

August 2024



Artis The Artist Foundation
EDUCATING & ENCOURAGING THE ARTISTS OF TOMORROW, TODAY!

CELEBRATING 13 YEARS!

As we complete our 12th year, we are filled with gratitude for the unwavering support of our incredible donors. Your generosity has fueled our mission to assist graduating high school students who want to continue their study of the Arts. Year after year, these students continue to echo the impact of the arts on their development. Artistic expression gives a voice to the mute, hope to the marginalized, makes the unseen visible, magnifies compassion from others, and solidifies their sense of belonging in the art space.

We envision a world where every artist recognizes the value of their creativity, receives the necessary support to pursue higher education, and is embraced by a community that celebrates their uniqueness. As we look to the future, we will continue to encourage artists by providing college scholarships and alleviating some of their financial burden. With your continued donations, we aim to elevate our financial assistance by increasing the value of each scholarship and providing support throughout their college journey. Your generosity has left an indelible mark on the canvases of many young artists, and we are deeply grateful.

Artis The Artist Foundation
Board of Directors



**“THE EARTH
WITHOUT ART IS
JUST ‘EH.’” –
DEMETRI MARTIN**



Stay Connected with Us!



@FlashesIntheFog



artis-the-artist.com

2024 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

"I am a mixed media artist, and I specialize in figurative acrylic painting that captures deep emotions inherent in the human experience. Growing up, I was always creating something, whether it be origami puppets or making up my own superhero comics. It wasn't until sixth grade, when I watched a documentary about Pablo Picasso that I really began painting.

I developed a passion for painting during quarantine. Art has changed my life. It guides me to places I never could have dreamed of going. I've received opportunities to do live speed painting at the Cowboy stadium and at a convention for the Church of GOD in Christ, where I met professional artist Lance Brown and world-renowned artist Sedrick Huckaby. I attended Mr. Huckaby's art talk in Washington, DC. I was able to talk with National Treasure Mrs. Opal Lee and her impact on the next generation.

Art has also changed my view of the world. I've become obsessed with learning about artists and the various ways the world can be interpreted. This has helped me develop an appreciation for form composition and the impactful moments in life that make the world so beautiful. I want to continue painting and hope to one day create work that has a lasting impact on people and the culture."



**DANIEL REDDIC,
VISUAL ARTIST**

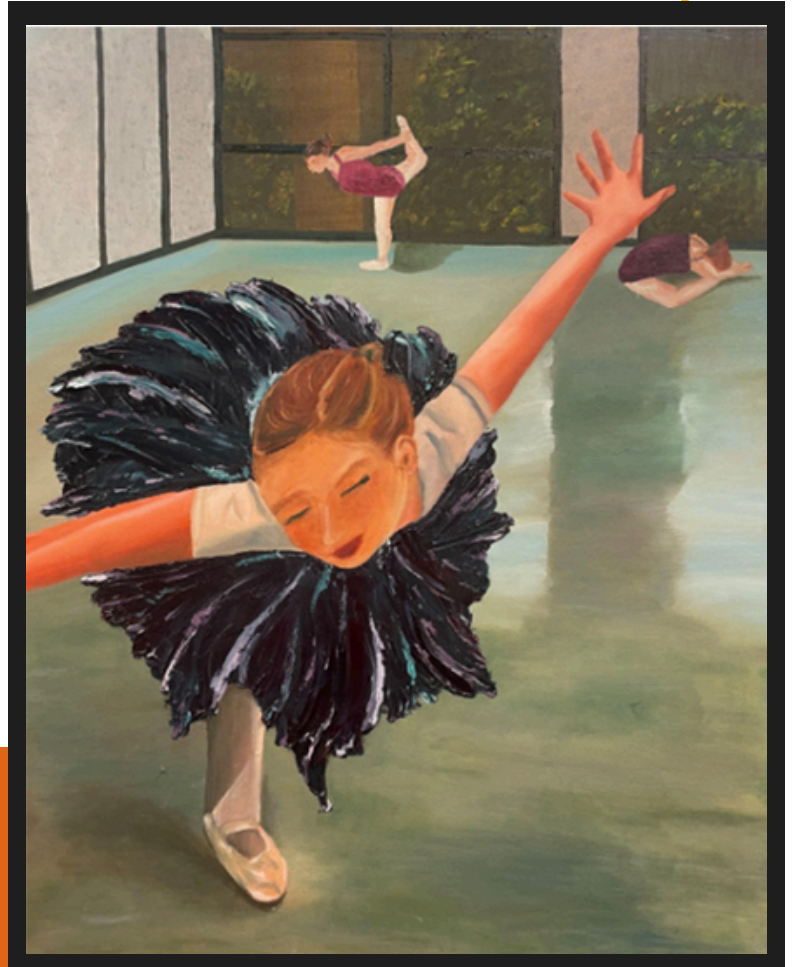


"Cyclical Introspection", 48inch x48inch on wooden board, This piece discusses the guilt and self torment associated with sin, all while facing the judgment of society for not fitting the mold.

2024 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT



**ALEXANDRA RITTENHOUSE,
PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTIST**



"My artistic endeavors have always been at the forefront of my life. I started dancing at the age of four, and it's my first love. It takes so much discipline and strength, but all that hard work creates a beautiful performance.

"I think I've found my groove with oil painting, but I've also used and loved acrylics, watercolor, gouache, clay, collaging, gelli printing, impasto, screen printing, and even painting with my feet. I love how each medium opens new doors for ideas.

Every time I use something new, I get overwhelmed with all the possibilities of what I could create. Art has been sort of a rock for me in high school. The third form of art that I'm committed to is architecture. I've always been that friend to point out a cool building and make everyone wait so I can get a picture. I love how architecture involves so much discipline and technical knowledge, but once you learn and make your way around those obstacles, you have a functional and artistically inspired building that benefits the whole community for a long time. It's like a puzzle. I think it's just as much of an art form as studio art. Art is something to live for and brings your life zest, meaning, and inquiry when you can't find it elsewhere.

Because of all the art in my life, I feel like I can understand problem-solving in a more flexible way. Being surrounded by artistic people is such a blessing. I am very grateful for everything I've learned from my artistic experiences, and I cannot wait for what artistic experiences the future holds for me!"

2024 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

"From as far back as I can remember, I've been hooked on stories. Whether on a screen or a stage, there's something magical about seeing characters come to life. Acting isn't just a hobby for me; it's like breathing. As a high school sophomore returning from quarantine, I was nervous. Still, there was also this rush of excitement coursing through every part of me. Delivering lines felt like shedding my skin and slipping into someone else's shoes. It was thrilling, almost addictive. As I got older, my love for acting only grew. I found myself drawn to the challenge of embodying different characters and delving into their emotions. Whether I was playing a child or a clock, each role gave me a chance to express myself in ways I never thought possible and a chance to bring the character to life. It's like I have an endless well of empathy inside me, and acting lets me understand people's joys and sorrows on a deeper level.

Acting isn't just a job; it's my passion. It is what gets me out of bed in the morning, eager to tackle whatever challenges come my way. As long as there are stories to be told and characters to be brought to life, I will be right there, front and center, ready to take on the world, one performance at a time."



**CALEB LATIMER,
PERFORMING ARTIST**



2024 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT



**NATHALY ARANDA,
VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTIST**

“There is no telling when my passion and love for art began. All I can remember growing up was my love for art and originally being known in school as “the girl that can draw.” But that isn’t the real reason why my passion grew. The real reason is because I felt like I’d found something that really calls my name, and I can see my future grow from it. Drawing has always been the one friend I could say that has been there for me since the start, listening to all my thoughts and bringing them to life on paper. Allowing me to see and hear colors and sounds no one else could see or hear. Helping me grow and explore my other dreams and aspirations, which is fairly difficult as a Hispanic daughter of immigrant parents. I painted my own vision of success as my parents painted the same vision alongside me: having good grades, being talented, being a good citizen, and, most importantly, working hard for what you want.

Personally, my parents have proven the last statement the most. This specific painted vision has helped me grow into the individual I am today and has also helped me find a love for performing, creating confidence I have never had before and allowing me to be confident in my everyday opportunities, such as job interviews and class speeches. Giving me the opportunity to be a leader of my beloved dance team. Helping them create a sisterly and loving bond amongst each other as their Social President. For these opportunities, I can thank art. I can thank art for impacting me and showing the right and wrong in life, teaching me how to speak up for what is right, and helping me be emotionally, physically, and mentally strong towards anything that blocks my path to being truly successful in life and helping me reach my goals. I aspire and hope to be able to teach the new generation one day to have the same love and respect for art, as it can and will open up bigger opportunities for them as it has for me.”



2024 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

"Music has been in my family for many generations. My great-grandmother was a musician and music teacher. She is my inspiration because we share a love for music and because she has taught me how to balance school, my love for music, community service, and a career.

My years of participating in the school choir, voice training, and learning music theory motivated me to pursue a career in helping other students find their voice.

Music theory taught me about the language of music, notes, scales, chords, rhythm, melody, harmony, and form. Music means family, love, and comfort to me. I plan to study music education and teach young people like me the art of music and how to express themselves through song."



**MAKIAH HOLLIS,
MUSICAL ARTIST**

**MUSIC...CAN NAME THE UNNAMEABLE, AND
COMMUNICATE THE UNKNOWNABLE.**

- LEONARD BERNSTEIN -

SPECIAL FEATURE

A DAY WITH VISUAL ARTIST TOLLIVER LEWIS, JR.

“An Unsung Texas Treasure”

The Artis the Artist Foundation recently had the distinct pleasure of speaking with gifted visual artist Tolliver Lewis, Jr. at his home in Fort Worth, Texas. The timing of this divine appointment was at least 25 years past due. However, it perfectly aligns with the Foundation’s goals of supporting young artists who are just starting or completing their college journey. Creating art or performing is the very lifeline and joy for many young artists. Creating art is something they are commissioned to do and not doing that negatively impacts the artists’ very being.

Tolliver Jr. provides a rich tour of his unbelievable journey as a visual artist. His perseverance, mad art skills, and professionalism will be a testament to the Foundation’s scholarship winners, college students, those who are just starting their careers as an artist, and anyone who loves art.

Tolliver’s daughter, Debra Reed, invited me to Tolliver Jr.’s home studio where the magic happens!

The moment that my foot touched the floor of his home studio, I was overwhelmed with what I saw. There were hundreds of pieces of art, and each piece told a different story - and Tolliver was narrating them all. What makes his work extra special is the storytelling that is evident in every piece. I named this style “Tolliverism” ... and it cannot be duplicated!

So, who is Mr. Tolliver Lewis Jr.? He is a native of Dallas, Texas and a graduate of the renowned Booker T. Washington High School, now The Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts. Tolliver Jr.’s talent began at the young age of four years old. His parents recognized his gift and encouraged him from the beginning. When he would run out of drawing paper, his mother would give him brown paper bags to continue to draw and create.



“A true artist loves to create because it is their very lifeline. That creativity is a special gift from ‘The CREATOR!’”

- Arlener Steels Poydras

As Tolliver Jr. honed his skills, he was commissioned to create some advertising for Dallas’s Highland Park State Bank. He also created many pieces for his family’s home church, the historic Munger Avenue Baptist Church. When the church celebrated its 100-year anniversary, Tolliver Jr. created a historic painting commemorating the church’s rich history. His work has also been exhibited in many galleries around the DFW metroplex including but not limited to The Ann Taylor Gallery, Firehouse Gallery, Eastside Library, Fort Worth Community Arts Center, University of Texas at Arlington, Art Space Fort Worth, Ray Smith Gallery, and the Fielder Gallery.

Tolliver Lewis, Jr. lives in Fort Worth, Texas with his wife of 60 plus years. They have one daughter, two sons, five adult grandsons, six great-grandsons, and one great-grand daughter. Mr. Tolliver Lewis, Jr. still paints and draws every day at the age of 80 plus! - Arlener Steels Poydras

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

MYLES THOMAS, 2023-2024 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT



Last summer, I attended Interlochen Arts Camp, where I played Coalhouse Walker Jr. in Ragtime, a powerful story about how classes intermingled in the U.S. in the early 1900s. That experience taught me how to be a better leader and helped me mature before I began my collegiate pursuits. My first semester at the University of Oklahoma was nothing short of incredible. I have made so many friends and invaluable connections since I have been at school. One of those connections actually led me to my current job as a drifter in the ensemble of "Beautiful: The Carole King Musical" at Broadway Rose Theatre in Portland, Oregon this summer. In the spring, I performed in a musical comedy called "Crazy For You." The director was also directing the show that I am currently in. She suggested that I audition for "Beautiful," and I ended up booking the job. I have had a blast this summer in Oregon, and I am so incredibly grateful for this being my first professional theatre experience. I have had a remarkable year and cannot wait for the amazing things in store next school year. Most importantly, thank you for your help, support, and investment in my future. I am beyond grateful to have you in my corner!



THE INSPIRATION BAND

Music for Every Event.
 Music for Any Stage.
 Music for YOU.

 @tibdfw
 TIB_DFW

817.980.7607

Flyers | Business Cards
 Websites | Book Covers & More

"Quality Can Be Affordable"



Write the Vision | Habakkuk 2:2
midnighthourdesigns.com
designs@midnighthourdesigns.com

**SUPPORT OUR
 ATA NEWSLETTER
 SPONSORS!**




**LOOKING FOR A
 REAL ESTATE
 AGENT?**

CALL DALE MBAMBI


Let me help you buy or sell your home.
 Schedule your appointment to get
 a complimentary market evaluation.

817-683-3819
Dale.Mbambi.Realtor@gmail.com

Relocity Real Estate
 Fort Worth, TX
<https://www.relocityrealestate.net/>



BOBBY BROWN
 PHOTOGRAPHY



Website: bobbybrownphoto.com
 Email: bobbybrownphoto@gmail.com
 214.214.8841

Save the Date!



Arlington Museum of Art
February 22, 2025
12 PM - 2 PM

Support Our Foundation on North Texas Giving Day!



Early Giving Starts
September 1, 2024.
Scan this QR code to give!

