

THE VOICE

OFFICAL NEWSLETTER OF THE LYRIK'S INSTITUTION



WHAT'S INSIDE?

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO	1
SUMMER IN THE CITY	2
DIGITAL MARKETING	3
RECORDING ENGINEERING	4
KC ART INSTITUTE	5
IMPORTANCE OF OUTREACH	6

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

BY KYLE HOLLINS

When I first started this journey of creating Lyrik's Institution I had no idea of the work that was ahead of me. I didn't know the countless scarifies that would have to be made. Rather that was on a business level or on a personal. I didn't know that going into this work that I would become a student of Lyrik's myself.

Every step that has had to be taken has shaped me as man, teacher, CEO, Father, Son, Brother, and so much more.

The students have an unique story that can not be matched or fully explained. They have reworked the way I see teaching and social work. We at times feel that our teenagers don't have what it takes to succeed or create a sustainable life.

Through Lyrik's, "**Summer In The City**," summer program I was abruptly corrected. They showed me that they have the resilience to face the challenges of life. And to be honest many of them

already are facing the harsh realities that life tends to shows us. They are learning strategies to those issues at such a young age. This gives them an advantage because they have a special opportunity to practice critical thinking skills to solve those problems and perfect those skills at an earlier age.

This is not holding them back but thrusting them forward. Lyrik's is here to shape those critical thinking skills and provide direction. We teach, "to understand your limits, will leave you limitless!"



CONVERSATIONS WITH DR. POWELL

BY DR. KEYONA POWELL

"Summer in the City" created a life changing summer for students and staff at Northeast High School by combining creative opportunities for learning through internships and social learning. Each day was its own adventure filled with seminars, group discussions, creative expression, and networking opportunities which encouraged students to broaden their horizons, build critical thinking skills, and gain exposure to different careers.

What was most amazing for me was my opportunity to intentionally build relationships with my students and their families. In conversations with students it was revealed that their perceptions of administrators included being "boring and strict." They knew we could be a resource, however there was resistance due to the unknown. Thankfully, this summer has changed their perception. The students

are now able to see us as human opposed to simply categorizing us as disciplinarians. For my students, I am now seen as a trusted individual who is a resource for them socially, emotionally, and academically. This new lens is one I want for staff and students alike. Everyone wants and deserves to be seen and it can be done by creating intentional opportunities for rapport building.

Special Thank You to our Partners

BY KYLE HOLLINS (CEO)

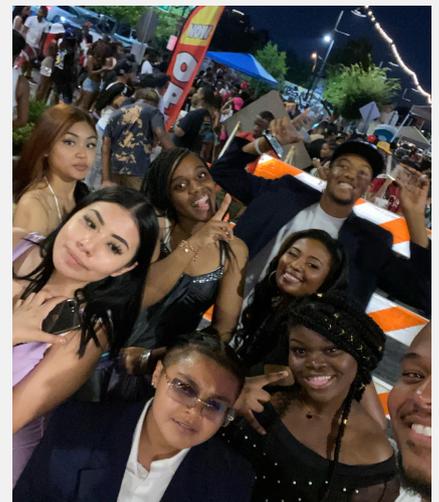
At Lyrik's we teach the power of having a strong social network. We want them to know that one strand can hold the weight, but two strands will always be stronger. When you add a third strand it makes it dang near impossible to break.

We are so thankful for the many strands that hold Lyrik's up and together. Our partners have carried the weight of social change with us all year long. When we picked up the call that came in about the violence, poverty, and the educational

gap that is plaguing our city, we knew there would be no way we could solve it ourselves.

We didn't want to reach out to just anyone. We wanted to connect with organizations that were pounding the pavement already. To our surprise they were looking for the same thing.

Summer In The City could have never happened without you and we want to take time out to let you know how grateful we are to have you taking this journey with us. We wish you the greatest success in all you set out for!





Summer In The City

By Kyle Hollins

Summer will never look the same for 38 amazing students. Lyrik's Institution's, "Summer In The City," took over Northeast High School and Emmanuel Family and Child Development Center. Our mission was to shape their thinking process and offer them a chance to intern in the creative arts of their choice. And we did just that!

These students took on a full day's case load from 8 in the morning to 5 in the evening. This is longer than their normal school day. From 8am to 12pm our Scholars experienced behavior modification in a whole new light.

They were exposed to critical thinking, self talk and thinking barriers, emotional intelligence, goal setting and effective process creating, anger management, effective communication, social network building, victims impact, the ripple effect, and community involvement

They learned all this through games, lectures, seminars, classroom discussions, real time scenarios, meditation, and journaling. They were learning at times they didn't even know it

Then they had a chance to intern at KC Art Institute, The Distrikct, and Evolving Digital Marketing.



Digital Marketing in the now

Our Scholars had a chance to intern with Cedric Williams, the CEO and Founder of Evolving Digital Marketing. He took his students through a crash course in digital marketing.

They were able to learn how to fly drones, operate the camera and video camera, build a website, create flyers, short films and so much more. he also was able to mentor at the same time. This is where he brought in many of his clients to share the importance of digital marketing but also to share the fortitude that it takes to make it in this career. Our scholars were able to create all the marketing material to put on the gala that happened at the end of the summer.



"Unleash your creativity!"

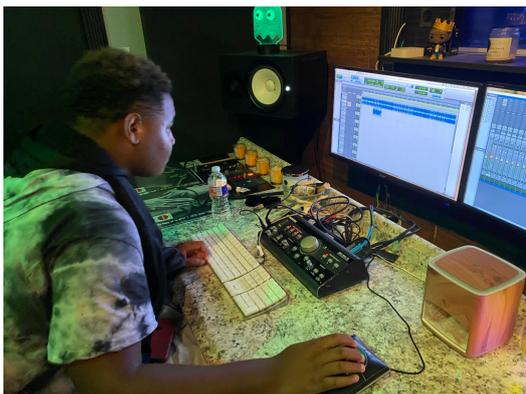




Recording Eng.

Grammy Nominated, Platinum recording artist Joseph Macklin took his students through a rigorous course in recording engineering. Recording isn't just pushing stop and go on a computer. He taught them everything from key strokes to equipment names and functions. He allowed them to work in his very own studio where A- List celebrities' come to create the hit songs we listen to today.

He offered his students the chance to see that they belong here, that they can create what some call the impossible if they press through and give what they set their minds to all they got.



Your life is a product of your thoughts, what you think about all day becomes the basis of your life

LEON BROWN



The Voice

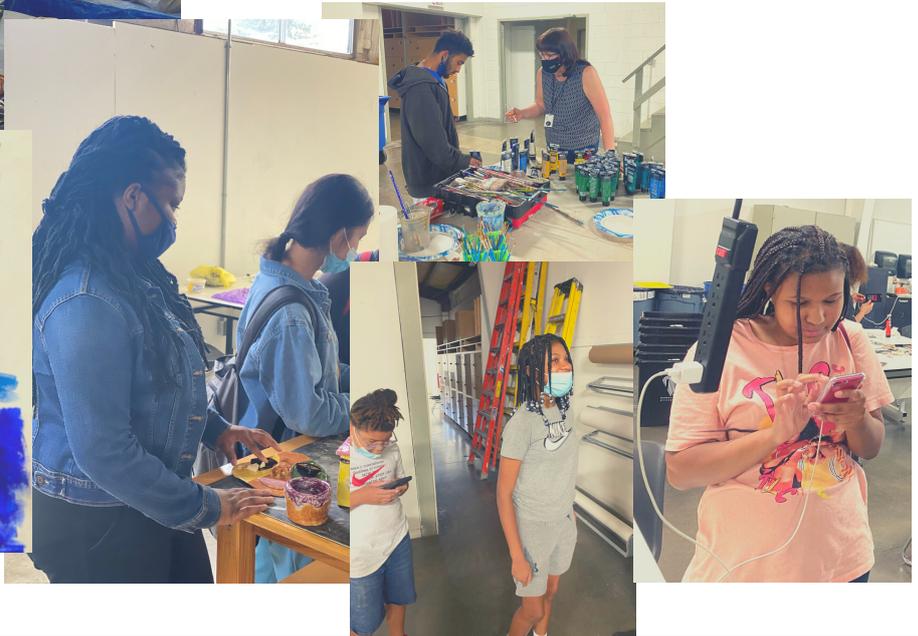
Kansas City Art Institute



The world renowned Kansas City Art Institute offered their students and chance to intern in Painting, 3D design and Sculpting, and Illustration. The Art Institute, provided three highly qualified Art Instructors to facilitate their classes. These high school students had the chance to not only learn at a collage level, but to walk the campus of a collage (in some cases) years before they would normally be able to do so.

Because these art students had the chance to attend this internship they now qualify to take an Advanced Placement (AP) Art class when they return back to school. This experience allows them the opportunity to earn collage credits before they graduate high school.

KC Art Institute not only understood the need for scholastic education, but they understood the importance of social and emotional education as well. From the administration to the teachers, they gave from the heart which you can tell by the impact this summer had on the teens.



Use me, God. Show me how to take who I am, who I want to be, and what I can do, and use it for a purpose greater than myself.

Martin Luther King, Jr.



Importance of outreach

By Kyle Hollins

When we first started the program this summer the students really didn't want to be there. They signed up, but because Summer In The City started so close to the end of the school year it didn't seem like they had a chance to get a break from school. Many didn't see the value in the content nor the games that we would play at the beginning of the day. It felt to them like more lectures and more school.

The truth is, it's always going to be like that when you are first starting. The teens have to build trust with you. They have to understand that you are in it for the long run and not just for the moment. They need the wow factor. They feel they know how to survive and for many of them, they do. We had to show them that their realities really do exist. The solutions they formed





to solve their everyday struggles do work. We just want them to know that those solutions may not always be the most effective.

When I first started, I seen who I thought wanted the class and who didn't. But, over time I learned my perceptions were way off. It was the one on ones that I had with the students that taught me the most about them. And at the same time, I feel, it's where they learned the most about me.

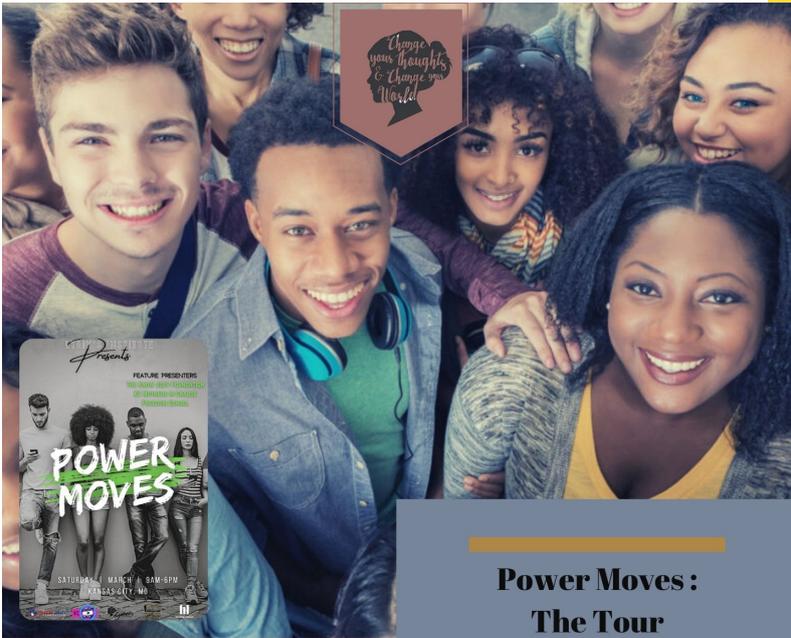
Its our authenticity and vulnerability that allows for an authentic relationship. It's here where you can learn about a person's culture and how their way of life functions on a daily. It's their realities that we have to teach through for any information to sink in.

We can't lean to the old understanding that "because we are older we know better." Yes, we do have the most effective principles, but how they are delivered is subjective. Because that is true across races, it is also true through age groups and national, community, and social norms.

We are in an information age that tells us that information is evolving every 2 seconds. If information is growing at a rapid speed, then our methods of teaching has to be evolving at the same rate.



TAKING ACTION



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Power Moves : The Tour

A INTERACTIVE DAY CREATED TO EMPOWER, STRENGTHEN, EDUCATE, AND ENTERTAIN THE YOUNG ADULTS OF OUR CITY THAT ARE GOING TO BE THE LEADERS OF THE FUTURE.

Partner with us to bring this event to life by donating today.

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