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## NEWS RELEASE

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Page 1 of 2

### **Art 4orms Foundation and G.A.P. Van Will Host Community Art Festival To Increase Access To Free Art Education in North Tulsa.**

*Tulsans can shop from the portfolio of 6 Tulsa Based BIPOC artists now on Art 4orms website or at the scheduled upcoming festival.*

Tulsa, OK - Art 4orms Foundation & G.A.P. Van presents North Tulsa Inaugural Art Festival planned for Saturday, August 14, 2021, from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm. It will be held at O'Brien Park.

In the spirit of the revitalization of the Greenwood District, this inaugural event will serve to celebrate the legacy of Black Wall Street's Artists and showcase local Black visual artists in Tulsa.

This free family art event will feature various visual and performing interactive art stations, food trucks, and live performances. In addition, festival attendees will have the opportunity to purchase artwork from 6 emerging Tulsa-based BIPOC artists who work with an array of mediums from painting, photography, and mixed media.

Featured festival visual artists include Serae (Miss Irie Blues), Elizabeth Henley, Ojekunle Fagbenro Amusan, Gabriela Castaneda, Eddy K, Terricia Foster, Cindy Shyers, and Alexandra O'Neal. Cellist and Booker T. Washington student, LeQuincia Brown, will perform live as artist Alexander Tamahn completes a live painting rooted in the 2021 festival theme Young & Free.

All artists selected exemplify excellence and leadership with the passion of giving back to the next generation of artists. Students will have an opportunity to meet the participating artists and take home a free Art 4orms kit full of art supplies! All students will be provided art kits through generous donations from Waterworks Art Center and Tulsa Oklahoma Chapter of The Links, Incorporated.

### **Festival Purpose**

Statistically, lower-income and minority students are most likely to lose their art programs in schools nationwide. Yet research shows that access to arts programming is linked to academic gains in math, reading, critical thinking, and cognitive ability and can increase concentration, motivation, and confidence. Art 4orms Foundation's programmatic structure and initiatives create equitable and eclectic outcomes for Black and Brown North Tulsa public school students through free art education.

### **About Art 4orms Foundation**

Art 4orms Foundation was founded by Tulsa native Ebony Easley after raising a year's worth of art supplies for the Tulsa Girls Art School through her Inaugural A.R.T Benefit concert in 2019. Art 4orms Foundation exists to build and sustain generational access to art education for public school students. The mission is to utilize the arts to dismantle and disrupt historical barriers placed on communities of color.

### **About G.A.P. Van**

The G.A.P. Van is a multi-use, collaborative, mobile art exhibition, workshop space, and poster project that engages Tulsans around the history of the Greenwood District. Tulsa residents are encouraged to participate by uploading their personal stories to the PBS American Portrait. The G.A.P. VAN features ongoing exhibitions of the posters on the exterior of the van and also hosts pop-up art workshops, poetry and music events, films, and other activities. G.A.P. Van is led by Culture Navigator Kode Ransom.

For more information, visit [art4orms.org](http://art4orms.org) or email [art4orms@gmail.com](mailto:art4orms@gmail.com).

**Note:** Due to the recent rise in Covid cases, all festival attendees must adhere to a Covid screening and wear masks while participating in all planned outdoor activities.

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