



**ART FOR PROGRESS, Arts Education Program**

## ***PARTICIPATING IN THE ART FOR PROGRESS ARTS EDUCATION PROGRAM***

Dear Prospective Participant,

Thank you for your interest in Art For Progress and our Arts Education Program!

In this manual, you'll find a wealth of information about Art For Progress, our Arts Education Program and the different ways you can volunteer, secure paid positions and otherwise get involved. We respect that you're giving up your valuable time to help others, and we want you to select a placement that is a good fit for you.

If you decide you'd like to volunteer or work with us, please fill out the application materials which can be found in this manual. We'll schedule an interview to talk about you and your interests so we can determine the best placement for you.

We look forward to hearing from you soon!

All the Best,

Barry

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## ***Art For Progress Mission Statement and History***

**A**rt For Progress is a 501(c)3 nonprofit arts organization committed to the cultivation and support of emerging artists working in diverse genres: the visual arts, fashion, digital multimedia, music, and new media. Based in New York, AFP seeks to increase the visibility of talented artists, to raise awareness of the importance of arts education in public schools, and to support those same arts through our comprehensive arts education program.

Besides offering opportunities through a variety of events (held in New York and beyond) and services, we offer artists, through our website, the tools and resources they need to educate and empower themselves as professional artists, working in real world, competitive markets.

Through the use of modern technology and comprehensive resources we seek to create an extensive educated artist community.

**S**ince its inception in early 2004, Art For Progress has had a growing impact within the New York arts community. AFP continues to host enriching, culturally diverse events featuring a variety of visual art, music, fashion and new media. Through these events, the organization has raised funds for various arts education charities and programs, such as Art Start and the New York City Department of Education's music education program.

It is common knowledge that critical funding for K-12 arts education programs in the NYC public schools has drastically declined in recent years. Art For Progress is continually looking at ways of getting involved on a smaller scale in the short term in order to make an immediate impact.

Looking forward, Art For Progress plans to expand its marketing efforts for artists, as well as its role in arts education. AFP also hopes to open a dedicated gallery and event space in New York — a creative, educational environment where AFP artists will have the opportunity to showcase their work and interact with the public; and an educational setting where established artists, in connection with school programs, can teach children and nurture the next generation of successful artists. With the goal of providing support for creative youth and emerging artists, Art For Progress aims to play a pivotal role in sustaining the arts in New York and beyond.

## ***Arts Education Mission and Philosophy***

**T**o reach out and support Arts Education in underserved communities through instructional and interactive programs of various art disciplines, fostering the creative and intellectual growth of young people and positively affecting their personal, academic and social development.

**W**ith the decline of critical funding for K-12 arts education programs in the NYC public schools, Art For Progress looks to provide a creative and educational environment and encourage learning through the arts. Curriculum is planned & facilitated by professional artists of various disciplines with a wide array of teaching experience and in connection with schools and community based programs, can teach children skills and techniques, connect them to community and culture, and nurture the next generation of artists.

Based on studies of how art can have positive influences on learning (academically and socially), healing, community building and personal growth, AFP aims to identify communities and to

work closely with its institutions to provide instructional programs of all art disciplines that will focus on creative and critical thinking, problem solving, analytical skills, as well as exploring options, taking risks, making choices and building a healthy self-esteem.

As statistics consistently show how art education helps increase academic achievement, parental involvement, cross-cultural understanding, and educational success, Art For Progress recognizes the importance of art and creation as a valuable and necessary learning tool in the development of our youth and their communities.

## ***Volunteer Opportunities and Programs***

***One Day Workshops:*** The objective of the one-day workshop is to outreach to underserved communities and to offer a day where AFP teaching artists can work with schools, organizations, youth and families and instruct activities encouraging self-expression and support learning through the arts. One day workshops cater to all needs and can vary in time, content, and space. Each planned art project is modeled to encourage youth to explore culture, community, current events and their place within their surroundings through the learning of art technique, literacy, group discussion and interaction. AFP workshops aim to foster creative development, increase interest and appreciation for the arts, and to bring community and families together.

**This program will send volunteers into numerous schools or community organizations in varying boroughs and neighborhoods for one-time workshops. The nature of this program is to outreach to all communities and service as many schools and youth as possible. The workshop dates are very flexible and vary in days and times which allow volunteers to choose programs that accommodate best with his or her schedule.**

***8 Week Programs:*** This multiple-session program will focus on dissecting important issues and topics relevant within the lives of the community while introducing various disciplines and mediums, and exposing young people to new forms of creative expression. AFP looks to collaborate with schools and community organizations, building relationships with the participating youth and its staff in hopes that arts education and the philosophy of learning and developing through the arts will be sustained long after the 8-week schedule has been completed. The goal of this program is to have consecutive sessions where experienced AFP teaching artists will have the opportunity to facilitate a number of projects and activities that will vary in medium and technique, while being able to monitor the progress of the youth and in the end, process the work and have youth appreciate and acknowledge their accomplishments as well as their peers. Each project session is planned sequentially and aimed to examine one's community, their perception of culture, current events, and explore one's self within their environment. Every 8 week program will culminate with a final event exhibition, where the participants, their families and the whole community will be invited to come celebrate the finished pieces and enjoy their art, their culture, and the discovery of new skills learned and new passions born.

**This program will match up artists with specific 8 week programs working consistently with the same school or community organization and with the same youth. This program can be facilitated in varying boroughs and neighborhoods, but once you are matched up with a program, the location, day and time will remain the same. If you choose this program, we**

**ask that you commit to the full 8 weeks for purposes of continuity and for the relationships that you build with the young people.**

***AFP Special Events:*** In support of the many artist members within the community, Art For Progress hosts many events, exhibition/performances, benefits and collaborates with other art advocate organizations throughout the year. Executing a successful and professional event takes a lot of work and preparation, and often relies on the deep passion of its staff, artists and volunteers.

**This program will give volunteers an opportunity to get hands on experience in event planning and all the behind the scenes work that goes into hosting an art event or performance. Not only will the show benefit from your hard work and generosity, but you will get the chance to also relax, meet artists, and enjoy the event yourself. These shows go on throughout the year and vary in dates and times, allowing volunteers to have a flexible schedule.**

## ***Your programs sound fantastic! How Do I Apply?***

Thank you for taking the next step in becoming a participant with Art For Progress! We applaud your commitment to supporting emerging artists and empowering our youth with our Arts Education Program.

So begins your application process. There are two easy steps to participating with Art For Progress:

- 1) Paperwork: All volunteers submit an application, two references, and sign an agreement of volunteer service.
- 2) Interview/Orientation: We want to learn more about you! All volunteers will participate in either a one-on-one interview or a group orientation. This process allows us to learn about your interests so we can determine the best placement for you within our programs.

Let's get started!

**INTERVIEW APPLICATION FOR NEW VOLUNTEERS AND PROSPECTIVE ARTIST/TEACHERS**

*ART FOR PROGRESS 133 Mulberry St.,#4W1, New York, NY 10013 tel.(212) 475-4185 email:barry@artforprogress.org*

NAME: (please print) \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: (include street, apt #, city, state & zip)

\_\_\_\_\_

Years at this address: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

Date and place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Male: \_\_\_\_\_ Female: \_\_\_\_\_

How were you referred to Art For Progress?  Our Website  Advertisement  Volunteer  
 Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**EDUCATION**

High School: \_\_\_\_\_ Year of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

College: \_\_\_\_\_ Year of Graduation and Degree: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Education: \_\_\_\_\_

**EMPLOYMENT**

Current Employer:

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor's name and title: \_\_\_\_\_

Years with current employer: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_ To: \_\_\_\_\_

**EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**QUESTIONS**

Do you object to Art For Progress checking with the appropriate authorities for matters of public record regarding your background or history? Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you been charged or indicted for a serious crime? Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_  
If yes, please explain:

Do you have any disabilities that might affect your involvement with volunteering at Art For Progress?

If so, please specify:

Do you speak languages, other than English? If so, please specify:

Do you have any special hobbies, interests, qualities or talents that could be helpful to a child/student?

Why do you want to become a volunteer or artist/teacher?

What do you hope to gain from becoming a volunteer or artist/teacher?

Which program(s) would you prefer working with?

Availability: Days and Times

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun

**SIGNATURE**

The above information is true to the best of my knowledge. I grant permission to verify my employment. I allow my photograph to be taken while at Art For Progress events and program locations. I understand the photographs may be used for promotional purposes.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Interviewed by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments:

**REFERENCES:**

Please list two references whom you have known for at least one year. Please give complete addresses and phone numbers. One of these references must be a supervisor at your place of employment or a teacher/professor from high school or an attending college or university. References will be contacted by phone or mail and remain strictly confidential. Relatives or family members cannot be included.

1) Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

2) Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I grant permission to contact the references provided.

Name (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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For Office Use Only

Reference 1 Contact Date \_\_\_\_\_ Outcome \_\_\_\_\_

Reference 2 Contact Date \_\_\_\_\_ Outcome \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Completed by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Referred to: \_\_\_\_\_

(Program)



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***PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT***

To insure that all participants get the most out of their experience with Art For Progress,

- I \_\_\_\_\_ hereby agree to fulfill and comply with the following statements:
- I understand that my role as a volunteer or artist/teacher is to be a positive role model for children and youth, and to assist with art activities.
- In order to develop positive relationships, I agree to be consistent.
- I agree to contact my program coordinator/teaching artist if I will be absent.
- I agree to be on time for my commitment.
- I agree to respect the youths' opinions and viewpoints.
- I agree to be positive toward the people I work with, and to support and encourage their interests.
- I agree to have fun! (VERY IMPORTANT)

My signature below indicates that I agree to the above Statements.

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Date