

LEAF

COMMUNITY ARTS



2018 
CULTURAL ARTS
CATALOG
spring / summer



LEAF COMMUNITY ARTS

A nonprofit organization, building community, connecting cultures and enriching lives through the arts — locally & globally — with festivals, community events and arts education programs.

CULTURAL ARTS EDUCATION

LEAF SCHOOLS & STREETS

activates the arts to bridge cultures and create life-affirming, community building experiences - empowering LOCAL youth to become **global citizens, young artistic leaders & agents of positive change.**



LEAF INTERNATIONAL

is dedicated to **cultural preservation, fostering global citizenship and cultural exchange.**

LEAF collaborates with communities & partners to support Culture Keepers who teach local youth their traditional arts.

LEAF SIGNATURE EVENTS



LEAF FESTIVAL is our award-winning founding event. For 23 years, an **intergenerational global community** gathers at Lake Eden for a dynamic experience of music, art a culture from our backyard and around the globe.

LEAF DOWNTOWN AVL

celebrates **creativity, diversity & families** in the heart of Asheville, NC.

This signature and inclusive community event encourages interpersonal exchange, cultural awareness, artistic excellence and welcoming spaces for all walks of life.



- #1 Nonprofit Serving the Arts
- #1 Cultural Arts Event
- #1 Music Festival

- #1 Music-Related Nonprofit
- #1 Festival for Camping
- #1 Festival for Kids

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LEAF SCHOOLS & STREETS

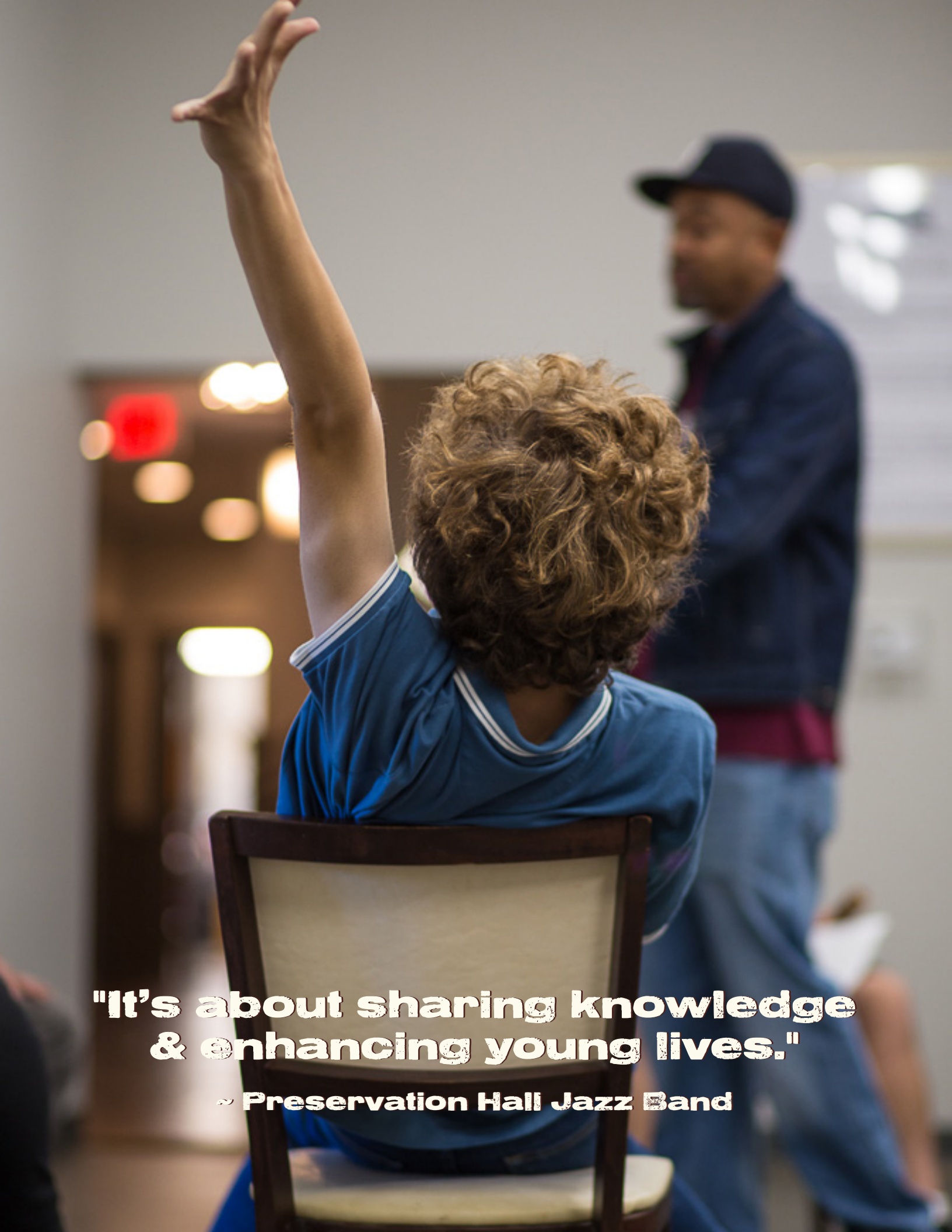
Forward	5
Teaching Artist-Led Programs & Cultural Exchanges	
Visiting Teaching Artist Programs	6
Resident Teaching Artist Programs	10
Summer Immersion Programs	
LEAF Arts & Parks Summer Camp	13
Cultural Arts @ Pritchard Park	13
Community-Driven Programs	
Easel Rider Mobile Art Program	14
Unfolding LEAF (U-LEAF)	14
Cultural Arts Showcase @ Orange Peel	15
Community Performances	15
Living & Learning Series	
LEAF Live!	16
Learning Journeys	16
Booking Forms	
Residency	I
Orange Peel Showcase	II

LEAF INTERNATIONAL

Forward	18
LEAF International Programs	
Bequia	20
Haiti	21
Costa Rica	22
Guatemala	24
Panama	25
Ivory Coast	26
Rwanda	27
Tanzania	28
Mexico	29
New Orleans	30
LEAF International Cultural Expeditions	
Haiti	31
Costa Rica	31
Guatemala	31



LEAF MemberSHIP is a global community of donors who believe in the life-changing power of cultural arts education. Join today & help provide cultural arts education to youth locally & globally! **100% of MemberSHIP support LEAF Schools & Streets and LEAF International.** To get involved, visit theLEAF.org



**"It's about sharing knowledge
& enhancing young lives."**

~ Preservation Hall Jazz Band

Activating cultural arts to create life-affirming, community building experiences — empowering our youth to become **global citizens, leaders & agents of positive change.**

How Do We Define Success?

Developmental Assets: LEAF Schools & Streets' program goals, curriculum, teacher & student evaluations are aligned with the Developmental Assets Profile, developed by the Search Institute. The Search Institute has identified 40 assets which comprise a set of skills, experiences, relationships & behaviors that enable young people to develop into successful & contributing adults. Building these assets prepare youth for success in college or education, a career & citizenship.

LEAF Schools & Streets measures the results of our work through surveys given to our students, parents, artists, teachers & programs, which are aligned with the DAP. The survey questions are specifically matched to measure the degree to which our programs demonstrated & instilled the LEAF Schools & Streets Developmental Assets.

LEAF Schools & Streets has identified **6 assets** that exemplify the types of skills our programs help develop in students:

Community Values Youth: Youth reported being more valued by the community.

Cultural Competency: Youth reported learning about another culture.

Creative Arts: Parents reported that their youth enjoyed their LEAF classes and festival experience.

Personal Power: Youth reported new expressions of creativity.

Self-Esteem: Parents reported that their child had higher self-esteem as a result of their LEAF experience.

Adult Role Models: Parents reported seeing positive changes in their child's behavior as a result of LEAF Schools & Streets.

How To Use This Catalog

LEAF Schools & Streets welcomes and celebrates community partnership, the spirit of collaboration and joint efforts to support the healthy development of kids & young adults. Together, we can explore how engagement can happen, keeping in mind that customization is always an option as long as there is a mission match. Costs you see associated with residencies, workshops, performances, cultural exchanges, and other experiences cover expenses related to Teaching Artist compensation, supplies, transportation/fuel, training and production-support where needs.

This catalog was specifically created for schools, community centers, groups and other organizations that want to bring cultural arts education to the lives of youth locally, and globally. As you flip through this document, please note that LEAF's cultural arts education offerings follow the academic year calendar for ease of partnerships with schools and education-based programs, and are divided into the following semesters:

SPRING | January 1 – May 31

2018 SPRING Student Showcase – May 10-13

SUMMER | June 1 – August 15

2018 SUMMER Student Showcase – August 3-4

FALL | August 16 – December 31

2018 FALL Student Showcase – October 18-21





71,000+
YOUTH SERVED SINCE 2004

TEACHING ARTIST-LED PROGRAMS & CULTURAL EXCHANGES


Visiting Teaching Artist Programs | Easel Rider Mobile Art Lab | Resident Teaching Artist Programs

VISITING TEACHING ARTIST PROGRAMS

Program Overview: Twice a year, LEAF invites performing artists from around the globe that are culturally-rooted enough to grace the Festival stage, and mission-oriented enough to lead a Visiting Teaching Artist residency with elementary, middle, and/or high school students in and around Buncombe County. It is an opportunity for youth to take the next step toward becoming global citizens and leaders - onstage and off-stage in their community. Residency quick notes:

- Visiting Teaching Artist Selection Committee consists of Performing Arts Director, Community Relations Director, Development Director, and in some cases Executive Director. Artists selected are individuals, national acts, and internationally touring acts who strive to empower youth.
- A 3-5 day residency hosted in a local school and/or community center for school age children. Session can last from 1 1/2 to 2 hours per day depending on school, grade and space.
- Each youth performer gets rockstar treatment during their showcase at LEAF Festival with (2) FREE guest passes, a swag bag sponsored by French Broad Food Co-op, a LEAF performer badge, a LEAF t-shirt, and access to the performer lounge on the day of their performance.
- During this experience, youth have an opportunity to truly become global citizens and artistic leaders by working with role models of different cultures and dream of future possibilities!

Semester Offered: SPRING & FALL only
Showcase Details (@ LEAF Festival): SPRING - May 10-13 // FALL - October 18-21
Cost: Varies from \$650-1500 depending on artist/size of group



Spring Residencies | Showcase

Forest Faeries



Artist: The Faerie Kin | **Cost:** \$650 | **Length:** 3 day | **Grade Level:** K-8

Program Overview: Youth embody a plant's life cycle, learning scientific ecology & practical ethnobotany. The journey begins with folklore, blowing the seeds of a dandelion to make a wish, then following the seed to plant, flower & back to seed. Along the way, youth encounter Faerie Kin characters including bee, lion & others -- adding dramatic elements, dance & ecological facts. Students will have the opportunity to interact theatrically as elements of the dandelion & nature. For those who don't wish to be involved in a drama, an earthy-tasks group will make dandelion tea & oil as well as props & costumes. The first two days of the residency will take place outdoors & conclude in the classroom on day 3. Students will showcase their journey at LEAF Festival.

EMERgence

Artist: Nex Millen | **Cost:** \$650 | **Length:** 3 day | **Grade Level:** 3-12

Program Overview: Nex Millen is a Father, Music Producer, Artist, Hip Hop Scholar & Cultural Curator. He is also an accomplished DJ from Philadelphia, PA. He has 20 years of experience in the music entertainment industry, not only as an artist, but also in the fields of Music Retail, Music Marketing & Artist Development. Started by LEAF Community Arts in 2013, EMERgence connects youth with music through technology by providing workshops & installations in the community. Teaching artists educate young, aspiring artists about the evolution of technology & help them create & produce music. EMERgence is made possible with the support of Dan Lucas Memorial Fund & Ben Gradison Memorial Fund. Students will showcase what they learned as a "band" & perform on stage.



Loosidity – Slam Poetry & Prose

Artist: Graham Hackett | **Cost:** \$950 | **Length:** 5 day | **Grade Level:** 6-12

Program Overview: POETIX is a multi-modal experiential arts program exploring written expression, public speaking techniques, and project development through dynamic presentations, workshops, and collaborative events. Performance poetry, or "spoken-word," fuses elements of literature and theatre to create a dynamic technique for poets to verbally deliver their original writing. POETIX draws from the rich history of oral traditions, classic and modern poetry, and the emergence of spoken-word as a vital, living art form reaching from neighborhood cafes to HBO. Participants explore principles of writing and public speaking and develop print and digital audio media.



Art & Mechanism of Wooden Puppets

Artist: Edwin Salas | **Cost:** \$650 | **Length:** 5 day | **Grade Level:** 3-12

Program Overview: In this residency, participants spend a week journeying through the art of woodcarving, puppet mechanisms, and puppet animation to arrive at a finished puppet ready to participate on stage! Each participant receives his/her own wood and woodworking to design the puppet. Once carved, Edwin leads the group through the different styles of movement and manipulation to help convey the story the puppet is engaged in on stage. The final step is decoration and adorning the puppet to fully embody its personality. From beginning to end, Edwin is a master of exploration and teaching all the possibilities to create a parallel between imagination and expression!





Traditions from Haiti

Artist: LEAF International Haiti | **Cost:** \$1,000 | **Length:** 5 day | **Grade Level:** 2-12

Program Overview: This residency features experienced LEAF International students from Haiti introducing young students to the rich music and dance traditions of Africa and the Caribbean. By focusing on this rich cultural tradition, that has influenced culture in US cities like New Orleans, students will learn about the great diversity throughout Africa and the Caribbean. Students will learn basic Haitian drum and dance, a tradition deeply embedded in the cultural interplay between West African continuity, Caribbean rhythm, and acts of positive resistance. Through this cultural exchange, students will be invited to cultivate cross-cultural understanding and global citizenship for a week full of learning, exploration, geography, dancing, singing and sharing!

Ballads & Bluegrass

Artist: Sally & George | **Cost:** \$600 | **Length:** 3 day | **Grade Level:** K-12

Program Overview: In the town where country music was born--where two states come together on one street--a spark lit & a duo ignited. Prior to forming Sally & George, Means & Timmons spent time in Della Mae & Sol Driven Train, respectively. Means was nominated for a GRAMMY for Della Mae's "This World Oft Can Be", and the band won IBMA's Emerging Artist of the Year. They performed at Bonnaroo, Hardly Strictly Bluegrass, Merlefest, Pickathon & twice at the Grand Ole Opry. They were also U.S. cultural ambassadors, performing in 20 countries around the world. In this 3-day residency, this dynamic duo will be bringing bluegrass & ballads to this here side of the mountain!



Exploring Irish Folk

Artist: Irish Mythen | **Cost:** \$650 | **Length:** 3 day | **Grade Level:** K-12



Program Overview: True power inspires awe, and Irish Mythen packs a lot of it — lyrical, musical & personal — into a relatively small frame. Mythen is a globetrotting troubadour — an Irish-born, contemporary Canadian folk artist who's been amassing accolades & achievements across several continents. Her presence & charisma simply command attention, and regardless of where she takes the stage, she delivers a sonic & emotional experience. Irish Mythen wants to bring that experience to your school or group by showcasing the electrifying possibilities of stage presence, song & songwriting. In this residency, students will be empowered to create true stage presence while exploring Irish traditions which paved the way in some ways for what we now call Appalachian folk.

Do the Didjeridu

Artist: Ganga Giri | **Cost:** \$750 | **Length:** 3 day | **Grade Level:** 3-12

Program Overview: Ganga began his musical journey in Port Fairy, Australia with a drum kit at age 8. Inspired by a dream, he followed his calling & began to play didjeridu the very next day. Influenced by many varied genres, including East Indian Tabla & African percussion, Ganga has married indigenous Australian & world music with fat funky dance beats. Deeply inspired by the sacredness of Australia's land & how that feeling can be expressed through the didjeridu, he has become an ambassador for his country, offering his world-wide audience a reflection of contemporary multicultural Australia. Take a peek inside the culture, music & sacred traditions of Australia with this residency for your group!





Sounds & Rhythms of Malawi

Artist: Masankho Banda | **Cost:** \$1,000 | **Length:** 5 day | **Grade Level:** K-12

Program Overview: Masankho — an “Unsung Hero of Compassion” award recipient from the Dalai Lama — will focus on the importance & power of gratitude in Malawian culture specifically & African culture in general. The students will learn songs & dances of gratitude from Malawi, Nigeria, Zimbabwe & South Africa. Masankho brings this learning to all his presentations and classes. Masankho learned to dance and tell stories in his country growing up as a child. His Elders also taught him about gratitude, healing and subtle energy. This interactive residency will invite learning from Masankho Banda, a multi-disciplinary Performing Artist, InterPlay Leader, Spiritual Healer, and Peace Builder from Malawi, Central Africa.

Spirit of Uganda

Artist: Kinobe & The Wamu Spirit | **Cost:** \$800 | **Length:** 3 day | **Grade Level:** K-12

Program Overview: Kinobe (chinobay) is a gifted Ugandan musician & philanthropist known for his inspired synthesis of African roots & global fusion. A multi instrumentalist, singer-songwriter, he is dedicated to bringing love & joy to people through his music & contributing to building healthier lives & communities for children & families everywhere. As a creative — Arts producer, speaker & facilitator, he has given talks & workshops all over the world. Kinobe is proud to be a world ambassador for Harmony Foundation supporting their important work on environmental protection, social development & improving the lives of children & families. In this residency, join Kinobe & The Wamu Spirit on this delightful journey from Uganda around the world!



Native American Rap

Artist: Supaman | **Cost:** \$950 | **Length:** 3 day | **Grade Level:** 3-12

Program Overview: One of the world’s only Native American rappers is coming to Asheville to share the ancient wisdom of the past along with some hypnotic beats & lyrics from somewhere beyond! Supaman is an Apsáalooke rapper & dancer and raised in Crow Agency, Montana. In the fourth grade, Supaman took to dancing at powwow. While in elementary school, he began to write poetry & later rap, finding that he identified with the same issues most artists were rapping about. Supaman was a contributor to the Standing Rock protest, visiting frequently to perform & speak. In this residency, Supaman aims to light the spark of poetry, rap & lyricism for elementary to high school-aged students who believe in the culture of words!



Make an Impact, Be the Change!

Artist: The Change | **Cost:** \$700 | **Length:** 4 day | **Grade Level:** 6-12

Program Overview: The Change is an all female funk band from West Virginia. They each play multiple instruments, and have been from a young age. Their goal is to make a difference in the world with their music. They seek to unite people; to set an example for others that there is hope even in the dark times; to encourage others to stand up for what they believe in; and to encourage people to follow their dreams. They believe that together we have the power to make a CHANGE. Just teenagers themselves, The Change seeks to work with other youth faced with challenges of individuality, self acceptance & equality - using music as the mechanism for greatest impact. Bring CHANGE to your middle or high school students!





RESIDENT TEACHING ARTIST PROGRAMS

Program Overview: LEAF has the opportunity to impact youth beyond the festival experience. LEAF growing roster of 10+ Resident Teaching Artists lead a variety of programs that allow youth to explore an array of cultural arts, including:

HIP HOP – Breakdance, Choreography, Graffiti Art & Intro to DJing

AFRICAN DIASPORA – Drumming, Dance & Costuming

MUSIC APPRECIATION – LEAF Instrument Petting Zoo & LEAF Delta House Jazz Band

DRAMA – Theater, Circus Arts & Puppetry

MEDIA – Photography, Videography, Design & Illustration (coming soon!)

LEAF Schools & Streets programs, goals, curriculum, and evaluations are aligned with the Developmental Assets Profile, developed by the Search Institute. Building these assets prepare youth for success in some type of college or education, a career, and citizenship. LEAF has identified 6 assets that exemplify the types of skills our programs help to develop in our students. These are: Community Values Youth, Adult Role Models, Creative Activities, Cultural Competence, Personal Power, & Self-Esteem.

Semester Offered: SPRING, SUMMER & FALL

Showcase Details (@ LEAF Festival): SPRING - May 10-13 // FALL - October 18-21



Thanks in large part to grants, donations, sponsors, and LEAF MemberSHIP, these Resident Teaching Artist programs have been subsidized, allowing youth & their families to participate **FREE & experience the award-winning LEAF Festival as a performing artist.*

Hip Hop



BREAKDANCE & CHOREOGRAPHY

LEAF's most cross-generational class, dance! Youth from ages 5-17 learn to embrace movement to positive & empowering dance hits. Through group choreography & self-designed solos, youth develop supportive team bonds & a fun means to express high-energy, but focused body coordination. Participants also have leadership opportunities by creating & teaching choreography to their peers. Master Teaching Artists collectively bring 50+ years of dance experience, hands-on youth leadership experience, and education/training in various dance genres, keeping lessons fresh & safe.

Teaching Artist(s): Lisa Zahiya, Teren Gaskin & Otto Vasquez

Program Partners: IRL (In Real Life), Burton Street Community Center, Children First/Communities in Schools, Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club of Asheville & Studio Zahiya



GRAFFITI ART

Dance, music & art intersect through hip hop culture at LEAF ONEmic Studio at Burton Street. ONEmic is managed by a music producer, artist & DJ so that the space can grow organically into a hub for music technology experimentation, art, study & collaboration. The link between hip hop & graffiti evolved as a competition, much like the dance moves of hip hop culture. Graffiti began to show up on subways in New York & other cities as a form of expression for those who listened to rap music & quickly spread. Today, graffiti art is acknowledged as a visual art form that is a means of community expression with public consumption.

Teaching Artist: Nex Millen & Otto Vazquez

Program Partner: Burton Street Community Center



INTRO TO DJING

The art of mixing, scratching & spinning have taken the globe by storm. What started in urban cities across the Northeast US, quickly became an embedded art form of hip hop culture & continuously evolves as technology advances. DJs may create beats using percussion breaks, basslines & musical content sampled from pre-existing records. All are welcome to learn music production equipment, the ins & outs of the music industry & the technical art of mixing & scratching. This program has proudly been led by independent artists, hip hop professors & entrepreneurs bringing business acumen, artistry & tech detail to students.

Teaching Artist: Nex Millen, DJ Kutzu, Otto Vazquez

Program Partner: Burton Street Community Center

African Dispora



DRUM, DANCE & COSTUMING

When LEAF Schools & Streets was founded in 2004, the primary impetus was to bring music and art into the historically African-American neighborhoods of Buncombe County. Today, the programs continue to honor this foundation by recognizing the importance of connecting youth to their African heritage. Master Teaching Artists from Ivory Coast, Malawi, Rwanda, New Orleans and Virginia lead authentic drumming, dance and costuming classes, engaging students in the sounds, rhythms and customs from the Motherland.

Teaching Artist: Adama Dembele & David Kwizera

Program Partners: YMCA 21st Century Horizons Program, Burton St. Community Center, Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club of Asheville, Christine W. Avery Center, AVL Music School

Music Appreciation



LEAF INSTRUMENT PETTING ZOO

A diverse collection of instruments from around the world bring global music education home with the LEAF Instrument Petting Zoo. Featured at LEAF Festival, the array of instruments & lesson plans help youth discover & experiment with the sounds & history of various drums, horns, woodwinds & string instruments. Access to the Burton Street ONEmic Studio further provides an opportunity to marry traditional music lessons with modern electronic music production techniques.

Teaching Artist: Agustin Frederic
Program Partner: Burton Street Recreation Center



LEAF DELTA HOUSE JAZZ BAND

Creates a stable foundation for youth to create supportive peer groups while developing self-confidence, self-worth, perseverance & commitment. The band practices classic jazz music, learns the principles of music composition & master musical cohesion. Participants have the unique opportunity to earn a bi-annual journey to New Orleans gaining cultural context on the past, present, future & heart of jazz music. Students sit in on practices, take master classes, light up the city with tours & memories, and so much more.

Teaching Artists: Gary Bradley & Sam Irvin IV (Parent Coordinator: Cornelia McNeil)
Program Partner: Delta House Life Development, Inc., Preservation Hall Jazz Band All-Stars & Foundation, Trombone Shorty Academy, Roots of Music & Golden Feather

Drama



THEATER

LEAF theater classes explore a wide-range of written, verbal and non-verbal self-expression tools as well as technical aspects of theatrical production. Youth engage in exercises to hone their interpersonal communication skills and develop self-confidence through script writing, group skit acting, monologue rehearsal, public speaking and improvisation. Teaching Artists bring business experience to the class for a behind-the-scenes perspective of what putting on a professional production is all about: set design, props, lighting & presence.

Teaching Artist: Erinn Hartley
Program Partners: YMCA - 21st Century Horizons Program & IRL (In Real Life)



CIRCUS ARTS

Challenge the body & mind in activities that combine balance, juggling, hand-eye coordination & body posture with non-verbal communication, improvisation, focus, teamwork & fun. Dive into the tricks of the trade while gaining confidence in conveying & control emotion. This unique art hones a high-level of concentration, body flow & relaxation that utilizes the right & left side of the brain. It also develops a need for open, clear communication & cooperation among a troupe teaching youth healthy support systems, and the joy of laughter, humor & creativity.

Teaching Artists: Nina Ruffini & Ingrid Johnson
Program Partners: YMCA - 21st Century Horizons Program & IRL (In Real Life)

SUMMER IMMERSION PROGRAMS

LEAF Arts & Parks Camp // Cultural Arts @ Pritchard Park



Arts & Parks Camp

Program Overview: The annual LEAF Arts & Parks Summer Camp is a joint partnership between LEAF Schools & Streets and Asheville Parks & Recreation. The camp is a natural product of each organization's mission.

At the conclusion of each week of Camp, youth will have the opportunity to showcase what they've learned in a finale performance for families and community members at the Wesley Grant Center and/or LEAF Downtown.

Kids step into the magical world of LEAF in a week of fun activities similar to festival-favorite experiences with dance workshops, healing arts, face painting, drum lessons, circus/theater arts, Spanish, the LEAF Instrument Petting Zoo & more!

**Advance registration required. Registration opens on February 19th & closes when spots fill.*

Semester Offered: SUMMER only
Cost: \$165* per child (rising 1st to 5th graders)
Camp Details: 9am - 5pm daily
Week 1: - July 23-27 // **Week 2:** July 30-Aug 3
Location: Dr. Wesley Grant Sr. Center | 285 Livingston



Cultural Arts @ Pritchard Park

Program Overview: The series provides weekly culturally-flavored music, dance & visual arts instruction to people of all ages during the summer. The series will take place over ten weeks, hosting an event every Wednesday evening.

To complement the music and dance workshops, LEAF will provide visual artists to simultaneously conduct activities at the Easel Rider Mobile Art Lab. These art activities will relate to and supplement the performing arts aspect by acting as a visual representation of the culture being presented through dance. Audience members will have the opportunity to create visual arts that pair with the music or dance activity.

Easel Rider activities will be hands-on, accessible, and always FREE to all.

Semester Offered: SUMMER only
Cost: FREE to attendees
Series Details: 6-7pm | **Wednesday:** Jun 6 - Aug 8
Location: Pritchard Park // Downtown Asheville



COMMUNITY-DRIVEN PROGRAMS

Easel Rider Mobile Art Lab // U-LEAF // Cultural Arts Showcase // Community Performances



EASEL RIDER

Easel Rider Mobile Art Lab

Program Overview: Easel Rider — Asheville’s Mobile Art Lab — is all about connecting people and art. City of Asheville Parks & Recreation Division has partnered with LEAF to operate the Easel Rider, helping boost public access to visual art. The Easel Rider provides interactive hands-on activities that challenges the Asheville community to experience creation on the go!

The Easel Rider contains 80 linear feet of art supplies, a sound system, and projectors. In July 2013, the City of Asheville partnered with LEAF to continue Easel Rider programming, which is free when hosted at a Asheville Parks & Recreation site.

Today, LEAF has a growing roster of 10+ Easel Rider Teaching Artists that facilitate a visual art project related to the theme of the community event. Easel Rider Mobile Art Lab is used in many different capacities: after-school programs, community functions, specific school activities, outdoor activities and camps - reaching roughly **6,000+ youth at 120 events in 2017.**

Semester Offered: SPRING, SUMMER & FALL
Cost: \$150 (1-3 hours) / \$300 (4-6 hours)

Teaching Artists: Marsha Almodovar (Coordinator), Cleaster Cotton, Cynde Allen, Robyn Josephs, Christina Ruiz, Cristal Rose Fox, Yetta Williams, Erinn Hartley, Chaka Gordon & Madison Link
Graphic Artist: Sir Tom Foolery
Sponsored By: Harmony Motors
Program Partners: Cheap Joe’s Art Stuff & Maybin Mission



U-LEAF Mobile Stage

Program Overview: The “U-LEAF” (short for “Unfolding LEAF Mobile Stage”) is a one-of-a-kind mobile art stage, built in collaboration with Asheville Design Build Studio through a grant project featuring 13 scholar-shipped students hailing from 7 different universities. Drawing upon a wide range of design & technical disciplines, these students worked tirelessly for two months fabricating models, workshopping blueprints, surveying community needs, and ultimately constructing this valuable asset for Asheville.

Our purpose for creating the U-LEAF, is to foster pathways of access, inclusivity & community-building through the collaborative production of high integrity events in neighborhoods, community centers, public parks, and even private functions.

The U-LEAF is available in a variety of forms ranging from a simple stage deployment to a comprehensive experience — the stage deployment paired with admin and a full PA sound system.

Semester Offered: SPRING, SUMMER & FALL
Cost: \$400 (stage only) / \$800 (full setup per day)

**The pricing for the rental and use of the U-LEAF stage will be determined based upon the nature of your event, status of your organization (private vs. non-profit), and partnership status with LEAF Community Arts.*



Cultural Arts Showcase @ Orange Peel

Program Overview: This is the field trip you've been looking for. Bring your students for a morning filled with music, dancing & culture. Give them the opportunity to learn about different musical styles & instruments as well as learn about unique & beautiful cultures from around the world! The Orange Peel Showcase brings together LEAF International group(s) with a Visiting Teaching Artist in order to cultivate a mash-up of dynamic learning & exploration of music & arts from local to global. This is the perfect chance for Asheville's youth to come together for the common cause of music, art, culture & FUN!

Artist groups that LEAF has partnered with:

Squirrel Nut Zippers, LEAF International, Proyecto Jirondai, Boukman, 23 Skidoo, Jabali Acrobats, M.A.K.U. Soundsystem, Preservation Hall Jazz Band, Sierra Leone All-Stars, David LaMotte & many more!

Semester Offered: SPRING & FALL only

Cost: \$3 per child / \$5 per adult

Showcase Details: 11am-12pm

SPRING: Monday, May 14

FALL: Monday, October 22

Spring Lineup

Supaman
LEAF International Haiti
Lisa Zahiya

Fall Lineup

LEAF International Costa Rica
LEAF International New Orleans
Adama Dembele

Community Performances

Program Overview: Beyond showcasing every May & October at LEAF Festival, Teaching Artist-led programs & their youth performers can be a great addition to a school assembly, community gathering, block party, arts education summit, and so much more!

Semester Offered: SPRING, SUMMER & FALL

Cost: \$200-350/performance

(stipends to youth & artists)



LIVING & LEARNING SERIES

LEAF Live! // Learning Journeys



LEAF Live!

Program Overview: Join LEAF Staff, Board, Members, Teaching Artists, Partners and others at this celebration of community and art!

Once every quarter, we will gather together to share a LEAF Festival preview + pre-book Visiting Teaching Artist residencies; experience a cultural exchange from a LEAF International program; immerse inside the creative worlds of our Resident Teaching Artist Programs with learning journeys and hands-on demos; and engage in FREE, family-friendly visual arts crafts led by Easel Rider Teaching Artists. Registration is not required, but RSVP is requested for attendees of all ages.

Semester Offered: SPRING, SUMMER & FALL

Cost: FREE to attendees

Details: 5:30-8pm

Dates: Feb 9th | June 1st | Sept 7th | Dec 6th

Location: Varies (see invites for details)

Learning Journeys

Program Overview: Since 2014, LEAF has been hosting conversations for & by the local community, lovingly called "Learning Journeys" as these discussions give us an opportunity to move away from our desks, expand our world by zooming out for a moment, and getting perspective with a local thought leader.

Each month, Learning Journeys are paired with a theme, and a speaker is invited to share their story. Learning Journeys will last approximately 60-90 minutes, depending on how long Q&A is the speaker shares. This is a FREE gathering, with some kid-friendly options next door at the East Asheville Library. RSVP is requested.

Semester Offered: SPRING, SUMMER & FALL

Cost: FREE to attendees

Details: 10:30am-12pm

Every 4th Tuesday (except May & October)

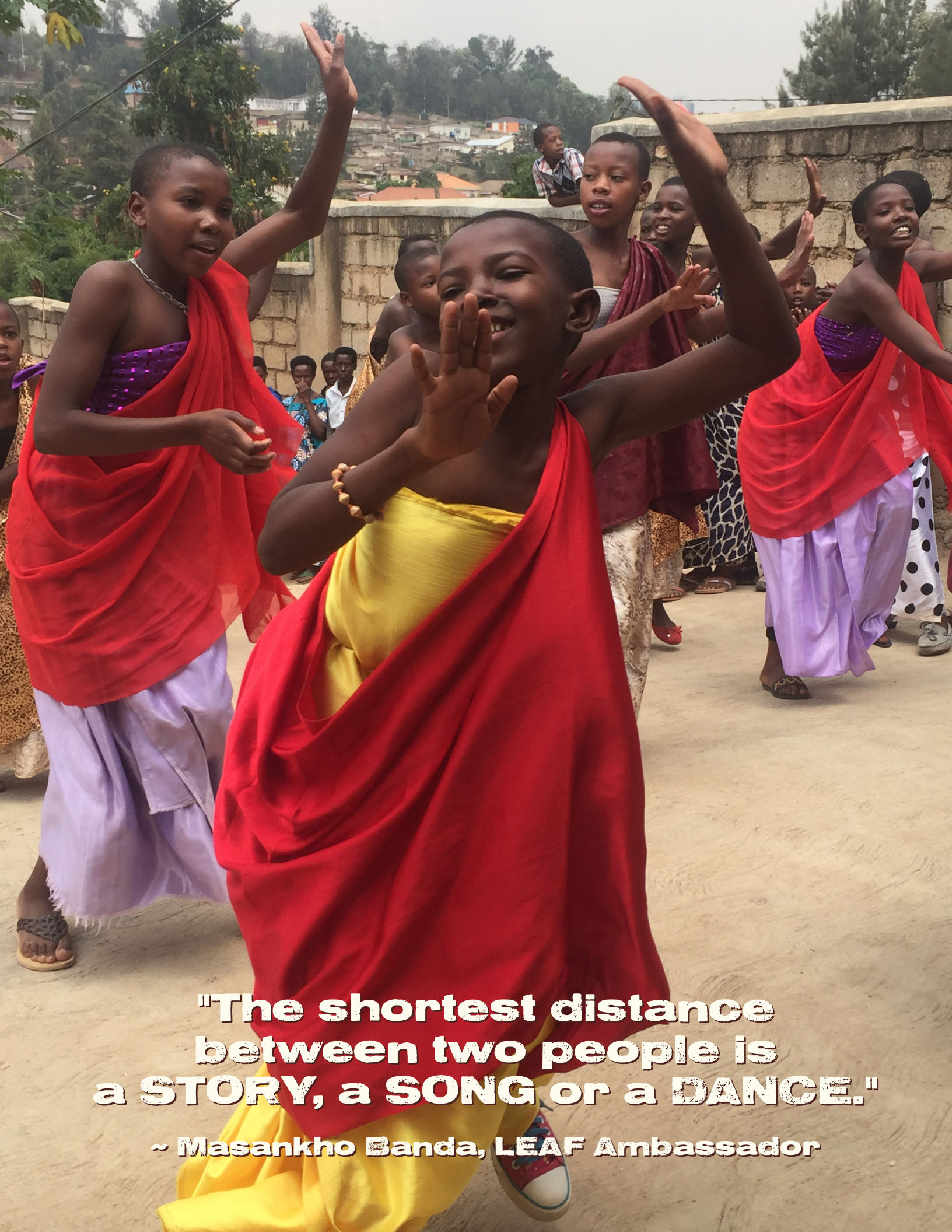
Dates: Feb 27 | March 27 | Apr 24 | May 9 | June 26
| July 24 | Aug 28 | Sep 25 | Oct 17 | Nov 27 | Dec 6

Location: Varies (see invites for details)



Want to attend these events?

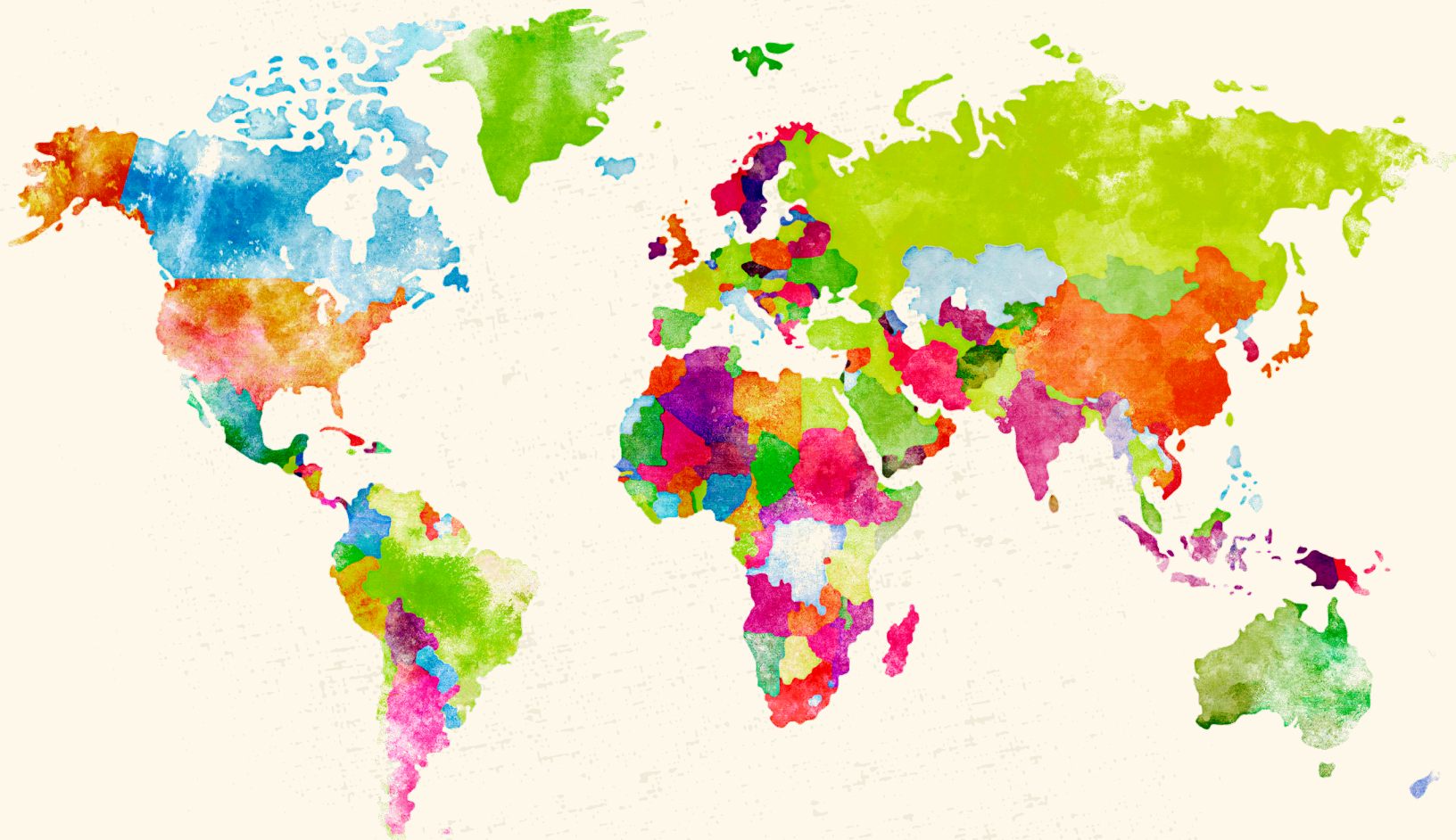
Email outreach@theLEAF.org to be added to our mailing list or call 828.68.MUSIC [686-8742] for more information.



**"The shortest distance
between two people is
a STORY, a SONG or a DANCE."**

~ Masankho Banda, LEAF Ambassador

Dedicated to **cultural preservation & the fostering of global citizenship**, LEAF international empowers communities by supporting Culture Keepers & connecting youth to their cultural heritage traditions.



Where We Work



BEQUIA



HAITI



COSTA RICA



GUATEMALA



PANAMA



IVORY COAST



RWANDA



TANZANIA



MEXICO



NOLA

How Do We Define Success?

The UNESCO Culture for Development Indicators identifies 7 key dimensions that address the interrelations between culture and development. 22 indicators inform these 7 key dimensions & provide a guiding framework for quantifying the contribution of culture in development. LEAF International uses 9 of the indicators to align with 5 of the dimensions guiding our design & evaluation of our community-owned & community-led programs.

Cultural Employment: Identifying local artists, musicians and cultural leaders to employ as Teaching Artists. Contributing to the cultural economy, this allows these individuals to make a sustainable livelihood while also sustaining the continuation of their cultural heritage. **(Economy Dimension)**

Arts Education: LEAF International is an arts education program, with a focus on cultural preservation. Programs focus on learning traditional music instruments, customary dances, and songs that hold cultural meaning. **(Education Dimension)**

Professional Training In Culture: As students grow older, LEAF International provides systems for training them to transition from students to Teaching Artists. In a safe space of creative expression, youth explore both their personal and cultural identities. **(Education Dimension)**

Participation In Cultural Activities: In addition to year-round cultural arts education programs, LEAF International works with partners to organize events and performances where students celebrate their skills with their communities. **(Social Participation Dimension)**

Interpersonal Trust: Music and arts education programming is community-based and relationship-building. Students learn to trust their peers and their Teaching Artists as they collaborate together through the avenue of creative expression. **(Social Participation Dimension)**

Tolerance Of Other Cultures: Teaching Artists & Culture Keepers instruct students on the beautiful traditions of their own culture as well as those of regional ethnic groups, promoting an appreciation of all the varying cultures in our world. **(Social Participation Dimension)**

Access & Internet Use: LEAF International is developing programs that connect across borders through the avenue of technology and the use of Internet. **(Communication Dimension)**

Heritage Sustainability: One of the underlying driving forces of LEAF International's programming is to promote the passing of cultural traditions from one generation to the next, contributing to the sustainability of diverse heritages around the globe. **(Heritage Dimension)**

How to Speak LEAF International

Cultural Expeditions: Paid trips for LEAFers to visit LEAF International Programs & connect with the important work that LEAF Community Arts does globally, while building strong relationships between communities (cultivating global citizenship). Join LEAF on a journey to Guatemala, Haiti or Costa Rica. Look for this symbol indicating upcoming LEAF cultural expeditions.



ONEmic Studio: Established in 2014, the first ONEmic Studio began in Kenya as a direct result of the vision of the late Ben Gradison & forged a global network of creative exchange through music technology. Now in 5 LEAF International programs worldwide (indicated by this symbol), the recording studios are fully operational & accessible to Teaching Artists & young aspiring artists for engagement in the production of music.



Culture Keeper: Leaders who hold the highest understanding of culture/tradition in their community. Culture Keepers work to preserve their native languages, land, instruments, costumes & musical traditions.

Cultural Exchanges: An opportunity for cultural immersion in which LEAF International Culture Keepers, Teaching Artists & youth come to Asheville to share their heritage traditions with the local communities. Exchanges happen 3 times per year (May, July & October).



SAINT VINCENT & THE GRENADINES BEQUIA

{ Founded in 2006 }

"A country without a culture is a people without an identity, therefore it is important that cultural practices are passed from generation to generation to preserve such."

~ Kesslon Wilson, Kids on Pans Teaching Artist

- **Cultural Focus:** Steel Pan Traditions
- **Youth Currently Enrolled:** 24
- **Teaching Artists:** Kesslon Wilson
- **Program Coordinator:** Levi Walker

DESCRIPTION

LEAF International has partnered with Bequia Community High School to start a unique, music & arts education program that teaches traditional steel pan drumming to children on the island. Called "Kids on Pans," this program has grown from an introductory class about their cultural heritage to an established program with dedicated kids that are becoming professional steel drum musicians.

When the program started in Bequia, only one child on the small island had knowledge of the steel pan tradition. Due to Westernization, the steel pan tradition was slowly fading out & losing relevance among the upcoming generation. Now, with the help of an inspired & engaged community, 70+ children have participated in the "Kids on Pans" program, resulting in a revival of the vibrant steel pan tradition.

IMPACT

The "Kids on Pans" program has brought both tangible and intangible impacts to individuals and the community at large. Through the project, students gain:

- Steel Pan drumming skills
- Community performance experience
- Increased self-esteem & confidence
- Cultural awareness & historical knowledge
- Friendship, teamwork, & leadership skills
- Community recognition



PORT-AU-PRINCE, HAITI



{ Founded in 2013 }

"Your traditions are very important. It's like you forget who you are if you don't know your traditions. We are losing our traditions. They just don't know their traditions. They are disconnected from their roots."

~ Bois Gris, LEAF International Teaching Artist, Boukman Eksperyans

- **Cultural Focus:** Traditional Voodoo Rhythms
- **Youth Currently Enrolled:** 40
- **Teaching Artists:** Johanne Dejean & Bois Gris
- **Partner:** Prosjekt Haiti

DESCRIPTION

LEAF International, Prosjekt Haiti (a Norwegian non-profit), and Boukman Eksperyans (a Haitian musical group) all partner together to implement and sustain the LEAF International Haiti program. Twice a week, members of Boukman Eksperyans give drum and dance lessons to children in Project Haiti's Youth Club, free of cost. These youth are extraordinary and dedicated. The long-term vision for the program is that they will eventually serve as music teachers for younger children. The youth perform in the community at least 4 times each year.

The benefits of this program extend to the local community, including the drum maker commissioned to provide instruments and the women in the tailor shop Atelier Manman Troll (apart of Prosjekt Haiti), who make costumes for the youth.

IMPACT

Through the project, students gain:

- Classes in Haitian sacred drumming
- Traditional dance classes
- Reconnecting to local traditions
- The opportunity to perform in the community



Haiti: June 29 - July 7, 2018

Visit Haiti with LEAF & be immersed in culture, connection, history & magic.
See page 31 for more details.



NGÄBE, BRIBRI & CABECAR FIRST NATIONS COSTA RICA

{ Founded in 2003 }

"LEAF gives us eyes & a voice to a greater world... one that doesn't know the song & story of my people. Our hope is for people to recognize the gifts we have to offer, so we receive more opportunities to expand & share our music & culture."

~Jairo Sanchez, LEAF International Culture Keeper, Bribri First Nation

- **Cultural Focus:** Indigenous First Nation Culture
 - **Youth Currently Enrolled:** 100+
 - **Teaching Artist:** Luis Porras Mora
 - **Partner:** Proyecto Jirondai

- **Culture Keepers:**
 - Alexis Rodriguez (Ngäbe)
 - Jairo Sanchez (Bribri)
 - Luis Salazaar (Cabecar)

Ngäbe Nation



DESCRIPTION

In La Casona, the people of the Ngäbe First Nation live on a comarca, roughly translated to "reservation," where indigenous groups have exclusive land rights & some autonomy. The Ngäbe people have lost much of their culture due to colonization & globalization. This is particularly true for the Panama Ngäbe. Those that migrated to Costa Rica have been separated from their cultural roots. Certain indigenous knowledge of traditional instruments, the remembrance of songs & the lineage of some dialects are all disappearing. Here, LEAF International Costa Rica is supporting the Centro de Cultura Ngäbe, founded by community member & musician, Alexis Rodriguez.

Alexis teaches ancient stories to the kids, painting exceptional illustrations in accompaniment. He also teaches children the different traditional dances & songs of the Ngäbe people. Through supporting his endogenous efforts, we are connecting him to a larger network of support to bolster his impact to the Ngäbe communities he is a part of & serves.

IMPACT

Through the program, students gain:

- Lessons in ancient stories & culture of elders
- Indigenous language skills
- Performance opportunities throughout Costa Rica
- Awareness and preservation of cultural traditions

Bribri Nation

DESCRIPTION

In 2013, LEAF International teamed up with Proyecto Jirondai to support the preservation & revitalization of ancient Bribri music, art & language traditions in the southern mountainous region of Talamanca, Costa Rica.

The culture & language of the First Nations in Costa Rica have been marginalized for 2+ generations. Currently, 90% of all linguistics diversity in the Americas have disappeared or are in process of. UNESCO predicts all native languages will disappear in this century.

LEAF International Costa Rica supports & empowers the Bribri First Nation to revitalize their cultural traditions. They connect to their gods, elders & each other through song, dance & drum. The community also has a very progressive radio station & recording studio that has been in existence for many years. With use of radio, the Bribri share their music & recordings of ancient songs with the rest of the country. This ability is empowering to them.

Before LEAF International teamed up with Proyecto Jirondai to initiate this project, there were only 3 individuals in the entire Talamanca Bribri community that still held knowledge of this unique drumming tradition, including Jairo. With the help of Jairo, over sixteen youth are now cultural keepers of the Bribri drumming tradition, revitalizing a cultural art that was at risk of being lost. With each year, these numbers continue to grow.

IMPACT

Through the project, students gain:

- Musical skills in learning songs from their elders
- Mentoring from teachers in the community
- Drum-making skills
- Performance opportunities in the community
- Increased self-esteem & pride knowing their traditions
- Awareness of cultural traditions
- Indigenous knowledge systems of creative expression
- Local community-oriented radio station

Cabecar Nation

DESCRIPTION

With partner Proyecto Jirondai, a third LEAF International program was created with the Cabecar First Nation. Located on Alto Chirripo a 22 mile hike from the nearest vehicle accessible road, Luis Salazar teaches approx 55 students ancient song & dance, creation stories, scared ceremonies, lullabies and healing plant medicine. Additionally, Luis Salazar travels to Ujarras once a month to teach another group of students this ancient wisdom as well.

IMPACT

Through the program, students gain:

- Increased Self Esteem
- Increased Ability & Skills
- Increased Awareness & Knowledge
- Friendship and Camaraderie — Teamwork
- Respect for Culture and History
- Pride in their Culture
- Leadership Skills
- Cultural Preservation
- Traditional medicinal methods of self-preservation

Costa Rica: 2019

Soak up the beaches & waterfalls of Costa Rica raise global awareness about cultural preservation.
See page 31 for more details.





EL TEJAR, GUATEMALA

{ Founded in 2007 }

"Art is to share & it is very important to teach our traditions to our youth so they value & appreciate our culture. When our students perform music it gives importance to our traditions."

~ Sara Morales, LEAF International Teaching Artist & Program Coordinator

- **Cultural Focus:** Traditional Strings Instrument Band
- **Youth Currently Enrolled:** 150
- **Teaching Artists:** Sara Morales & Stephany Munoz
- **Partner:** Proyecto para las Escuelas Guatemaltecas

DESCRIPTION

LEAF International works with Child Aid & the CEDIN School in El Tejar to provide an after school music & cultural arts program. Classes include Marimba, String Instruments, Percussion, Keyboard, Music Theory, Music History & Rhythmic Reading. LEAF International funds the music teachers' salaries, instruments made by local artists & Cultural Exchanges for the students & Teaching Artists to interact with other LEAF International programs & perform at LEAF Festival.

Teacher Training Program & Music Summer Camp:

In 2015, LEAF International Guatemala initiated the first Teacher Training Program, whereby older students have the opportunity to enroll in classes focused on building leadership skills needed to guide them in the process of leading a week-long Music Summer Camp Immersion. The Student-Teachers, ranging in age from 15-18, visit a nearby school during school vacation in November, offering a free music immersion camp for students aged 6-12. Each Student-Teacher leads their group in learning a song that they perform for family and friends at the end of a week, receiving a "Certificate of Completion." The school they visit has no music program, and for the majority of the students that attend, the Music Camp represents their only opportunity for music instruction & music play!

IMPACT

Through the project, students gain:

- Orchestra & Choir Ensemble Practice
- Cultural Exchange at LEAF Festival
- Leadership Skills
- Performance Opportunities
- Creative & Critical Thinking
- Sense of Community



Guatemala: 2019

Soak up the beaches & waterfalls of Costa Rica & raise global awareness about cultural preservation. See page 31 for more details.



LAJERO, PANAMA

{ Founded in 2015 }

"People still feel shy or ashamed to sing or chant in their own language because they feel it is primitive. Alexis is passionate in his charge to share his culture, and his hope is through the music programs to pass the information and passion to the youth so that they will continue to carry Ngäbe culture artistically into the world."

~ Luis Porras Mora, LEAF International Program Coordinator & Proyecto Jirondai Founder

- **Cultural Focus:** Ngäbe-Bugle First Nation
- **Youth Currently Enrolled:** 45
- **Teaching Artist:** Will be hired March 2018
- **Partner:** Proyecto Jirondai

DESCRIPTION

LEAF International partners with Proyecto Jirondai to provide indigenous & First Nation communities with the support they need to preserve, revitalize & pass their cultural traditions down to the next generation. In Panama, we work with the Ngäbe-Bugle First Nation in Lajero, Chiriquí to support elders & Cultural Keepers in teaching the youth their cultural heritage in the form of song, dance & ancient mythology. The importance of this work cannot be understated. In a world where indigenous communities throughout the world are struggling to keep their traditions alive & maintain access to their native lands, providing these communities with solidarity to keep their work thriving is necessary.

This project is about connecting the Ngäbe-Bugle communities of Costa Rica to the Ngäbe-Bugle communities of Panama. These communities live on government 'comarcas,' the equivalent of reservations here in the US. During the 1960s, several thousand Ngäbe-Bugle individuals moved to Costa Rica, out of economic necessity, to work as seasonal agricultural laborers. Because of governmental regulations, these individuals are not freely allowed to cross the border & return to Panama, to visit or otherwise. Through our partnership with communities in both countries, we facilitate on-going connection & the re-building of a once ancient relationship. The result? Traditions & stories that had been lost in Costa Rican communities can be reinvigorated & retaught by their fellow Panamanian communities, and a sense of solidarity & a community across borders is forged.

IMPACT

Through the project, students gain:

- Awareness of cultural traditions
- Pride in their cultural heritage
- Increased self-esteem
- Leadership skills



IVORY COAST

{ Founded in 2017 }

"Several students come from Burkina, Mali, and different Ivory Coast regions to learn from me. I feel like a father figure to the orphans in the neighborhood. We want to have a place to continue teaching our traditions"

~ LEAF International Culture Keeper, Dramane Dembele

- **Cultural Focus:** West African Song & Dance
- **Youth Currently Enrolled:** 35-45
- **Culture Keepers:** Dramane & Adama Dembele

DESCRIPTION

Demolished in 2015 by the government, the Djembeso Drum & Dance Education Center was a place for people of all ages to study drumming, dance, and learn about West African culture. Local Asheville musicians have traveled to study there, including members of Zansa and Toubab Krewe, as well as countless others from around the world. The Dembele household, known as Djembeso, or House of Djembe, has been a link between Asheville and West Africa for over a decade, though the family has been sharing their music for centuries. The Dembele family has been passing on their musical heritage and culture for nearly 700 years. Because of the great amount of respect LEAF has for African traditions and its culture keepers, LEAF partners with Adama Dembele to support the continuation of West African Drum and Dance classes in Ivory Coast.

This LEAF International program includes:

- Traditional West African dance & drum rehearsals
- Monthly Community Performances
- Meals for youth between rehearsals
- Rehearsals in Ivory Coast and Mali

IMPACT

Through this program, students and community members gain:

- Weekly traditional West African dance & drum classes
- Meals for those in need
- Training in valuable skill development
- Self-esteem & pride at keeping their traditions alive
- Discipline skills
- Community building through cultural arts



KIGALI, RWANDA



{ Founded in 2006 }

"I need to teach my culture to other street kids so (when they are adults) they can have the opportunity to become a culture keeper. If I didn't understand my culture, I wouldn't understand my life."

~ David Kwizera, LEAF International Rwanda Culture Keeper

- **Cultural Focus:** Rwandan Drum & Dance
- **Youth Currently Enrolled:** 200+
- **Culture Keeper:** David Kwizera
- **Teaching Artists:** Claude Nyandwi

DESCRIPTION

In Kinyarwanda, the word "Intore" refers to a person who is desperate and hopeless, then GIVEN HOPE by a person or event. This newfound hope gives the person strength to learn new skills, see life through new eyes, and become a better person and a leader. An Intore is a true hero.

As a result of the 1994 genocide and the AIDS epidemic, 70% of the Rwandan population is under 30. Many of those young people are orphans who lack housing and education. In 2006, LEAF International began working with 25 children who lived on the street in Rwanda, reaching out to them with traditional drumming classes. Now years later, most of this group have grown into young men and international quality performing artists who speak English, live in a home, and are positive members of their community. It has been a long powerful extraordinary journey.

Today, members of this original group make up the LEAF Intore Cultural Troupe. These young men receive weekly traditional drumming classes, and perform for the community. These classes and performances help to preserve Rwanda's musical traditions.

IMPACT

Through the project, students gain:

- Housing
- Weekly traditional drumming classes
- Training in valuable skill development
- Self-esteem and pride at keeping their traditions alive
- Discipline skills
- Community building through cultural arts
- An outlet to HEAL from genocide & tragedies



ARUSHA & DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA



{ Founded in 2009 }

"My favorite moment at the festival was every moment. Meeting people from all over the world. We now have friends in Haiti, Malawi, America and many other countries. This was my dream and it has come true."

~Brian Linus, LEAF International Tanzania Student

- **Cultural Focus:** East African Drum & Dance
 - **Youth Currently Enrolled:** 210
 - **Culture Keeper:** Fredy N'ganga
- **Teaching Artist:** Edward Ndoleli & Erasto Njavike
 - **Partner:** Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots

IMPACT

Through the project, students gain:

- Traditional Tanzanian choreography skills
- Vocal & harmonizing skills
- Local instrument familiarity
- Leadership skills
- Increased self esteem & performance opportunities
- Opportunities to work in environmental preservation

Arusha

With the support of LEAF International, Ilboru Secondary School & St. Joseph Girls School in Arusha, host the only music programs in the area that teach youth East African dances, songs & drum rhythms. In addition to these classes, youth also perform concerts regularly that highlight the various tribes and cultures in Tanzania while promoting the environmental messages of our partner, Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots. 750 boys from all over Tanzania attend the prestigious Ilboru Secondary School in Arusha. Prospective students must pass an exam to be accepted. Families often cannot afford the \$1000 annual tuition, so the opportunity to learn their culture & enhance their economic livelihood is essential.

Dar es Salaam

Once a small coastal village, Dar Es Salaam is now the largest city in Tanzania & the country's economic center. It has a lively urban music scene influenced largely by globalization creating a local version of hip hop called "bongo flava." The LEAF International program at Mianzini Preparatory School teaches local singing & dance traditions. Students perform regularly at public events in Dar Es Salaam & lead environmental projects with Roots & Shoots. The project helps students use music as a vehicle for positive change, encouraging community involvement in youth-led environmental initiatives.



VALLADOLID, MEXICO

{ Founded in 2007 }

*"The culture of Mexico is one of a kind, though it's replicated in many countries.
There is a special uniqueness amongst our people."*

~ Arminda Chi Nahaut, LEAF International Mexico Teaching Artist

- **Cultural Focus:** Ancestral Mayan Music & Theater
- **Youth Currently Enrolled:** 135
- **Teaching Artist:** Arminda Chi Nahaut

DESCRIPTION

LEAF International's music program in Valladolid, Mexico is held in Ramon Osorio, a middle school for students who need to work during the day. The school is committed to teaching 21st century skills and Mayan traditions through integrating the Mayan language into many of their activities. The students perform their ancestral music as they play Mayan instruments from cultures such as: Cabeza de Cochino, Xtoles, Noche de Ocarinas, El Tunkul, La Cigarra, and Los Mapuches.

The goal of the program is to ensure community growth, revive cultural sustainability, and instill local pride through the excellent challenge and beauty of music. The school and its teachers are highly committed to working with the students on creating cross-disciplinary productions that share the meanings of Mayan instruments, music, dance, and language into the student's studies.

IMPACT

Through the project, students gain:

- Musical skills on indigenous instruments
- Mayan language instruction
- Performance experience
- Increased self esteem
- Teamwork and leadership
- Respect for their culture and traditions



NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

{ Founded in 2016 }

"The more you learn about culture and differences, the more peace you will bring into the world."

~ Chief Shaka Zulu

- **Cultural Focus:** Mardi Gras Indian Traditions
 - **Youth Currently Enrolled:** 20
 - **Culture Keeper:** Chief Shaka Zulu

DESCRIPTION

At LEAF, we recognize and celebrate New Orleans culture as one of the most vibrant living cultures in the world and especially in our country. Over the past 17 years, Shaka & Na'imah Zulu have performed at LEAF Festivals, teaching native traditions with LEAF Schools & Streets residencies. Additionally, they have gone to Tanzania and Haiti to start four LEAF International programs across the globe. This journey comes full circle. We recognize this global cultural treasure in our midst and support Shaka Zulu who is now leading his community in cultural preservation.

LEAF has witnessed Shaka's practice of quintessential African folk rituals and his preservation methods of traditional indigenous art forms. It is this tradition that will be taught to program participants, to ensure the longevity of New Orleans culture for upcoming generations.

IMPACT

Through the project, students are empowered by:

- Cultural Traditions passed on verbally
- Chants, drumming, stilt walking, and tambourine
- Visualizing, designing & sewing skills
- Increased self esteem
- Awareness of cultural traditions
- Leadership skills



LEAF INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL EXPEDITIONS

"Our culture is connecting people from far away distances, but we are also connecting human beings in time. This connects us not only with people that live in Costa Rica, but with people that lived before us and those that are going to be here after us... enjoying the spirit of being." ~ Luis Porras Mora, LEAF International Costa Rican coordinator

Cultivating Cultural Curiosity

Be apart of a journey that will allow you to immerse yourself into the heart of LEAF International & its mission.

Learn about cultures, preservation methods & musical traditions of Costa Rican First Nations, deep roots in Haitian heritage, cultivation of art in Guatemala & more! See how LEAF International contributes to the vivacity of these traditions by supporting cultural knowledge transfer to the next generations.

LEAF International Culture Keepers & youth feel that it's important for LEAFers to visit the sites where programs are thriving, but most importantly, where indigenous cultures are illuminated through the art of their heritage.

Your journey will be led by LEAF staff members, Culture Keepers & partners. These trips are family-friendly, so bring your kids & their friends! Give them an opportunity to see the world as global citizens.

Upcoming LEAF International Cultural Expeditions:

Haiti: June 29 - July 7, 2018

Visit Haiti with LEAF & be immersed in culture, connection, history & magic. Culture Keepers & guest artists will teach, share & create an extraordinary journey into Haitian culture & arts. Meet LEAF partners — Prosjekt Haiti & Boukman Eksperyman — who are always fun, phenomenal hosts. This is not a fancy tourist journey. This is a cultural expedition where you will participate in an intense art-focused summer camp while making life-long friends, through hands-on learning.

Prosjekt Haiti is an extraordinary non-profit humanitarian organization focusing on education, work-training & social entrepreneurship. Their goal is to contribute to a better future for the people associated with their projects, and for Haiti as a nation. Prosjekt Haiti specializes in education, capacity building & value creation.



Costa Rica: 2019

This trip provides you the opportunity to not only soak up the beaches and waterfalls of Costa Rica, but to travel deep into the jungle to visit LEAF International program sites with remote indigenous communities. You will build meaningful relationships with members among the Bribri & Ngabe First Nations & witness the powerful expressions of culture these communities have to offer. Embrace this expedition while raising global awareness about cultural preservation with Costa Rican Culture Keepers.

Guatemala: 2019

This trip is not your typical tour. Anyone can go see Antigua — not many people can dive deep into the community & connect with the kids, music traditions & teachers.

Visit the LEAF International Guatemala programs & music classes in action at the CEDIN school. Get to know the local community & have intimate cultural engagement experiences by staying with host families & parents of the students. Embrace the famous indigenous market in the highlands town of Chichicastenango & don't forget to make a stop at the stunning Atitlan Lake and lakeside village of Panajachel.



See the world with LEAF! For more info on how to immerse, visit theLEAF.org/CulturalExpeditions.

LEAF COMMUNITY ARTS

CONNECTING CULTURES & CREATING COMMUNITY
THROUGH MUSIC & ART



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