteers from UF Astronomy treated two of our Science Clubs to their portable planetarium.



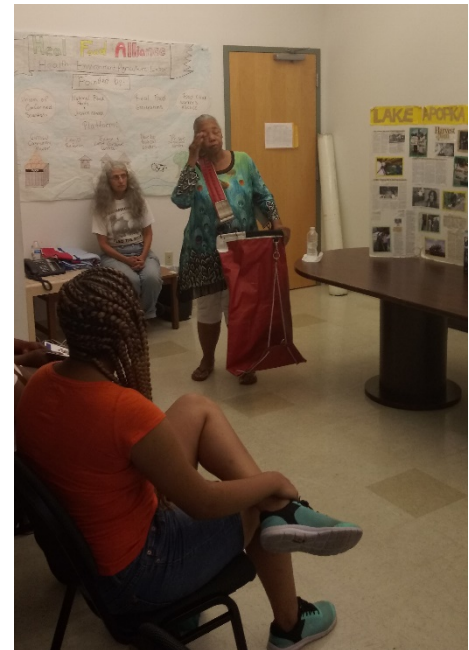
Along with the garden, students connected art to Sciences with activities such as making different colors of paper and creating using plants for images and colors.

The Festival numbers increased this year and we added an Authors Corner. This was the participation of 8 artists, which 2 traveled from out of state to participate. We had more than 80 agencies and organizations exhibit. This along with our Children's activity area and stage performances throughout the 2 days. Delta Sigma Theta and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity hosted our reception again at the historic A Quinn Jones School Auditorium. Sponsors for this year's Festival were: Cox Communications, City of Gainesville, Santa Fe College, Gainesville CRA, Rastarfarice. CAC has won a grant from Visit Gainesville for the 41st Annual 5th Ave Arts Festival.



The Environmental Ambassadors schedule was very full this summer. They got started with a visit from Dr. Greene who once again lead activities around Environmental Locus of Control, Sense of personal responsibility for doing what you can to save the Earth.

They traveled to Apopka and toured with farmworkers of toxic sites in marginalized communities. They toured Butler Farm (4th generation farmer), Nix Farm (4th generation) and Fisher Farm (5th generation). Their solar tour included businesses, Gainesville Airport, Private residents and other government buildings. They talked to elected officials and their staff. There was lots of fun at Blue Springs and Itchetucknee. We thank Commissioner Hutchinson for a historical boat tour of Pithlachocco/Newnans Lake and Karen Chadwick for our historical boat tour of the Ocklawaha River.



The Ambassadors were an integral part of The Intergenerational Discussion on Climate Crisis held in August. This event hosted almost 200 participants. Ambassadors set the room up, did registration, served lunch, facilitated small groups, broke down the room and washed dishes.

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Shout out of thanks to Alachua County Solid Waste Department for their help with transportation for more than 20 years.

Wilhelmina Johnson Center averages 350 uses a month. Organizations using the Center ongoing are Swing in Motion, City Dancers, NAACP, and UF IREAS. Special events have included baby showers, birthday parties, receptions and Holiday parties.

We have cosponsored several activities, for example: A Town Hall meeting on East Gainesville Disparities, NAACP Intergenerational Discussion on Climate Crisis, and Self Help Credit Union.

Cultural Arts Coalition adopted a 5th grade class at Lake Forest. Classroom supplies have been delivered to Ms. Colson' class. Also, we recruited Repurpose project who has adopted 2 third grade classes. CAC continues to partner with Resilience School, Caring and Sharing and Lake Forest Elementary School.

If you would like to volunteer or make a donation, please contact us at info@culturalartscoalition.org. Visit our website at www.culturalartscoalition.org.

