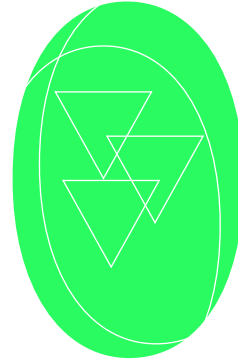


ART & RESISTANCE THROUGH EDUCATION

ANNUAL REPORT



Contents

- 3 Our Mission
- 4 Our History
- 5 Letter from the Executive Director
- 8 Programming
- 8 Collaborating Workshop/Event Partners
- 9 ARTE Workshops and Long-Term Programming
- 14 ARTE in the Community
- 20 2020 Highlights and Publications
- 20 2020 Statistics
- 21 2020 Impact at a Glance
- 22 Words From Our Partners
- 25 Partners, Sponsors, and Supporters
- 26 Board Members, Staff, and Volunteers
- 28 Get Involved!

Our Mission

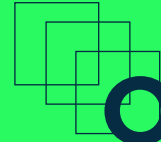
Art and Resistance Through Education (ARTE) engages young people to amplify their voices and organize for human rights change through innovative human rights and visual arts programming which takes place in schools, community-based organizations, and jails:

First, ARTE educates youth on human rights and equips them with the knowledge to identify the root causes of systemic inequity.

Second, ARTE provides participants with a space to use the visual arts to discover and express their own experiences around human rights.

Finally, ARTE helps youth develop organizing skills that enable them to mobilize others and steer society towards justice.



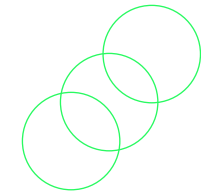


Our History

Since creating our first mural in the Bronx in 2011, ARTE has worked extensively with communities throughout New York City, providing quality, interactive arts-based activities that educate young people about human rights. After realizing that there was a great disconnect between human rights theory and practice in day-to-day life, ARTE developed as a collaboration between young people, community organizations, and local artists to support communities in realizing and advocating for their inherent human rights.

In this collaboration, ARTE has found that participants become more knowledgeable, interested, and passionate about human rights through the creation of public art, particularly public murals. Public murals are a valuable component in the ARTE curriculum as they empower both students and their local communities to engage in questions surrounding human rights advocacy and art as a tool for social change.

ARTE's first mural focused on the issue of human trafficking. Since then, community members have learned about human rights violations both within the United States and internationally, including harsh sentencing, poor prison conditions, child slavery, and police brutality. Ultimately, ARTE strives to offer a platform through which students can freely and safely express themselves and their opinions, all the while providing an arts education that their schools and communities often aren't able to offer.



Letter From the Executive Director

Greetings ARTE Community Members:

Art educator and philosopher Maxine Greene once said, "Imagination is the capacity to think of things as if they could be otherwise." This quote resonated very deeply with ARTE, and I think much of the rest of the world, throughout 2020. From start to finish, this past year—including the pandemic and everything else in between—forced us to use our imaginations in ways we might have never dreamed. It pushed us beyond what we thought possible in terms of resilience, loss, and healing. It reminded us of what it truly means to be human, activated by the power of creation and imagination, and relying on the arts not as a luxury but as a requirement for existing. Lastly, and perhaps most importantly, it reminded us that we can use the arts as an opportunity to imagine the world, not as it is, but as it could be: a place where human rights are upheld and respected at every level of our society.

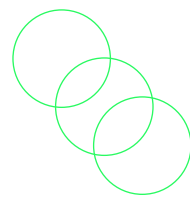
While the pandemic changed the very existence of communities across the globe, the United States experienced a summer of racial uprising and the continued struggle for the liberation of Black Lives in the aftermath of the murder of George Floyd. While ARTE has and will continue to remain committed to the movement for Black Lives and the struggle for racial justice, the racial uprising was ever a reminder that the fight for liberation is an ongoing, a daily practice and forever intertwined with all other social justice movements. The uprising for racial justice was also a reminder of our promise to our young people and the communities we work with that we can and will do better.

2020 also offered us an opportunity to expand our reach as a grassroots organization. While continuing our work as a local non-profit organization based in New York City, we also used the digital realm to educate and inspire community members across the country. These are a few ARTE highlights from this past year:

In an effort to create a more just organizational structure while acknowledging that the system of unpaid internships perpetuates inequity and creates barriers for participation in social justice work, ARTE launched our inaugural paid internship program with the support of our community and hosted three ARTE interns.

During the pandemic, ARTE quickly pivoted to the digital realm, offering a series of virtual workshops focusing on human rights art and activism (artivism). We collaborated with several partners, both within and outside of New York City, including Girls Rock! DC, UNICEF Houston, the Community Healthcare Network, and the Justice Arts Coalition, among many others.

In collaboration with the Justice-in-Education Initiative at Columbia University, we remained committed to supporting incarcerated students. After the pandemic began, we could no longer physically lead workshops in jail, so we found a creative alternative and began developing activities and educational resources on social justice issues to distribute to students. While our priority is to continue to fight for the liberation of our incarcerated community members, our intention with this initiative was to remind young people on the inside that they are not forgotten.

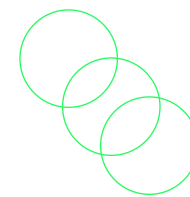


We want to acknowledge that ARTE could not have done this work without the support of our community. Whether we asked for support to start our new internship program or invited people to attend our digital workshop series, the community was there for us. Thank you to all those who have supported us and continue to support us in our work to make the world a more creative, vibrant, and equitable place.

Lastly, although the work continues, 2020 was not easy for any of us. We have lost so much, and many of us continue to grieve. All of us across the globe are forever changed in unprecedented ways, from how we view our relationship to labor to the way we collaborate and communicate with one another. We are all in the process of reflecting, healing, and finding joy in this new world, ARTE believes that art will be with us every step of the way. Art is the human right that our young people will continue to exercise as they actively address injustice in their communities. Art remains with us, ever a reminder that to create is part of the very fabric of our humanity.

In loving resistance and gratitude,

Marissa Gutierrez-Vicario, MPA, MEd
ARTE Founder and Executive Director



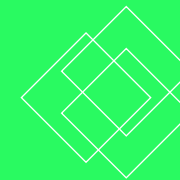
Programming



Collaborating Workshop/Event Partners:

- Brooklyn Public Library (Brooklyn, NY)
- Community Healthcare Network / Teens PACT (Manhattan, NY)
- Dances for Solidarity (National)
- Design Studio for Social Intervention (Boston, MA)
- Girls Rock! DC (Washington, D.C.)
- Institute for the Study of Human Rights at Columbia University (Manhattan, NY)
- Justice-in-Education Initiative, Center for Justice at Columbia University (Manhattan, NY)
- NYC Mayor's Community Affairs Unit (Brooklyn, NY)
- Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights (Washington, D.C.)
- Seeds of Peace (Manhattan, NY)
- Take Action, Inc. (National)
- Teachers College, Columbia University (Manhattan, NY)
- The Confined Arts (Manhattan, NY)
- The Digital Abolitionist (Manhattan, NY)
- The Justice Arts Coalition (National)
- The Metropolitan Museum of Art (Manhattan, NY)
- UNICEF Houston (Houston, TX)
- Unitarian Universalist College of Social Justice (Cambridge, MA)
- U.S. Human Rights Network (National)
- 92Y (Manhattan, NY)

Programming



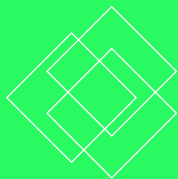
ARTE Workshops and Long-Term Programming

Incarcerated Community Arts Programming with Columbia University's Center for Justice (recurring throughout 2020)

For the last several years through the beginning of 2020, ARTE partnered with Columbia University's Justice-in-Education Initiative (JIE) to engage incarcerated adolescent men and women in visual arts programming. The program focused on women's rights, gender equality, and toxic masculinity. With the COVID-19 pandemic necessitating the shutdown of in-person events and programs, ARTE transitioned to a remote version of the partnership.

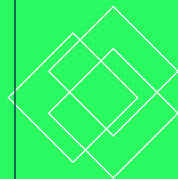
For the last year, ARTE and JIE have worked together to create educational worksheets on artist activists. These worksheets, each of which focuses on an artist who creates work through a social justice or human rights lens, are sent to jail facilities on a weekly basis. They include artist biographies and interviews, an art gallery, and art and writing activities.

In April, ARTE and JIE spearheaded a pilot art kit initiative. These collaborative art kits included six worksheets, colored pencils, and drawing paper, and 50 were sent to individuals incarcerated at the Otis Bantum Correctional Center.



Urban Assembly School of Music and Art (UAMA) in Brooklyn
(started September 2019, recurring throughout 2020)

This past year, in a recurring partnership with Urban Assembly (UAMA), ARTE engaged high school students in a human rights programming using an arts-based curriculum to foster learning, civic engagement, and self-expression. The program provides participants with an opportunity to learn about various human rights issues—including racial discrimination, the right to housing and transportation, and climate justice—basic art techniques, and create meaningful pieces of art to advocate for positive social change. After pivoting to a digital platform for the fall and spring semesters, student artists have been able to harness their talents to further express themselves creatively, build collective leadership, and learn how to engage other members of the UAMA around the issues that are most important to them.



Digital Workshops (March 2020 - onwards)

Like so many other arts organizations, ARTE quickly developed a series of digital workshops to ensure that young people and their communities still had access to arts-based programming during the COVID-19 pandemic. One of our first workshops during the pandemic was our Digital Disruption Series, which focused on using creative thinking to build and sustain community. During these multigenerational workshops, youth and their family members were encouraged to explore social justice and human rights issues through the creation of zines, drawings, or greeting cards using materials found around their houses.

As the year progressed, ARTE continued its digital workshops, collaborating with several community activists and other non-profit organizations to raise awareness of several issues, including responsible digital content creation, prison abolition, and human rights abuses in the mass incarceration system. One highlight of this work was our June 2020 workshop, World Without Incarceration: Mass Incarceration & Visual Arts. With the support of our community, we were able to raise \$1,520 for COVID Bailout NYC to help post bail for medically vulnerable people held in New York City jails during the pandemic. Through these workshops, ARTE intended to continue educating and inspiring community members to use art as a tool for social change, even during the most challenging months of the pandemic.



Taking S.P.A.C.E. (recurring throughout 2020)

Taking S.P.A.C.E. (Stellar Public Artists Creating Equity) was a new, interactive workshop series created and facilitated by Social Media Manager Deimoini Brewington. Each week on Instagram Live, Taking S.P.A.C.E. identified artists who use their craft to promote social change, uncovered artistic trends that celebrate the impact made at the intersection of art and human rights, expanded awareness of the need for human rights advocacy, and explored how personal artistry can be a tool for activism. Over the course of several months, Deimoini gave presentations on artists Justyne Fischer, Tatyana Fazlalizadeh, Titus Kaphar, Favianna Rodriguez, Jacob Lawrence, and Brandon “B-mike” Odums.

On December 10, International Human Rights Day, Taking S.P.A.C.E. hosted a special Zoom webinar to honor the holiday. During this session, Deimoni taught attendees about the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, led them through human rights-oriented activities, and gave a presentation on Alabama-born, self-taught artist Bill Traylor. This program ended with a call to action and several resources to guide attendees towards taking concrete steps to make change.

The final session of Taking S.P.A.C.E. focused on several artists making work in support of the Black Lives Matter Movement, including Laci Jordan, Teddy Phillips, Liliana Rivera, and Naimah Thomas, and highlighted the importance of art as a tool for change.

Internship Program (September-December, 2020)

In the Fall, ARTE launched a virtual, 16-week, paid internship program. The program gave interns unique insight into how a non-profit organization is built and run, provided them with the opportunity to work virtually with local human rights organizations, artists, and youth-based community centers, and presented them with hands-on experience working with young people in the field of human rights education, arts education, and community organizing.

Interns supported ARTE in many capacities, including social media and communications, graphic design, development and fundraising, and curriculum and facilitation.

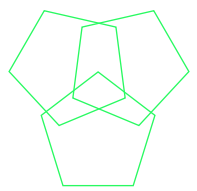
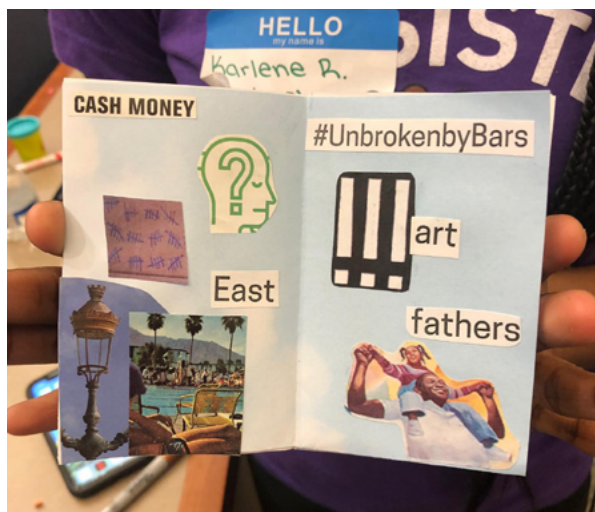


ARTE in the Community

Selected Conferences / Panels / Events 2020:

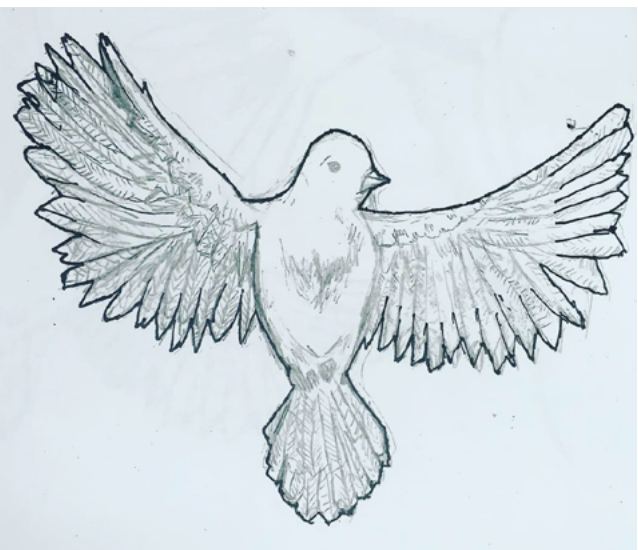
January-February

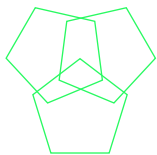
- Create>>>Activate: A Human Rights Art-Making Workshop—Williamsburg Library (Brooklyn, NY)
- Brooklyn Youth Arts Expo—Brooklyn Public Library, Central Branch (Brooklyn, NY)
- 2020 Visions of Justice Award Fundraiser—STITCH Bar & Lounge (Manhattan, NY)
- Incarcerated Arts Programming Winter Semester Workshop Series (Elmhurst, NY)



March-April

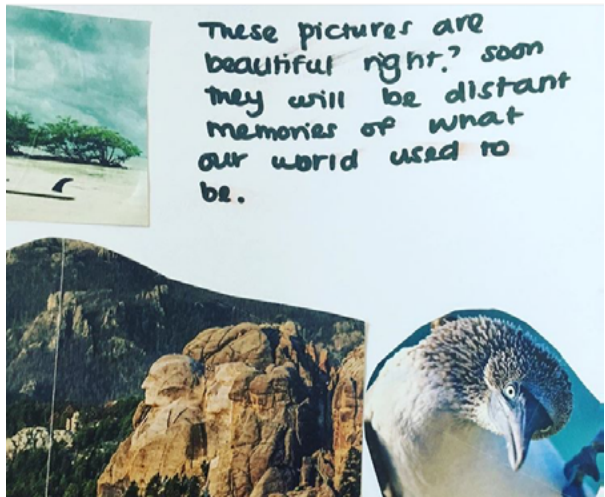
- Global Woman Heroes Zine-Making Party—Brooklyn Museum (Brooklyn, NY)
- Incarcerated Arts Programming Spring Semester Workshop Series (Elmhurst, NY)
- Digital Disruption: Creativity to Build & Sustain Community—(Virtual)
- Unitarian Universalist Association Office at the United Nations Intergenerational Spring Seminar (Virtual)





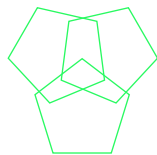
May

- Gratitude as Resistance: A Digital Card-Making Workshop—Collaboration with Girls Rock! DC (Virtual)
- The Artist Project: Zine-Making Workshop—Collaboration with Teens PACT Community Healthcare Network (Virtual)
- Create + Connect: Visual Arts & Creative Resistance with ARTE—Collaboration with Justice Arts Coalition (Virtual Workshop)
- Teen Take the Met—Collaboration with The Metropolitan Museum of Art (Virtual Event)



June

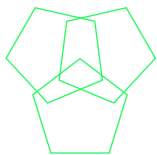
- Panel—Collaboration with United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (Virtual)
- Guest Class at the Graduate School of Education at Touro University (Virtual)
- World Without Incarceration: Mass Incarceration & Visual Arts (Virtual Workshop)
- ARTE's First Virtual Book Club! (Virtual)
- Universal Declaration of Human Rights 75th Anniversary Panel (Virtual)



July

- Learn How to Use Art to Advocate and Take Action Against Mass Incarceration and Criminal Injustice—Collaboration with Take Action, Inc. (Virtual Workshop)
- Youth Summer Series: Youth Organizing—Collaboration with Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights (Virtual)
- The Intersection of the Arts, Human Rights, and Social Change Webinar—Collaboration with the Institute for the Study of Human Rights at Columbia University (Virtual)
- Educating in a Diverse Democracy: Challenges and Possibilities—Collaboration with Seeds of Peace (Virtual Workshop)



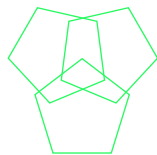


August

- Social Justice and Human Rights Mural Tour— Collaboration with the College of Social Justice (Virtual)
- Mobilize NYC March— Downtown Brooklyn to City Hall (Brooklyn, NY)

September

- Rotary Club Presentation for District 5050 (Virtual)
- Presentation Series at Big Walnut High School in Sunbury, Ohio (Virtual)
- International Day of Peace—Collaboration with UNICEF Houston (Virtual Workshop)
- Creation for Liberation: Creating Responsible Digital Content for Advocacy—Sponsored by The Confined Arts, Dances for Solidarity, The Digital Abolitionist, The Justice Arts Coalition (Virtual Workshop Series)
- Basquiat Workshop—Collaboration with Community Healthcare Network, NYC (Virtual)



October

- Taking S.P.A.C.E: Stellar Public Artists Creating Equity (Virtual Workshop Series)
- Creative Social Justice Hour (Virtual Workshop)
- Guest Class—Collaboration with Columbia University Teachers College (Virtual)
- United Nations Alliance of Civilizations Workshop (Virtual)
- Rotaract Club Presentation for Local 400 (Virtual)

November

- Reimagining Human Rights with ARTE—Collaboration with Design Studio for Social Intervention (Virtual Workshop)
- Build Peace Workshop, #WorldWithoutIncarceration—Using the visual arts to reimagine an abolitionist urban space (Virtual)

December

- Celebrate Human Rights Day with Taking S.P.A.C.E. (Virtual Workshop)





2020 Highlights and Publications

2020 Statistics

ARTE Fast Facts:

- Since 2015, ARTE has awarded **5 scholarships** to exceptional ARTE artists and activists who completed an ARTE community program to further their educational pursuits.
- From 2014 through 2020, ARTE has engaged **8,210 community members** in our pedagogy, including youth, teachers, artists, and activists.
- In the course of its existence, ARTE has led workshops in **4 out of 5 New York City boroughs and throughout New York State, across 8 additional states, and in 5 different countries.**



2020 Impact at a Glance

ARTE is building the foundation for a long-lasting, youth-led movement to advance human rights and cultivate the next generation of social justice leaders.

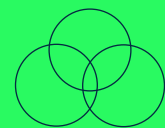
2,300 Total number of community members worked with and served virtually (youth and adults) through workshops, presentations, and panels

35 Total number of unique ARTE community partnerships (includes schools, jails, community organizations, universities, etc.)

12 Total number of regular ARTE team members (interns, fellows, volunteers) who supported ARTE in 2020

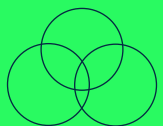
Names of Major Grants Received: RESIST (for ARTE’s Mobilize NYC collaboration), Brooklyn Arts Council, NYC Department of Cultural Affairs, Race Forward, Spark NYC / Global Fund for Women, and the Citizens Committee for New York City.

Words from Our Partners



I have worked with ARTE for five wonderful years, and the two key words I use to describe the programming are skill and substance. The facilitators have an immense amount of skill which makes it all seem so easy. The thorough and thoughtful lesson plans are executed with the balance and flexibility of a surfer on a big wave — adapting to diverse students’ moods and needs, while maintaining focus, direction and speed. The substance of the workshops is impressive as well. Never too shy to tackle a controversial subject, the facilitators lead the students to reflect on their thoughts, assumptions, behaviors, even as they critically analyze and unknot the societal systems that define, restrict, and bind us all.

Mia Ruyter (she/her)
Education and Outreach Manager
Society of Fellows and Heyman Center for the Humanities
Justice-in-Education Initiative, Columbia University

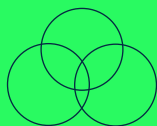


ARTE's equally intentional and insightful workshop(s) opened discussions amongst both students and staff centered on racial justice, Black America, activism, and the future. While these conversations dissected Black art and themes of oppression, what the young people I work with and I were left with was a feeling of immense hope. ARTE allows my students the space to understand and nurture their artistry, creativity and multidisciplinary activism; it allows them to imagine a more just future. These workshops not only left us with some indelible truths but also the desire to begin incorporating art into every sphere of our activism here at Teens PACT. I know the work ARTE is doing is not only inspiring young people in my life but also shaping our future for the better.

Currie Blackwell (he/him)
Sexual Health Educator
Teens PACT

Girls Rock! DC partnered with ARTE on a series of virtual workshops for young folks in Spring 2020. These workshops allowed us to hold a creative space for young folks to process their experiences during the pandemic, tap into their dreams for justice and equity, and express themselves through zines and cards in a really beautiful way. We're always excited to collaborate with ARTE because they merge art, education, and justice just like us.

Noel Schroeder (they/them)
Education and Outreach Manager
Co-Executive Director
Girls Rock! DC



Partnering with ARTE to educate our local community, as well as people all over the country, about the International Day of Peace, youth activism, and the missions of our two organizations in a virtual setting was such a rewarding experience for everyone that attended. Creating community, dialogue, and art in a single session despite the many challenges and obstacles of 2020 was no easy feat and could not have been done without the passion and creativity that ARTE brings to every event.

Kimberly Jimenez (she/her)
Community Engagement Intern
UNICEF USA

We are so lucky to be partnering with ARTE another year. ARTE is a versatile organization that has been able to create engaging lesson plans about social justice artists and create space for students to learn, create and empower. Students were able to learn about how to get involved in their community while using their artistic voice. ARTE stepped in and supported a class that needed revamp and was able to keep students engaged during a difficult year. They continue to find creative ways to teach students about their own power, while amplifying a positive message to all of the world.

Marlena Carreras (she/her) & **Samantha Melo** (she/her)
Co-Community School Directors
Center for Supportive Schools,
Waters Edge Campus

Partners, Sponsors, and Supporters

Institutional Partnerships:

Human Impacts Institute
Human Rights Educators - USA
JUSTice Cream
Justice-in-Education Initiative at Columbia University
ThoughtMatter
Uncommon Collegiate Charter High School
Urban Assembly School of Music and Art
U.S. Human Rights Network

Additional Individual Support:

Allison Iurato
Ashley Tomeck Yazbec
Dr. Chandni Pawar
Dr. Constance Kane
DS1C
Eugene Terry
Dr. Felisa Tibbitts
Jason Chuon
Dr. John Murray
Kieran Clifford
Kristina Filler
Lauren Renaud
Lucia Santini Field
Mia Ruyter
Dr. Pamela D’Andrea Martinez
Rebecca Norlander



Board Members, Staff, and Volunteers

2020 Board of Directors:

Aissatou Barry // The Legal Aid Society of New York
Ana Seastone Stern // Non-Profit Management
Carmela Muzio Dormani // CUNY Graduate Center / Huracán Dance Company
Cristian Medina // Product Manager, Macy’s Inc.
Katherine Potaski // Shining Hope for Communities
Myra Hellerstein // Non-Profit Management

2020 Board of Advisors:

Alex Gavryushenko
H.I.H Princess Ariana Austin Makonnen
Dr. Constance F. Kane
John Gershman
Matthew Hanson
Michael Hirschhorn
Nelli Agbulos
Sabine Blaizin
Hon. Dr. Sadaf Jaffer
Tarisse Iriarté
Valentina Canavesio

2020 Volunteers and Interns:

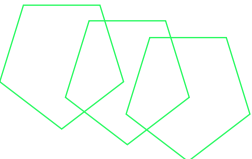
Aida Ali
Anamica Rahman
Bonnie Chen
Cecilia Innis
Colette Bernheim
Desdemona Yin
Jasper Conacher
Katie Hopper
Laura Cerón Melo
Mimi Walker
Noa Levy Baron
Paige Adamczak

ARTE Team

Executive Director: Marissa Gutierrez-Vicario
Program Coordinators: Jordan French, Lamar Legba
Interns: Flavia Hinojosa, Amanda Ng
Program Coordinator (incoming): Cameron Lee
Social Media Manager (incoming): Deimoni Brewington

2019-2020 ARTE Ambassadors

Benjamin Locke
Claudia Espinel
Grace Webster
Jennifer Meyer
Kristi Rudelius-Palmer
Salla Nazarenko
Sean Capaloff-Jones
Tayo Akanni
William Pierros




Identify a Wall for Future Murals



Know of a wall that would make a great mural? We always need help finding space for our next community art piece! If you've got a great spot in mind, take a picture and/or send the wall's location to info@artejustice.org.

[Click here to submit a wall](#)

Be Our Friend

 artejustice.org

  @artejustice

  @Art and Resistance
Through Education (ARTE)

To get involved in the ARTE movement in any other way, please e-mail marissa@artejustice.org.

Donate

\$25



25 pocket-sized Universal Declaration of Human Rights booklets for students.

\$50



Paper and markers for a human rights classroom activity.

\$75



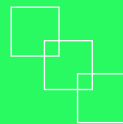
Snacks to fuel youth as they work on an art project to beautify their local community.

\$100



Two art packets with art supplies and human rights resources mailed to two youth activists.

Get



Involved