

SOLIDARITY STUDIOS FUND: GIVE THE KIDS A VOICE



CENTER FOR ARAB
AMERICAN PHILANTHROPY
Give Smart. Give Together.



THE ISSUE: LIMITED ARTISTIC OUTLETS FOR YOUTH IN LOW-INCOME COMMUNITIES

Three disparate locations: Bethlehem, Palestine; Cape Town, South Africa; and South Chicago, IL. Though the youth in each community speak different languages, have different cultures, and come from different backgrounds, they all face one common problem: poverty, oppression and their dehumanizing effects.

Economic and political hardship makes it difficult to obtain the basic necessities, including food and shelter, but it also prevents youth from identifying and building on their talents. Creative outlets can help young people express themselves and foster self-empowerment. Palestine, South Africa, and Chicago each have established community theaters, music traditions, and museums to tell their stories. Building an infrastructure to connect young people with professional artistic training and resources will give them a way to showcase their art and culture to the world and inspire social change across communities.

INNOVATIVE PORTABLE MUSIC PRODUCTION STUDIOS

Solidarity Studios is a nonprofit organization working to foster collaborative social change through music. Its unique program brings production studio equipment to local arts organizations in three cities. These innovative production studios are small enough to fit in a backpack, and contain one laptop, one set of portable studio-monitor speakers, one set of monitor headphones, one microphone, one mini MIDI keyboard, and one drum pad.

Each student at Solidarity Studios' partner organizations get a chance to create their own original, fully mixed music album using this gear. Through digital and in-person interaction, Solidarity Studios will connect the artists to collaborate and support each other on a regular basis. In addition, the Solidarity Studios team facilitates classes on creating original music and will produce a series of short documentaries highlighting the musicians' personal stories and the parallels that exist across the communities. These will be distributed digitally and at film festivals to showcase students' challenges and efforts at making better lives for themselves through youth-led creative endeavors.



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ABOUT SOLIDARITY STUDIOS

Solidarity Studios seeks to empower artists as local leaders and connect them with colleagues globally to effect positive change. By providing a set of completely portable music studios, training the local artists to produce professional content, and encouraging a cross-continent dialogue on the community issues that matter most, Solidarity Studios will enable our local partners in Bethlehem, Palestine; Cape Town, South Africa; and Chicago, Illinois to use music to organize, excite, and connect with their stakeholders and other like minded activists around the world. Bringing this diverse set of artists and organizations into active conversation and collaboration will strengthen the natural bonds between the communities to build solidarity and achieve justice.

ABOUT THE CENTER FOR ARAB AMERICAN PHILANTHROPY (CAAP)

CAAP is a national community foundation. A program of ACCESS, CAAP's objective is to unite and empower the Arab American community by demonstrating the impact of giving together. CAAP improves communities by making grants to nonprofit organizations; serves donors by providing them with smart tools and resources to carry out their philanthropic giving; and builds leaders by educating and inspiring Arab Americans, including youth, to realize their potential for change. Most of all, CAAP shapes perceptions about Arab Americans by highlighting their generous heritage and exceptional contributions to society.

GIVE NOW TO ELECTRIFY AND INSPIRE YOUNG MUSICIANS

Donate online at www.centeraap.org, or make your check out to CAAP with "Solidarity Studios Fund" on the memo line and mail to: CAAP, 2651 Saulino Court, Dearborn, MI 48120.

CAAP is a program of ACCESS, a 501(c)(3) organization, and your contribution is fully tax-deductible.

For more information, please email caap@accesscommunity.org or call 313-842-5130.