



2021 Projects Summary

Arts Street at the Youth Employment Academy was thrilled to finally host youth in person in 2021 after 14 months of working virtually with young artists during the pandemic.

From January through May, Arts Street provided virtual programming for youth attending Colorado High School Charter in order for them to earn their elective credits and also enjoyed watching CHSC's seniors graduate in person! In addition, Arts Street also provided virtual internships for youth through DPS's Career Connect program and then kicked off the summer with multiple in-person programs. The fall brought more classes with Colorado High School Charter as well as amazing client projects with our interns. In addition to working towards outcomes of staying in school, graduating, building job skills and obtaining employment, Arts Street developed new programming around social and emotional wellbeing that was included in all of the arts curriculum so that youth have the tools they need for their own mental wellness. We also continued with our ecommerce site, teaching youth about entrepreneurship, social enterprises and creative industry career paths.

Creating opportunities, building equity in our communities and using the arts to empower youth were all highlights of 2021!

Epic Arts- Spring 2021

At the beginning of 2021, Arts Street partnered with RedLine Art Center to implement their EPIC Arts program with Arts Street youth artists. The EPIC Arts program pairs a professional artist with a school and/or arts program to work with students in creating social engaging art that will empower the young artists in creating positive change in their communities. Arts Street youth focused on issues that were important to them and/or impacted them personally, coming up with creative solutions to those problems that they then contextualize visually.

Below: Photo of youth intern Carlos with his animation exploring the issue of immigration in the US.



Above: After meeting with professional artist Juan Fuentes, youth worked with photo tips & tricks for capturing self-portraits.

Arts Street was fortunate to be paired with award winning, Denver photographer, Juan Fuentes who met with youth virtually to inspire and critique their photos. Youth in this program included students from our partner school, Colorado High School Charter (CHSC), as well as interns from Denver Public Schools Career Connect program. Each team completed a different project. CHSC students created large, printed photo collages that were wheat pasted on boards and mounted on the walls of RedLine. The DPS team added animation to their photos which were not only displayed at RedLine Art Center but were also projected onto the D&F clock tower on Denver's 16th street mall. They also worked with Youth on Record podcast experts to learn about voiceovers and create audible artist statements to accompany their animations. The exhibition at RedLine ran from May to June and the D&F clock tower showed for a whole weekend



*Above: Youth artist Eric's projection on the clocktower.
Below: Youth show off their voice over skills during zoom meeting with Youth on Record.*

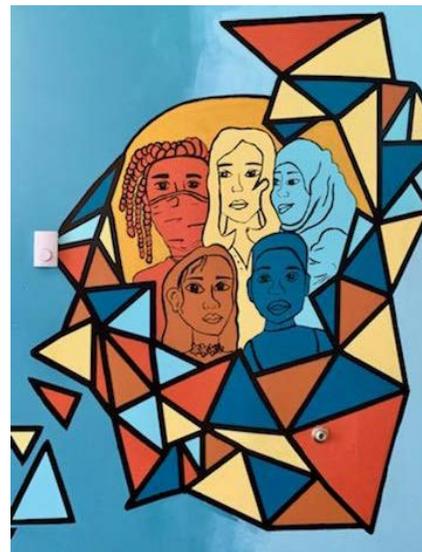
Below: Juan Fuentes and youth artist finalize the wheat paste installation for RedLine Art Center.



Colorado High School Charter Mural

Summer 2021

Our team of Colorado High School Charter students were tasked with creating a new mural at their school's entrance in order to make for a more welcoming experience for students. Our team met with their Principal, measured the area and created original, digital designs based on school specifications. Youth presented concepts to their Principal and then adjusted their work for the final approved design. These young artists were then guided on painting techniques and completed this new artwork welcoming CHSC students back in August. Youth learned real world job skills by working with a client, meeting specifications and deadlines and working as a team while earning stipends for all of their hard work.



Decatur Fresh Mural

Summer 2021

Arts Street worked with a team of youth living in Denver Housing Authority's Sun Valley public housing creating a large-scale mural for their community. Youth were given the directive to come up with a design that celebrated healthy food and community. One youth's design was chosen and then others on the team added elements to it. This 96' mural was then painted next to YEA's newest social enterprise, Decatur Fresh marketplace, in Sun Valley. Youth named their mural, "Community Fresh" and hope that it inspires healthy eating and brings pride to their neighborhood.



Completed mural at 10th and Decatur.

History Colorado Posters

Summer 2021

Twenty-four youth from Denver Public School's Career Connect and a team from Denver Housing Authority's Sun Valley development worked together on multiple projects over 6 weeks this summer. Youth met with clients, followed specifications and deadlines while receiving feedback and giving final presentations. Youth earned stipends based on their participation and production and learned what it is like to work with real clients in the creative industries.

One of their projects was working for client **History Colorado Center** and creating top secret **posters for their Mystery Quest** that kicked off in September. Youth imagined themselves as bands from the 1980s, created backstories and designed photoshoots with costumes. Their posters were created analog style much as bands would have been doing in the 80's. History Colorado staff chose the top 4 images that were then printed and used in their Mystery Quest.



Youth artist posters. Top to bottom: Mea U., age 17; Jada K., age 16; Justine T., age 14.



Above: History Colorado's Chris Getzan with poster design winners.

DHA Fence Wrap Designs



Summer 2021

Our summer youth art team worked with **Denver Housing Authority (DHA)** to create **digital designs for fence wraps** to go around construction sites in the Sun Valley development. Youth first met with their client, DHA, to receive specifications and deadlines. Youth then learned Adobe Illustrator to create their designs around the themes of healthy food, community, and unity. Youth presented their final designs to the client with 4 designs chosen by DHA that will be printed on vinyl and used at Sun Valley sites.

*Fence wrap designs by youth artists.
Top to bottom on page: Ai H., age 16;
Sabrina F., age 15; Alexandria W.,
age 17; Andi E., age 17.*



Public Housing Building Signage



Summer 2021

Our Sun Valley art team worked with client Denver Housing Authority in designing unit signage for *Thrive* - DHA's new family public housing building. Youth worked with architects from Shopworks Architecture to develop designs around the theme of native Colorado animals and following exact specifications for size and deadlines. Guided by Arts Street staff, youth researched animals and then created their images by utilizing a paper cut-out technique. These works were then presented to the architects and DHA and our clients were incredibly impressed with the results. These images will be digitized and then fabricated for the final signage for 135 units. Because all of our artists are from the Sun Valley public



housing development, they may even end up calling one of these beautiful new apartments their home!



Sun Valley youth artists proudly show off their final designs with Kyle Mead of Shopworks Architecture.

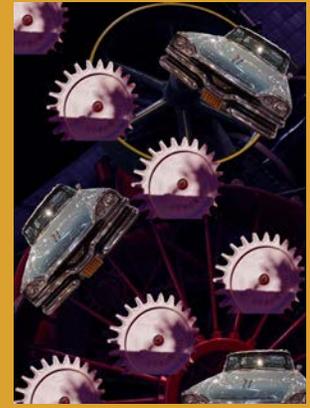
Greenhaus Unit Signage Project

Fall 2021-Spring 2022

Arts Street interns worked with client, Denver Housing Authority and architecture firm, Santulan Architecture, to design images to be used for unit numbers at DHA's new family residential building, GreenHaus, in DHA's Sun Valley development. Hoping to promote public transit while also reflecting Denver's history, the youth team went back in time to create unique digital collage pieces celebrating transportation. They took their own photos at the Forney Museum of Transportation and combined their images with digital pops of color to create unique and eye-catching pieces for the building.



Interns use photography and digital design to create signs inspired by transportation from the past.



Zayo Group Logo Project

Fall 2021- Spring 2022

Arts Street worked on an exciting logo design project for client, Zayo Group this fall. Youth were given themes and specifications to create logos for groups within the Zayo Group. Youth worked by hand sketching their logos and then designing them digitally in Adobe Illustrator. Finally, they presented their logos at Zayo Group's headquarters in downtown Denver. Youth received a tour of the facilities and were told about the various career paths at Zayo Group. Zayo Group chose 5 final logo images that will then be used to create badges for team members. This project was especially meaningful because the Zayo team member who reached out to us is a YEA graduate and former Arts Street participant. Jose Catarino participated in YEA starting in 2013 as a young high school student. Jose is an immigrant from Mexico and has DACA status. Jose credits YEA with guiding him in acquiring scholarship and helping him through his college career at Metro State. Jose graduated with a degree in computer engineering and is now an engineer at Zayo Group and even has a patent pending for a specific computer system that he invented for his work at Zayo. Jose is an inspiration to our current interns and shows that YEA programming builds real world skills.



Zayo Group requested multiple designs for logos for their specific projects and teams which they presented to the Zayo team including their CEO.



Colorado High School Charter Projects



Fall 2021

Arts Street@YEA completed Quarter 1 in October with our partner school, Colorado High School Charter, at their Osage and GES campuses. Arts Street provides high quality, standards based, art education to students attending these credit recovery schools so that they might earn elective credits in order to graduate. This quarter students were led by professional artists/instructors, Sakiynah Wise and Juan Fuentes. Sakiynah provided classes in painting as well as printmaking techniques with youth completing amazing self-portraits and meaningful print designs. Juan provided his photography expertise to classes with youth creating their own printed “zines” as well as wheat pasting photos for a large scale art piece displayed at the school. Thank you to our amazing instructors for all they do to give these students unique creative training opportunities.



Top: Students working on wheat paste photography with teacher Juan Fuentes. Top right: Students working on their self portraits with teacher Sakiynah Wise. Right: Using their print blocks, student ink and print their final plates.