

ARTS & CULTURE PROGRAM

Check out our latest events!

- Anacostia Community Museum
- National Museum of African American History & Culture
- “Careers in the Arts”

Empowering Visits

The ACES “Arts & Culture” program kicked off its third year in the fall semester of 2018. Highlights included empowering visits to the Smithsonian’s Anacostia Community Museum, National Museum of African American History & Culture, as well as the 2nd Annual “Careers in the Arts in the 21st Century” workshop held at the Mansion, at Strathmore Music Center.

Anacostia Community Museum

ACES students from Albert Einstein and Springbrook High School were not only inspired by the Anacostia Community Museum’s exhibition, “A Right to the City”, but they also had the chance to meet with the museum’s Education Director, Dr. Paul Perry, who gave all who attended an overview of how to approach a museum when visiting.



Above: Excited ACES students before entering “A Right to the City” exhibition.



Left: ACES students take a closer look at an exhibit in the Anacostia Community Museum.

National Museum of African American History & Culture (NMAAHC)

Montgomery Blair and Clarksburg High School ACES students were energized when visiting the National Museum of African American History & Culture (NMAAHC). Together, the journey “up” through the magnificently constructed museum was an empowering one for all of us.

As one student noted when asked if she wanted to visit the museum on her own, *“I would be interested in visiting again because everything was really amazing and interesting to see and read. I would want to explore the upper part of the museum more because it had all the later events leading to the equality of African Americans and all the culture they brought to the United States.”*



Above: ACES students going through “The Era of Segregation” in NMAAHC.



Left: The empowerment of women. Let’s keep it going!

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“Careers in the Arts”

The mansion only had “Standing Room Only” (SRO) for students from 5 of our ACES high schools who attended a roundtable/panel discussion of renown, talented and supportive artists/mentors here in our DC-metropolitan area. Thanks to our co-sponsors of this event—the Education Departments at Strathmore and the Baltimore Symphony—we were able to invite exquisite visual, dance, music, and University leaders to discuss and answer pertinent questions of ACES students considering a career in the arts. Each presented her/his process and timeline of taking their dream of having a fulfilling career in the arts from high school through college, and beyond. Specific steps to help students bridge their dreams to a career were given—from applying early to internships with arts organizations, through taking chances and trying things out while in college, to reaching out to mentors were all part of the discussion. We felt the goal of the workshop was met—that of opening new windows and processes for those considering studying or pursuing the arts in college and beyond – when a student wrote in his survey, *“I now see that I have more options.”*



Above: ACES student attendees share a fun and proud moment with Dr. Frank Trezza, Dean of Visual, Performing & Media Arts at Montgomery College, and fellow panelists.

Below: Gina DiMedio-Marrazza, ACES Arts and Culture Coordinator, introduces the mission, panelists, and format of this inspiring workshop! To our fabulous ACES students!



We look forward to our spring “Arts & Culture” experiences, including attending Step Afrika!’s 25th Anniversary performance at Strathmore, the “Les Miserables” production at Strathmore by Young Artists of America, and a visit to the Library of Congress! Onward!