




Providing the Palette to Paint a Child's Dream.

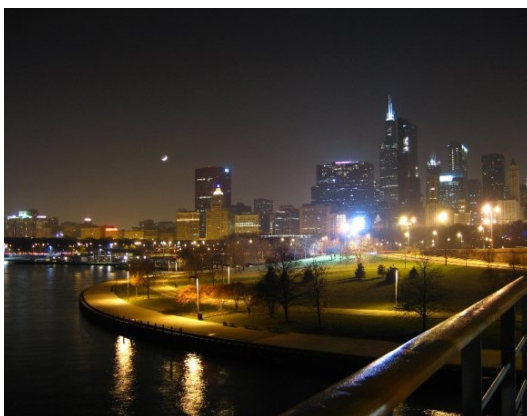
## Cool as Ice: The AMAZING Students of ICRE-R


The power of art and the importance self-expression are on exhibit at the Illinois Center for Rehabilitation and Education-Roosevelt (ICRE-R.) ICRE-R is a state-run residential facility for children and young adults up to age 21 with severe physical disabilities and other health impairments. The mission of ICRE-R is to prepare young people with severe physical disabilities for a successful adult life through a comprehensive program of education and training. A 24-hour, 7-day a week residential education program, ICRE-R provides a continuum of educational and related services to students with physical disabilities at no cost to the students' families. The program is designed to give students the ability to learn and experience life-long skills, to create a vision of a desirable future, and to be actively involved in planning and experiencing action steps required for attainment of their transition goals and objectives.



Artists for Harmony has had the extreme pleasure of running a part-time art program at ICRE-R since early summer 2009. The mural "Summer in Chicago" was born after weeks of painting and other fun activities held in the ICRE-R gymnasium. The mural will be on display at ICRE-R for the foreseeable future and acts as a reminder that the students can do anything they put their minds to. It has ignited an enthusiastic approach for each student to realize their potential in achieving their goals (see student profile on Jerwayne Ballentine). Currently, AFH is running their art program while also looking to generate funding to update their art room and provide more extensive options for art supplies. ABC local channel 7 recently ran a story about AFH and ICRE-R. To watch the piece and for more information, visit [www.artistsforharmony.org](http://www.artistsforharmony.org). 

## Local Artists, H2Vino and Yacht Club Combine to Raise Funds for CPS



This past winter, the historic Columbia Yacht Club was gracious enough to open its doors for The Second Annual Artists for Harmony Wine Tasting and Art Gala. Over 100 supporters were treated to an elegant evening of fine art, wine, and hors d'oeuvres. An exquisite wine tasting station donated by H2Vino was complimented with several appetizer stations, including a live cooking station featuring chef Breanna Beike. Southwest Airlines was generous enough to donate a pair of round trip airline tickets for the successful raffle held. Another highlight was the silent auction, which included airline tickets donated by Air Tran, performance tickets from the Blue Man Group, and gift cards from numerous donors, including Smith & Wollensky, Lou Malnati's and Suite Lounge. The event was a huge success, raising over \$5000 for the Children First Fund, the charity of the Chicago Public School system. The funds will be dedicated to art and music programs for a high needs school to be selected. Now, more than ever, CPS is in need of funding for these programs, as budget cuts have forced schools to cut their programs. For more information on CPS and the Children First Fund, visit [www.artistsforharmony.org](http://www.artistsforharmony.org). 






# ABOUT ARTISTS FOR HARMONY



## MISSION

Created in 2003 by President Michael Trulis, Artists for Harmony is a 501(c)3 not for profit charitable organization dedicated to the realization of the academic and social potential of the youth in our schools. Through community events, after school workshops, and educational initiatives, AFH provides children the imperative skills needed to approach academics with a creative perspective.


For more info on donating see the membership form in this newsletter, and for info on volunteering, donations in kind, or anything else, email [info@artistsforharmony.org](mailto:info@artistsforharmony.org). 



## THE ARTISTIC APPROACH TO LEARNING

AFH, inc is a non-profit educational program which focuses on the fine arts to supply struggling students more tools needed to achieve in school. We teach creative thinking strategies that students can use to succeed academically.

AFH, inc focuses on eight tools to enhance a child's learning experience:

1. Starts with a positive environment where the children feel safe and ready to learn/unwind.
2. Gives children something tangible to be proud of.
3. Gets parents involved by providing an opportunity for Family Art Days where families work together on art projects with refreshments and entertainment provided as incentive.
4. Teaches creative thinking and problem solving skills through art theory.
5. Encourages positive communication skills through constructive criticism of other children's art during the program.
6. Encourages decision making skills through choices on which project to work on during the session.
7. Cross curricular. Gives children the opportunity to work on other academic assignments while emphasizing the use of all the strategies listed above.
8. Provides children with a future goal. 

## DIRECTORS

Michael Trulis, President  
 Aristidis Halikias, Vice President  
 Thomas Trulis, Treasurer  
 Jason Thorn, Secretary  
 Sean O'looney, Director  
 Ryan Stoneberg, Director  
 Evan Meyer, Director



## CONTACT

**Artists For Harmony, Inc.**  
**1080 Pontiac Drive**  
**Batavia, IL 60510**  
**[www.artistsforharmony.org](http://www.artistsforharmony.org)**



## ICRE-R Student & AFH President Combine Forces to Produce Poetry Journal

Jerwayne Edward Ballentine III is one of the many extraordinary residents at the Illinois Center for Rehabilitation and Education-Roosevelt (ICRE-R). At the age of eight, he was diagnosed with muscular dystrophy. What truly defines Jerwayne, however, is his passion for writing poetry and song lyrics.


Beginning in the fall of 2006, Jerwayne began writing what has turned into dozens of poems, songs and general musings on his life experiences, the results of the affliction he deals with on a day-to-day basis, and his overall societal commentary. In the spring of 2009, several of these poems were compiled and illustrated by Artists for Harmony president Michael Trulis, and the book "Words of Wisdom" was born. AFH hosted a book signing/release party at ICRE-R where many of Jerwayne's friends, family and fellow students were in attendance. Dylan Lloyed and Dani Wilkin each performed solo musical sets, and Jerwayne signed copies for everyone that purchased a book. It was a truly touching experience to witness Jerwayne's relatives, young and old, in house and able to celebrate what this young man had accomplished. The following is an excerpt from "More than Words," one of the selections from *Words of Wisdom*:




***When I write it's as if I let my soul bleed***

***When I write I let my heart speak***

***Whatever my heart says, that's what the pen leaks***

"Enjoy this book as well as its message, and I hope you learn from it," writes Jerwayne in the book's foreword. "We refuse to let our disabilities overshadow the strength of our minds," he pens in "My Minority Report." To purchase a copy of "Words of Wisdom," see membership info in this newsletter or visit [www.artistsformarmony.org](http://www.artistsformarmony.org). All copies are handmade from recycled paper and all proceeds benefit the Illinois Center for Rehabilitation and Education -Roosevelt. 

## CPS Principals for a Day

In October of 2009, the members of Artists for Harmony were invited to take part in the honorary CPS Principal for a Day program. Aris Halikias, Sean O'Looney and Ryan Stoneberg all attended the event at Higgins Elementary School, which featured classroom visits, Q&A sessions, and a performance by the school band that AFH had a small part in assisting financially. Earlier in the year, AFH donated \$5000 to the Children First Fund that was in turn used to purchase instruments for the south side elementary school (see Santos story). 





# PAST EVENTS



## Santos, Ripp and Willis Rock for Harmony, \$5K Awarded to CPS

The building was rocking all night long as Matthew Santos, Andrew Ripp, and Daphne Willis, along with their respective bands, put on a benefit concert for the ages. Stretching until after 1 am, the performers made sure everyone in attendance got their moneys worth, even though the performers' time was entirely donated. Daphne Willis and Co. opened up the evening with a powerful set of her soulful acoustic rock that was not only perfect for dancing but also introspective and thought provoking. Andrew Ripp followed, as he and his bandmates rocked through an upbeat, fun-filled set of Americana gems that was perfect for any Friday evening. After Ripp's roaring set, members of Artists for Harmony presented Lisa Wiersma from the Chicago Public Schools with a check for \$5000 to the Children First Fund, the charity of CPS. The donation represented the fundraising efforts of AFH from the prior year's events.



The money was later directed towards Higgins Elementary school on the south side of Chicago for their music program. Prior to the AFH donation, the entire budget for the music program was \$400.

The emotional presentation of the check set the stage for the main event. Fresh off an appearance on ABC channel 7's morning show, Matthew Santos and his band played an versatile set mixed with rock, blues and acoustic folk. Though Santos is best known for his numerous collaborations with hip hop artist Lupe Fiasco, it is clear that he will soon be a household name. Channeling the late Jeff Buckley and backed by a versatile band, Santos and Co. delivered a potent, varied set that left everyone in the crowd a satisfied customer. Not only was the concert itself well worth the price of admission, but it was all in the name of a great cause. Visit [www.artistsforharmony.org](http://www.artistsforharmony.org) and iTunes for more on Matthew, Andrew and Daphne. 🐦

## Help Offset Your Carbon Footprint: Plant a Tree!

Visit [www.americanforests.org](http://www.americanforests.org) where every \$1 donated plants a tree. To coincide with Earth Day each year, Artists for Harmony takes up a collection to redistribute to American Forests to help replenish the valuable natural resources we use on a daily basis. 🐦

## FORE! Golf Outing at Odyssey Country Club Big Hit for AFH

While no one was able to take home the \$10,000 hole in one prize at the First Annual Artists FORE! Harmony Golf Outing was great fun for everyone who came out. Organized at one of Chicago's top 15 public courses the Odyssey Country Club in Tinley Park this past fall. Strategically planned to coincide with the Bears' bye week, the less than perfect conditions did not stop the generous golfers from coming out to support Artists for Harmony. The four player scramble was also highlighted by a longest drive and closest to the pin contests. For more information or to schedule a tee time visit [www.odysseycountryclub.com](http://www.odysseycountryclub.com). 🐦



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# BECOME AN ARTIST FOR HARMONY!



## Volunteer

Artists for Harmony is operated on a completely volunteer basis. All administrative and promotional work (web and artwork design, accounting, newsletter production, event planning, etc.) is completed solely by individuals who donate their time. This ensures that the highest possible percentage of funding generated by AFH goes directly into its programs and supplies. You don't have to be an "artist" in the traditional sense of the word to volunteer your time: everyone is an artist in some form or another. If interested in volunteering time, please contact [info@artistsforharmony.org](mailto:info@artistsforharmony.org).

## Perform/Present

If you consider yourself an "artist" in the traditional sense and would be interested in displaying or selling artwork, performing live music or poetry, or instructing children on any of these crafts or anything else not mentioned at an AFH event, please contact [info@artistsforharmony.org](mailto:info@artistsforharmony.org).

## Membership (circle bird)

**\$25**

### Associate for Harmony:

- Alternative Apparel T Shirt
- Recognition in Newsletter
- 20 % Discount to AFH events



**\$50**

### Aristocrat for Harmony:

- Alternative Apparel T Shirt
- Recognition in Newsletter
- 20 % Discount to AFH events
- Jerwayne Ballentine's book *Words of Wisdom*



**\$100**

### Angel for Harmony:

- Alternative Apparel T Shirt
- Recognition in Newsletter
- 50 % Discount to AFH events
- Jerwayne Ballentine's book *Words of Wisdom*



Check this box if you do not wish to receive any gifts for your donation and wish to have all of the proceeds to go directly to charity.

Check this box to donate another amount and enter amount here: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name  
 Address  
 City, State, Zip  
 Phone  
 Email

Send to:  
 Artists for Harmony  
 1080 Pontiac Drive  
 Batavia, IL 60510

Artists for Harmony is a 501(c)3 not for profit organization. Donations are tax deductible to the extent of the law.

**"I can change the world with my own two hands" -ben harper**

Artists For Harmony.org Presents:

**afh**

Sunday, October 11  
Chicago Country Club  
1 pm to 5pm  
\$100  
Includes Dinner & Drink

**Golf Outing**

All proceeds benefit the revitalization of Chicago's F schools

ARTISTS FOR HARMONY PRESENTS:

**MATTHEW SANTOS**  
mathnewsantos.com

**KENT HERNANDEZ**  
kentwithhopies.com

**DAMN FOOL CRUSADERS**  
markmehner@live.rrp.com

**WEDNESDAY MAY 3rd 9:30 PM**  
**HAMILTON'S BAR AND GRILL**  
6341 North Broadway  
Chicago, IL 60660  
773 764 7113

YOUR DONATION SUPPORTS CHICAGO SCHOOLS AND YOU RECEIVE TWO FREE TICKETS

VISIT [ARTISTSFORHARMONY.ORG](http://ARTISTSFORHARMONY.ORG)

AN EVENING OF LIVE MUSIC PRESENTED BY ARTISTS FOR HARMONY

**ARTISTS FOR HARMONY PRESENTS:**

**IMO ECTORI**

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 16th 2008**  
COCKTAILS D'OEUVRES, SPIRITS, ART \$45

PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE CHILDREN'S FIRST FUND

ARTISTS FOR HARMONY.ORG FOR TICKETS AND INFO

Friday, April 24th  
**Matthew Santos**

**Live at Martyrs**  
3855 North Lincoln Avenue

With special guests Andrew Rippe and Daphne Willis

Show starts at 9:00. 21 and over  
\$20 . Purchase tickets by calling 800-594-TIXX.

All proceeds support the realization of our youth's creative potential.

**afh**

**POP-A-SHOT TOURNAMENT**  
Saturday, November 22nd

\$100 gift certificate for 1st place!

**afh**

ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE REVITALIZATION OF THE ARTS IN CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Artists for Harmony Presents

**Acoustic Harm**

a musical and artistic experience raising money for charity

**afh**

6:30 p.m.  
Saturday, August 14, 2008  
Batavia Riverwalk (next to police station)  
Visit [www.artistsforharmony.org](http://www.artistsforharmony.org) for more info

Listen to great music, buy amazing and help a great cause.

**LEAP YEAR AT SUITE LOUNGE**  
02.29.08 7PM

FRIDAY 29

PROCEEDS FROM ALL FINLANDIA COCKTAILS BENEFIT CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**FINLANDIA VODKA**

**Wine Tasting & Art Gala**  
Saturday, November 21st

**Words of Knowledge**

Jerwayne Edward Balentine III

04-17-09

**FRIDAY FEBRUARY 29TH**

AN EVENING OF LIVE MUSIC PRESENTED BY ARTISTS FOR HARMONY

PROCEEDS FROM ALL FINLANDIA COCKTAILS PURCHASED SUPPORTS CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS 7PM NO COVER

**DIANA REIN**

**LUCAS FROM LIFTPPOINT**

**THE URBAN STATE AND MA**

**Joey Lopez-Egan**  
Benefit Week Suite Lounge

Artists for Harmony (AFH) is a non-profit organization dedicated to the realization of the academic and sports potential of the youth in public schools. Through music, art, and education initiatives, AFH provides children the imperative skills needed to approach the world with a creative perspective.

[www.artistsforharmony.org](http://www.artistsforharmony.org)

**FEB 20**

artists for harmony presents

**hoops for harmony**

\$45

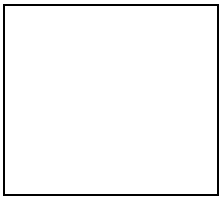
Doors open at 6pm. Tickets are \$35 before November 7. Call 312-938-3625

All proceeds to benefit Chicago's youth. A portion of your donation is tax deductible. Visit [artistsforharmony.org](http://artistsforharmony.org) for more info

**afh**

**"When somethings dark, lemme shed a little light on it" -eddie vedder**

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TO: