

# FAQ'S - 2019

## **Where is ArtHouse Located in Halton?**

Currently we are in Burlington, Halton Hills, Milton and Oakville - there's no "one" location - we operate at approximately 40 convenient and accessible Neighbourhoods and schools. We are very grateful to each of our Venue hosts that provide us with their space free of charge.

## **What age groups do your programs support?**

Community programs offerings for 7-17 year olds and programs for JK-Grade 12 students in schools;

## **Why JK-Grade 12?**

Our Research is telling us that the arts is a vital tool to engage our participants, so start early. ArtHouse Programs help cultivate imagination and expression, and enhance coping skills and resilience. Over time they can reduce anxiety and stress contributing to positive mental health.

## **Can anyone sign up?**

Yes, but our Front-of-the-Line Policy gives priority registration to children whose families may not have the discretionary resources to access fee-related programs.

## **What is the ArtHouse Arts "Curriculum"?**

Multi-disciplined - Visual Arts, Theatre Performance, Instruments, Singing to Yoga and Cooking Programs, etc.

## **When do the Programs take place?**

- Fall, Winter and Spring Community and School Programs;
- Summer Camp Programs

## **How long do the programs run?**

Programs usually run weekly for 1 hour - 1 1/2 hours and our Summer Camps operate full days and up to two weeks.

## **Do children get a snack?**

Yes, often snacks are provided thanks to the support of Food For Life.

## **How is each program managed?**

- Community Programs - our Program Managers and ArtHouse Instructors;
- School Programs - school staff and ArtHouse Instructors;

**What else is special about your programs?**

Many of our programs end with a Mini-performance or special display for parents, siblings and friends.

**Is ArtHouse a Charitable Organization?**

Yes – ArtHouse was incorporated as ArtHouse for Children and Youth in 2009 and received its Charitable status in early 2010.

**How do you know your Programs have been successful?**

High retention rates at each program;

Over 50% of our participants return to more than one program over their time with ArtHouse;

Our Children, their parents, and our Program Partners help us with Testimonials: Consistently we hear “Confidence”, “Happy”, “Program Quality” and “Creativity”.

**What is the Annual Budget?**

In Fiscal 2019 we need to raise over \$500,000.

**How is ArtHouse Funded?**

Government Grants, other granting organizations, Foundations, Sponsors, Individuals – and generous communities!!

**Are your Financials Audited?**

We are proud to say that BDO Canada has provided ArtHouse with Audited Statements since 2012.

**Does ArtHouse hold Events?**

We plan one very special event a year inviting some of the world's best young and not-as-young talent to our Communities;

We would always welcome a “third party” fundraising event.

**Do other “ArtHouses” exist in Halton?**

We are not aware of any other organizations that offer a wide-variety of FREE Arts Programs throughout the community.

**What makes your programs different?**

Our programs are free, safe, and accessible;

We recruit professional Instructors who not only bring their gift of their art, but they try to bring out the very best in each participant.

**What Organizations do you work with?**

Many, including ROCK, Halton District School Board, Halton Community Housing Corporation, Independent Cooperatives, Halton Multicultural Council, Kerr Street Mission, Boys and Girls Club, Children's Aid Foundation of Halton, our public libraries and Big Brothers Big Sisters.

**Are there other communities where you would like to be?**

Our Mission is to continue to grow throughout our communities in the Halton Region.

**Any final comments from ArtHouse?**

October 2016, we were honoured to be awarded with an Imagine Canada Accreditation for excellence in nonprofit accountability, transparency and governance;

We continue to research the connection between the arts and positive mental health and social inclusion;

We are grateful to all of our wonderful Stakeholders.

Thank you for "investing" in our Children and Youth.