

**NOURISH
A CHILD'S
DREAM**



ART GALA • SEPTEMBER 23RD, 2023
2192 NIAGARA ST, BUFFALO, NY 14207



EVENT TIMELINE

5:00-6:00pm

Guest Check-In, Silent Auction, Networking
Hors D'oeuvres, Open Bar and Photo Booth

6:00-6:05pm

Welcome Message | Chelsea Lovell, Emcee

6:05-6:10pm

Violinist Performance | Henri Star Muhammad

6:10-6:20pm

Remarks from Evelyn Kessler
ICA Founder & Executive Director

6:20-6:30pm

Awards Ceremony and Recipient Speeches

6:30-6:40pm

Violinist Performance | Henri Star Muhammad

6:40-7:00pm

Fashion Show

7:00-7:15pm

Announcement: Silent auction winners

7:15-8:15pm

Buffet dinner

8:15-10:00pm

After party with DJ Mixon!

Please note: Open bar is between 5:00-6:00pm. Cash bar after 6:00pm (alcohol only). Soda and juice is included in the ticket price thus free throughout the event.



FEATURING



CHELSEA LOVELL

CHELSEA LOVELL

Chelsea is originally from New York City but has quickly made Buffalo her new home! She is the host of the new lifestyle show on News 4 Daytime Buffalo! You can join her weekdays on Channel 4 to be informed and entertained as she shares the people, places, and businesses that make WNY great!



HENRI STAR MUHAMMAD

HENRI STAR MUHAMMAD

Born and raised in Buffalo, NY, Henri is an award-winning violinist, conductor, composer, recording artist, author, scholar, and educator. In 1999, Henri founded Muhammad School of Music (MSOM) in Buffalo, New York. MSOM serves hundreds of students from Buffalo, the larger Western New York region, and Southern Ontario (Canada), in addition to students who travel into Buffalo from all over the country.



JESS TOMAINO

JESS TOMAINO

Jessica is an art instructor and founder of WAHI Studio, an art education nonprofit organization established in 2020 serving Niagara County and WNY. They take a therapeutic approach to creating art and focus on mental health by making art fun and accessible to youth and the young at heart.



ANNISA GLOVER-BRIGGS

ANNISA GLOVER-BRIGGS

Annisa is the Chief Designer of Ani Janelle Creative Studio LLC, which she created to help tell authentic stories and showcase art that reflects the world that we live in every day. Everyone has a voice in this world, and she's on a mission to empower you to love and express yourself freely.

Jess and Annisa will create live artwork during the event!



STUDENT ARTISTS

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

G.U.A.O.A. is an orphanage in Goma, Democratic Republic of Congo. Founded in 1994, the orphanage created a home for children who were left behind after the death of their families.

LEON KIKA

21 years old

KEVIN BISIMWA

22 years old

PRINCE BWIRA

18 years old

ABEDI LUTALA

15 years old

JEREMIE TCHUBAKA

16 years old

CLARICE MIKUBA

13 years old

BUFFALO PUBLIC SCHOOL # 84 AT ECMC

BPS #84 specializes in special education. Their mission is to provide an alternative, individualized, learning environment for students to become independent members of society.

SYED AHMED

21 years old

MERCEDES LEWIS

20 years old

DILYNN COLE

15 years old

ANGEL MALDONADO

20 years old

NOAH GRINAGE

16 years old

MICHAEL BELLAMY

13 years old

MUZAMIL UKASH

16 years old

NAIMO OMAR

15 years old

HAYDEN POWELL

15 years old

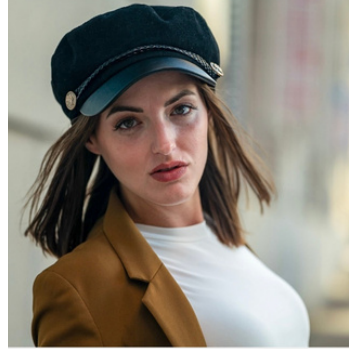
MEET THE MODELS



Abayomi McCray is 13 years old and is in 8th grade. She plays softball, basketball, the violin, and is a jazz and tap dance performer.



Amanda Alford is a passionate mom, dedicated entrepreneur, and advocate for pet welfare. She is the co-owner of Alford's Angels Dog Grooming and Nickel City Pet Pantry, providing pet service, high-quality pet supplies and products in Buffalo.



Casey DuPont, is a Rochester-based model. She is accomplishing her dream of becoming a well-known model. Her work includes bookings at New York Fashion Week (NYFW), a publication in PUMP magazine and others.



Carine Merritt, an experienced fashion model with over a decade of experience in the industry. She is also an actress, and mother of three. She is best known as Chef Carine, Owner of Carine's Caribbean Cuisine.



Jayla is an 18-year-old student who attends Buffalo State University. She is pursuing her dream of entering the fashion industry. She is a hard-working entrepreneur and high fashion model and loves expressing her creativity in many ways.



Nana Aluma is from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), she emigrated to the U.S. in 2014 with her daughter. She is a financial analyst at M&T Bank. She is passionate about supporting marginalized women and children in the DRC and across Africa.



Tacari McCray is a 14-year-old young man who is both musically and athletically talented. He attends Olmsted #156 and will be starting his sophomore year in high school this year. Tacari is a Varsity baseball and basketball player, and violinist.

Attire for the catwalk provided by:

- BPS #84
- GUAOA Orphanage
- Global Villages

All items are available for purchase. Please visit the ICA information table for more information.

HONOREES

EXCEPTIONAL TEACHER AWARD | AMBER LORENZ

Amber has been teaching art at Buffalo Public School (BPS) #84 for 15 years. Her students range from ages 5-21 and have multiple disabilities. During her time at the school, she has adapted and modified the art program to suit the various learning needs of her students. She is also married and has two children. **The work of Amber and her students is showcased with the auction items. Proceeds from their work will benefit BPS #84.**



ICA HUMANITARIAN AWARD

This award celebrates outstanding individuals who advocate for accessible education and a more equitable society. They're dedicated to empowering the next generation, ensuring every child has the chance to learn, grow, and thrive, regardless of their circumstances or country of residence.

KELLY DOCKERY

Kelly Dockery works for M&T Bank. Outside of the bank, she enjoys volunteering and has worked with many organizations such as We 12 Ministries, Catholic Charities, Compass House, International Child Advancement and Goodwill. Additionally, she provides financial education and guidance to her community. Kelly started supporting DRC children in 2011, she also served on ICA's board for three years.



BARB KESSLER

Barb is the mother of four adult children and their spouses. She has been an educational sponsor since 2011. "I am very proud of the achievements of the two children I sponsor. This school year, they started 9th and 5th grade." She is also a member of a Prayer shawl group that knits shawls and lap robes for community members that are shut in.



SILENT AUCTION INSTRUCTIONS

We have some great items, so please scan the QR code below to BID!

- Scan the BetterUnite QR code below to access the site and click on "Register" where you will enter your information.
- After you complete your registration, BetterUnite will email you your unique secure link to join the auction and to review the event information.
- You can use the personalized link, created just for you, anytime you want to join or actively participate in the auction through September 23rd, 6:30pm.



******The secure link is only for YOU, to make donations and participate in the auction. Please do not share it with anyone else otherwise their bids will be listed under your name and information. If you lose this link, go back to the main event page for your organization and click "Already Registered" to retrieve your link using your phone number and using multi-factor authentication.***

Anyone that selects the "buy now" option will be cashed out and charged by BetterUnite. All bids will close at 6:30pm. At that time, the item will be awarded to the last bidder. If you are not present during the event to collect your prize, you are asked to pick it up by September 29th at Sasmita Batik Indonesia, 43 1/2 Allen Street, Buffalo, NY.



THANK YOU SPONSORS!

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Molina Healthcare, Inc., a FORTUNE 500 company, provides managed health care services under the Medicaid and Medicare programs and through the state insurance Marketplace. Through our locally operated health plans, Molina Healthcare serves approximately 5.1 million members.

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2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

SIGN UP TODAY!

In the DRC, there are 6 years of primary school and 6 years of secondary school. Tuition is paid 3 times a year (per trimester) or sponsors can opt to pay for the full year in one lump sum.

PRIMARY SCHOOL

- Tuition per trimester: \$60
- Uniform and school supplies (paid annually): \$60

SECONDARY SCHOOL

- Tuition per trimester: \$70
- Uniform and school supplies (paid annually): \$60



CONTACT US:
info@childadvancement.org

MORE INFORMATION
www.childadvancement.org



THANK YOU SILENT AUCTION DONORS!

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**Ebony Huff
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GRATEFUL TO OUR HELPERS!

*“Alone we can do so little; together
we can do so much” Helen Keller*

ICA PLANNING COMMITTEE & VOLUNTEERS

Aimiamia Amadasu-McCray

Elizabeth Wick

Evelyn Kessler

Jordan Knutsen

Mariana Silva

Piyali Campbell

VOLUNTEERS FROM:

PI KAPPA PHI FRATERNITY

M&T BANK

CITI

*Interested in supporting ICA's work on a more consistent
basis? Visit our website for more information:*

<https://www.childadvancement.org/volunteer>