



EPACENTER ANNOUNCES FALL PROGRAMMING ARTSCOOL, ARTWORK, AND ART & SOUL ONLINE ART & MUSIC CLASSES, JOB TRAINING, AND EXPRESSIVE ARTS PROGRAM

Now through December 2021

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (5 October 2021) — **EPACENTER** announces its Fall 2021 roster of inspiring online arts education classes, powerful job training opportunities, and expressive arts programs for youth in East Palo Alto. All classes and workshops are offered free-of-charge as part of the center's mission to provide quality arts instruction to its underserved community, which has seen a significant gap in arts programming compared to its wealthier counterparts in Palo Alto, Menlo Park, and other surrounding neighborhoods. Said EPACENTER Executive Director Nadine Rambeau, "We are so excited to kick off our fall programs, providing local youth with new opportunities to express themselves and grow their skills in a number of creative fields. As part of our job training program, and I am thrilled to announce the expansion of our popular expressive arts program that will have an even greater impact on the youth and families in our community." For the full schedule of classes and workshops, the public may visit epacenter.org/programs. For more information, the public may contact programs@epacenterarts.org or call 877-372-2787.

ARTSCOOL encompasses free, online art, dance, design, and music classes for youth. This fall, online classes will be offered in Visual Art (Digital Art, Drawing, Painting, Sculpture, Photography & Graphic Design, Cartooning), Dance (Ballet, Jazz), Music (Percussion, Guitar, Strings, Bass, Piano, Trumpet, Saxophone, Keyboard), and Arts & Crafts (Fashion Design).

ARTWORK provides youth ages 14 and up with opportunities to apply their creative skills in real-world contexts with programs such as paid internships, apprenticeships, on-the-job-training, youth-produced festivals and events, and public art installations across the region. The fall session includes opportunities to participate in the fields of visual arts, film, and graphic design, with projects such as the Light Tree Mural Project, EPACENTER Documentary Project, and EPACENTER Graphic Design Project.

ART & SOUL programs provide a space for youth to explore their identity and use the arts as a basis for discovery, healing, and positive change. This fall's group sessions will help youth cope with challenges they may be facing while expressing their unique experiences through Visual Arts classes: "Identity & Self Expression" and "Managing Stress Through Self Expression."

The majority of classes and workshops are currently scheduled to take place online in order to ensure the safety of students and staff during the pandemic. EPACENTER plans to open for in-person programming and events once it is fully safe to do so.

About EPACENTER

EPACENTER is a creative youth development center in East Palo Alto that amplifies the creative potential in every young person. It harnesses the power of art, design, technology, and culture to accelerate creative youth development outcomes for vulnerable youth in East Palo Alto. EPACENTER offers free programming along four developmental pathways including: arts education classes that help students develop 21st century skills such as creativity, teamwork, and perseverance; job training and workforce development programs in creative fields that close gaps in skills; art production programs for students to create high-quality works of art for sale, as well as community art projects and youth-produced events for public enjoyment; and ongoing support to help youth develop the socio-emotional skills needed to thrive, through engagement with the center's programs. EPACENTER's age-differentiated programs are led by professional artists, designers, technicians, and therapists with programs that take place during the school day, after-school, and during the summer. EPACENTER envisions a future where all young people in and of East Palo Alto will have the opportunity to become creative innovators and enjoy economic and social success in their community.

EPACENTER's state-of-the-art facility was driven by a community-based outreach effort, filling a much-needed gap in East Palo Alto to give local youth access to free quality arts instruction. Funded by the John & Marcia Goldman Foundation, the 25,000 square foot facility provides local youth with a space they asked for specifically: a safe learning environment where they can access a multitude of exciting opportunities to develop their creativity and learn job skills.

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PHOTOS: Media may download high-res photos at:
<https://www.cbpr.co/press/epacenter>