

Dear Friends of Flower City Arts Center,

As 2021 draws to a close, we reflect on the year and have so much to be grateful for!

Due to the generosity of donors like you, we are able to continue to provide quality visual arts appreciation and education for all! Thanks to your support, we were able to offer both virtual and in-person classes this year in addition to our free Artist Talks. Now more than ever, your financial donation will make a difference in the lives of Rochester area residents.

When you make a donation to Flower City Arts Center, you are investing in strengthening our artistic community and ensuring that we continue our 51-year tradition of making art accessible to everyone.

This holiday season, your generous gift to Flower City Arts Center will provide materials, supplies, and equipment, in addition to financial scholarships for youth programs and adult classes.

We are proud to say that members and donors like you are what makes Flower City Arts Center unique; a true arts center for everyone!



## MEET THE ARTIST

**Charles Dozier**, 23, has been a part of Flower City Arts since 2019. When asked how he learned about FCAC, he said he used to walk by on his way to The Center for Youth. “I would look into the windows and thought it looked like a cool place,” he says.

It just so happened that his case worker at Center for Youth had taken a class here at Flower City Arts Center. He showed her his artwork, and a connection was made. She made some calls and they both met with employees here at the Center, and ultimately coordinated an internship with us.

Charles, who goes by CJ, enrolled in a program called “Learn to Earn”, which helps young adults with job readiness, employment, and on occasion, housing. While here at FCAC, he had mentors and guidance from artists and those with careers based on their interests and passions.

While his internship has ended, CJ still visits often and is very much active here at the Center. “I sold a piece recently for \$300! Coming here has helped me a lot,” he says.



As a child, CJ says he was quiet, mostly stayed indoors, and preferred drawing over other activities. His influences and inspiration come from Tim Burton, Steven King, "I used to draw what I was picturing while hearing the words read," as well as comics, and the art of Rob Zombie. "Basically, anything whimsical, kooky, or creepy. I've always loved scary movies and stories. I love anything bright and crazy!"

"I love it here. I feel like I can be myself. I like to joke around, and there is no judgement." CJ said he helped around FCAC, dabbling in the different areas, and produced artwork like T-shirt designs and greeting cards for the Center.



"This was the first time I actually felt respected as an artist, this place helped me build my confidence. There are nice people here and I learned about building relationships, gained some friends, and I get so much encouragement. I feel much more confident in my work from being here."

For many teens and young adults, Flower City Arts Center is a way for them to connect with peers who have similar interests. Several people who have been in our youth programs return to give back to the Center, share their progress and growth, or to simply come by just to say hello. We are a safe, welcoming, and familiar place that many feel is a home away from home.

**When you donate to Flower City Arts Center, you are truly making a difference in young people's lives. Please consider a donation today!**

Gratefully,

*Cheryl McKeiver*  
Cheryl McKeiver,  
Executive Director

*Denise Ambrose*  
Denise Ambrose,  
Director of Development

## HOW WILL YOU OPEN YOUR WITH THE SEASON OF GIVING?

Donate **\$25** to provide one hour of youth instruction with a trained artist.

Donate **\$50** to help buy supplies such as clay, paint, or paper.

Donate **\$100** to help fund a youth program such as Expanding the Field or Photo Club.

Donate **\$250** to help provide computer software for our Digital Art Studio.

Donate **\$500** to help purchase a digital camera for youth programs.

Donate **\$1000** and we will name a computer after you, a loved one, or your organization in our Digital Art Studio.

## FLOWER CITY ARTS CENTER ANNUAL APPEAL 2021 DONATION

My gift:  \$25  \$50  \$100  \$250  \$500  \$1000  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Or make my gift recur monthly at \$ \_\_\_\_\_  Check  Credit Card (all major CCs)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date \_\_\_/\_\_\_ CVC (3 digits on back): \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_