

motivate

inspire

passion

transform

nurture

soar

imagine

dream

creativity

joy

expression

confidence

fun

flourish



explore · transform · create · express · flourish





Imagine a place where dreams are inspired, where creativity soars, where lives are transformed. Imagine the face of a child filled with wonder, or the face of a parent or grandparent beaming with pride. Imagine the face in the mirror struck by sights and sounds that touch your heart and mind through moving artistic experiences.

This is The Fine Arts Association.

For three generations, we have infused the life of our community with a passion for the arts and provided the creative avenues for expressing that passion. Here in your own backyard, we are a treasure trove for artistic expression and personal fulfillment.





“It all started at the tender age of 8 when I saw my first show at The Fine Arts Association. I was so excited after the first act I secretly signed up for drama lessons and was cast in 20 memorable shows at the school. This started a successful career as an actor performing in numerous Broadway-bound and Off-Broadway productions.

In between theater jobs, I started painting and now have become a nationally and internationally recognized artist.

The Fine Arts Association inspired and shaped my path to becoming a successful working actor and now a recognized artist.”

BILLY
miLLer
alumnus
actor & artist

The Fine Arts Association brings together a diverse community through the common language of the arts, breaking cultural, generational and social barriers. Music, visual art, dance and theatrical expression form a bridge of understanding across all segments of our community and our world. These artistic experiences teach tolerance and acceptance of our differences; but more importantly, they teach the commonalities among us. By providing arts education and performance opportunities for our community, The Fine Arts Association advocates for the essential value of the arts in our personal lives and its public worth to our community. Imagine how much richer our lives are when we embrace the arts.

imagine how the arts can transform Lives

Students attend classes and lessons to create and study with a faculty of highly qualified teachers who are committed to the art of teaching. Many of our teachers hold advanced degrees in their chosen artistic field; others also perform professionally. Imagine learning from teachers who, universally, are dedicated to the belief that the arts can transform lives, and who work diligently to inspire this love and passion for the arts in their students.

Each student is taught as a unique individual, and personal talents and goals are encouraged and nurtured. Students work at their own pace and receive individualized attention designed to take them on a creative journey which teaches them the fundamental and advanced skills needed to reach their artistic goals.

At the same time that personal growth flourishes, participation in the arts teaches fundamental life skills. Teamwork, patience, tolerance, poise, self-confidence, and self-discipline are acquired.



The sandham Family

“ FAA has given our children amazing opportunities all bathed in an atmosphere of excellence.

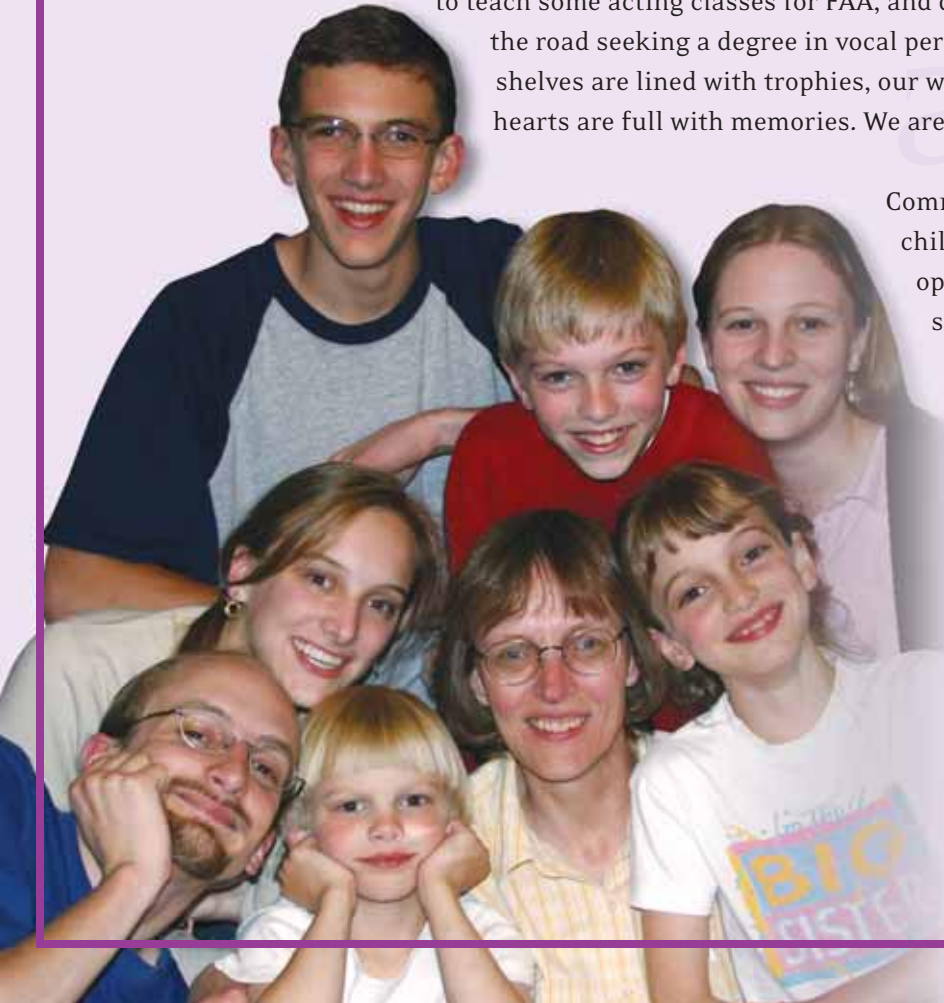
...the real strength of Fine Arts is that you strive to maintain a balance between the desire for excellence and kindness (caring for the individual). This is the tone that rings throughout all of Fine Arts.

Our kids have been given many opportunities: Lindsey to stage manage; Caitlin to costume design and be wardrobe manager; and Clayton to be part of building sets, running sound, and working with top technical people in Cleveland. These opportunities speak volumes to our kids in terms of their worth. The people at Fine Arts have been the greatest influence on my kids and have deeply impacted their lives. Our children carefully watch them, they look up to them and they love them.

Our kids will always be involved in community theater. Caitlin has taken the experiences she gained at FAA and uses them at Cain Park and The Cleveland Play House. Brendan is starting to teach some acting classes for FAA, and directs shows in the area. Lindsey is on the road seeking a degree in vocal performance. Because of Fine Arts our shelves are lined with trophies, our walls are filled with pictures, and our hearts are full with memories. We are so grateful to FAA.

Community theater can touch the lives of children in a lasting way. It gives them the opportunity to work with and learn from seasoned actors; it builds wonderful friendships as people from the community come together to create art on stage and it gives children a creative outlet. Our children have experienced this under the wonderful directors at Fine Arts. With the right words of encouragement and help in this unique setting, a child can gain confidence and change his/her outlook in a positive way that no other situation can impart.”

– Kathy and Bob Sandham





Imagine the passion and commitment it takes to spend hundreds of volunteer hours, outside of one's regular school or job responsibilities, to create a memorable character and perform an outstanding piece of theatrical work. As the leading community theatre in Northeast Ohio, hundreds of The Fine Arts Association's community actors of all ages and backgrounds deepen their knowledge and hone their craft under the direction of some of the region's most accomplished professional directors, choreographers, designers and musical directors. Adult actors are able to stretch their talents, perfect their technique, and perform in a variety of challenging and popular works.

Imagine the pride that comes with applause

Imagine a group of children working together to create a performance of which they can be proud and in which each can shine. They must work together as a team and learn to be patient and tolerant of each other's personalities and differences. They must learn their individual parts and how to perform confidently and gracefully in front of an audience. Students, individually and as a team, practice and grow daily from the learning process. Imagine the feeling of personal and group accomplishment and pride that comes with the praise and applause for a job well done.



The Fine Arts Association also reaches out to the needs of arts education in our community. Off-site education brings the arts into public and private classrooms to bolster diminishing offerings in the arts in elementary school curriculums. Fine Arts faculty members go into local classrooms to work with teachers and students to augment the arts curriculum. They also teach innovative ways to use the arts to enhance and improve learning in other academic areas.

Imagine how the arts can enhance and improve Learning

Under-served students in our community are challenged to find access to the arts. Scholarship opportunities, off-site education in local schools, and collaborative programs offered by The Fine Arts Association break down those barriers to access and include children of all socioeconomic backgrounds with the benefits of arts education. Our music therapy services for individuals with special needs promote physical, social and emotional health and well-being. Imagine the joy of making music – the language through which “the deaf can hear and the blind can see.”



“My studies at The Fine Arts Association laid the definitive groundwork for my career in the vocal arts, first as a soprano debuting with the Pittsburgh Opera while still in college, to 2003 when I closed my career at the Metropolitan Opera in NYC, and now at the start of my mezzo-soprano career.”

The Fine Arts Association nurtured my talent, and provided ways for me to use that talent through scholarships and opportunities to sing recitals. The Fine Arts Association not only fostered and nurtured my talent, but taught me how to have vision. My education at The Fine Arts Association earned me a faculty position at the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston.”

Heidi
skok
alumna
mezzo-soprano



“The fine arts play an extremely important role in our individual lives as well as in our society. The fine arts provide us the media through which we, individually and collectively, express our observations, experiences and opinions about life and the human condition.

The Fine Arts Association provides our students an opportunity to explore the many different ways of expressing themselves as well as the tools with which to do so.

I proudly serve The Fine Arts Association in order to assist it in fulfilling its mission of enhancing lives through arts education, performance and advocacy.”

Raphael
omerza
alumnus and
attorney



Young dancers, artists, musicians and actors are trained in fundamental techniques and skills while being encouraged to explore new worlds. In addition, students learn the value of mutual respect, self-discipline, and teamwork that the rehearsal and performance processes teach.

Imagine the many Life skills Learned through the arts

Many of our young adult students and actors find The Fine Arts Association's theatre classes and performance opportunities to be a key ingredient in their educational paths. The quality and high level of formal and informal learning that happens through artist-in-residence experiences and master classes can greatly enhance their knowledge and ability to compete in the college selection process. Whether auditioning for entrance to a renowned institute of the arts or interviewing for acceptance to a distinguished university known for its business or professional curriculum, the life skills learned through the arts can provide the needed edge in a highly competitive process. The Fine Arts Association masterfully weaves those skills through lessons, rehearsals and performances and affords its students opportunities to reach for the stars in all walks of life.

Among the students at The Fine Arts Association, you will find the faces of the observer, the listener, the audience member – the community. Imagine the powerful emotions that are evoked when you listen to or view a commanding piece of music, art, dance or theatre.

Everyone who participates in the arts, no matter how passively, engages in the learning process that is intrinsic to the arts. People come to The Fine Arts Association to be immersed in and be motivated by the inspiration they find in the arts. In doing so, by intent or by chance, they join together to share interests, thoughts and ideas about art, life and the impact one has on the other.

The RICHMOND FAMILY

“Our family came to Fine Arts in 1999 when our daughter was five years old.

We believe the instruction and experience provided by The Fine Arts Association has allowed Miranda and Marlon, Jr. to develop a strong sense of discipline because they are learning that hard work and practice produces tangible results.

The Fine Arts Association has contributed to their sense of confidence and continues to show them they have enormous potential and that the arts are a critical part of life and development.

They've learned to laugh at themselves, which is great because laughing is part of personal growth.

We have reminded our children that every experience in life builds on the next from academics to theater, art and music. Regardless of where life takes them and what career path they follow, they understand that music is for life.

The Fine Arts Association has shown our family a new avenue for relaxation and has brought us together for entertainment, laughter and just plain fun! Our family has also benefited from the people we have met, from the dedicated, kind and professional staff to the families we have become friends with.

It seems as though the arts have been lost within the community. Few people talk about how important creative arts are for children. The Fine Arts Association allows children and families to see life through creative eyes. We have watched the arts give children a sense of responsibility and purpose. Children doing positive things result in a safe community, a better people, respect for each other and a garden of smiles.”

– Lolita and Marlon Richmond



The Fine Arts Association, a nonprofit organization, exists to provide a gathering place and a forum for uniting our region to embrace the arts. The Board of Directors, faculty and staff fervently believe that the arts are for all people and that the arts provide an essential public worth.

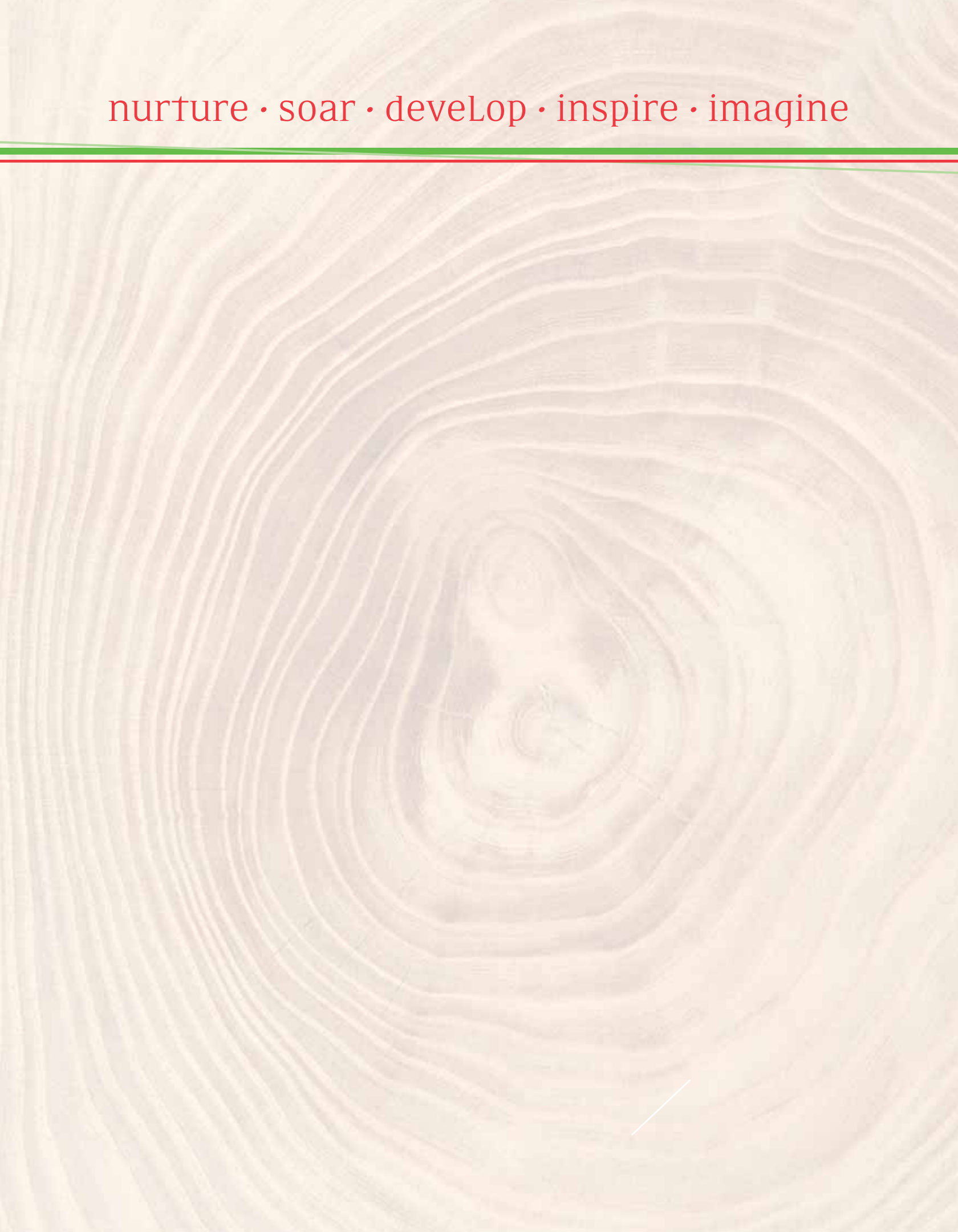
Imagine Living in a community that is continually enriched by the arts...

Over the last 50 years, we have grown and extended our reach from the city of Willoughby in western Lake County to the Northeast Ohio region. We have taken our core values of community, passion, creativity, quality and integrity to heart and actively advocate for the arts throughout the region. Communities that are rich in the arts create a strong economic engine by attracting and retaining vibrant businesses and entrepreneurs. Arts-rich communities build good schools and strong neighborhoods; they thrive and prosper.

we are The Fine Arts Association!



nurture · soar · deveLop · inspire · imagine





fine arts
association

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