

Giving Back

Artists for a Cause will conduct auditions for 2015/2016 season



A4AC will hold auditions on Sept. 1 and 2 to cast the 2015/2016 season to improve the community through visual and performing arts.

By Megan Morris
YourNews contributor

PALM CITY — Art can be used as a catalyst with the power to affect positive changes in the world.

At a local level, there are many ways artists can use their talents to make a difference in their communities.

Artists for a Cause (A4AC) — a national, non-profit organization, founded in 2009 and based in Palm City — offers several programs and services that support the community through the arts.

From providing therapeutic arts to heal and soothe the sick, to connecting artists with charities for events, to programs that feed the hungry, A4AC helps communities through unique artistic solutions.

As a way to identify and use the talents of artistically-inclined individuals throughout the community, A4AC will host open auditions at 6 p.m., Sept. 1 and 2 in the South Fork High School Auditorium.

All performing artists of every age with exceptional talents in any genre who want to be considered for special performance opportunities should sign up and attend the auditions.

Artists will be assigned a five-minute audition spot on one of those days. Instrumentalists and singers should be prepared to perform two unaccompanied 16 bar varied selections (ballad and up tempo), or one selection up to 32 bars. Artists who possess another performing arts talent, please prepare one minute of unaccompanied

material to share.

It's also possible to submit a video audition.

"The artists involved in our network are truly inspiring. Our members come from all walks of life, however, despite the diversity of the organization, we're still a cohesive group united by our mutual interest in using our talent to improve communities," said Terry Barber, internationally acclaimed countertenor and founder of Artists for a Cause.

Student, volunteer, and professional performing artists will be considered for a number of programs and events, paid and volunteer, including but not limited to: Therapeutic Arts Program, which sends the healing power of visual and performing arts to children and the elderly; Support for Char-

ities, which enables visual and performing artists to support many varied charity events; Music Salon Showcases, which feature the most gifted young artists in our network; A4AC Fundraising events such as Singing with the Stars and more.

"All of our programs offer creative and unique solutions," said Barber. "Recently Jackie Robbins, a principal participant in our Therapeutic Arts program, was playing her cello for a group at an assisted living facility. Suddenly an elderly resident stood up and started singing along at the top of her lungs. The staff and other residents began crying, rose from their seats and started clapping. In all the years, through all the sing-alongs, no one had ever heard her utter a word."

"This was not the first time that our Therapeutic Arts program had helped someone find their voice again," Barber continued. "We have come to expect these and other similar triumphs as we witness the power that the arts has for healing. We are holding these auditions to find artists in our community who wish to spread joy through their art. We seek to enable them, help them to have the most impact, and get the most out of their experience."

Please email Megan@a4ac.org for an appointment or for more information. About Artists for a Cause Artists for a Cause is a Palm City-based, national nonprofit organization that helps visual and performing artists to use their talents for community improvement, stimu-

lating culture, while addressing the critical needs of communities.

Some programs help artists and charities to get the most out of their collaboration, while most produce results directly, by feeding the poor, healing the sick, or solving other problems through unique artistic solutions.

Additionally, we never ask artist professionals in a struggling industry to donate or give away their livelihood. No program is merely about art for art's sake — Artists for a Cause is about the arts as a solution.

To learn more about A4AC, please visit a4ac.org, call 772-419-8778 or email info@a4ac.org. Also, follow us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/ArtistsforaCauseInc>.