

Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas Juvenile Court Division

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Juvenile Court and Creative Hope Studios Expand Arts Programming in the Juvenile Detention Center

(CLEVELAND, OHIO - December 20, 2022) - The <u>Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court</u> and <u>Creative Hope Studios</u> are working together to expand the creative arts programming in the Juvenile Detention Center.

The partnership has resulted in the installation of a recording studio and will enable residents to engage in the creative and expressive arts to improve access to hip hop culture as a mechanism to deal with trauma.

Partnering with <u>Creative Hope Studios</u> allows the Juvenile Court to expand its care for residents by providing healing and self-expression through the arts. Creative Hope Studios encourages participants to express themselves through creative writing, cultural inclusion, poetry, and music therapy. As residents engage with Creative Hope Studios, they are presented with opportunities to explore careers in audio production & engineering, video editing, podcasting and entrepreneurship.

Creative Hope Studios is led by TJ Griffin and Jose "FLX SOUNDZ" Rios. TJ Griffin is a youth mentor, program provider, national trainer and the founder of The Vision Program which provides programs, curriculum and workshops for at-risk youth predominately in the Juvenile Justice system. TJ is also an accredited trainer in Juvenile Justice providing training opportunities for youth-care workers and support staff, addiction counselors, judges, and probation officers. Jose Rios is the founder of the "Dream Load" program, a series of music programs and workshops that teach audio production, engineering, recording and business aspects of the music industry for at risk and court adjudicated youth. Jose is a music educator and a professional music producer & engineer with over 15 years of experience working in the music industry. Jose has created catalog of music producing for recording artist, major television shows, film, and television networks such as BRAVO and HULU.

Creative Hope Studios involvement goes beyond the studio installation and completing the artwork that will be providing decorative inspiration for resident artists. Creative Hope Studios will also be training the Juvenile Court's Activity Coordinators and other Detention Services staff to utilize the equipment. Their training will enable Detention Services staff to assist residents in not only recording their music and podcasts but also in developing their creative thinking and writing skills as well as other means of expressive artwork.

For more information, please contact:

Creative Hope Studios: (717) 587-2923 or (717) 283-3463

(Instagram: @creativehopestudios / Facebook: @CreativeHopeStudios

Or

Benjamin Wilson, Communications and Community Outreach Specialist, Court of Common Pleas – Juvenile Court Division at bpwilson@cuyahogacounty.us

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