

# LOCUST STREET ART

## HISTORY:

THE CONCEPT FOR LOCUST STREET ART WAS DEVELOPED IN 1959 BY A BUFFALO NATIVE WHOSE DESIRE TO PAINT TURNED AN ABANDONED CONVENT IN DOWNTOWN BUFFALO INTO AN AREA FOR ARTISTIC INSTRUCTION. THE INSTITUTION DEVELOPED ESPECIALLY DURING THE 1980S FROM GENEROUS DONATIONS SO THE PROGRAM COULD PURCHASE THE FORMER CONVENT SPACE. LOCUST STREET ART ENCOURAGES PARTICIPANTS TO VOLUNTEER CURRICULUM IDEAS. THEREFORE THE LESSONS ARE DIRECTLY CORRELATED TO WHAT THE STUDENTS ARE INTERESTED IN ARTISTICALLY. THE PROGRAM OFFERS AN ARRAY OF CLASSES IN THE FINE ARTS, MEDIA STUDIES AND PHYSICAL ARTS. EACH YEAR, LOCUST STREET ART ALLOWS STUDENTS TO PROUDLY DISPLAY THEIR ARTWORK AT AN EXHIBITION TO RECEIVE PRAISE AND A SENSE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT.

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

ADDRESS: 138 LOCUST STREET  
BUFFALO, NY 14204  
PHONE: 716-852-4562  
EMAIL: [INFO@LOCUSTSTREETART.ORG](mailto:INFO@LOCUSTSTREETART.ORG)  
OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY – FRIDAY: 12-6 PM

## MISSION STATEMENT:

LOCUST STREET ART'S MISSION IS TO PROVIDE FREE OR LOW-COST ART CLASSES ON A CONSISTENT BASIS FOR ANY INDIVIDUAL, ESPECIALLY YOUTH, LOW-INCOME AND MINORITY INDIVIDUALS FROM AGES 3 1/2 TO SENIOR ADULT, TO SERIOUSLY DEVELOP THE TALENT AND SKILLS NECESSARY TO EXCEL IN THE VISUAL ARTS.

## RESEARCH:

ART HAS A LOT OF ACADEMIC, SOCIAL, AND MENTAL DEVELOPMENTAL BENEFITS FOR CHILDREN. FOR INSTANCE, ART LEADS TO INCREASED LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT, IMPROVED DECISION MAKING AND VISUAL LEARNING, INCREASED INNOVATION SKILLS AND AWARENESS AMONG OTHERS. STUDIES HAVE SHOWN THAT ART ALSO LEADS TO IMPROVEMENT IN ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT, AS WELL AS PERSEVERANCE IN LEARNING TASKS IN CHILDREN.

## OUR EXPERIENCE:

THROUGH OUR VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE, WE DISCOVERED THE WARM AND INVITING CREATIVE SPACE THAT IS LOCUST STREET ART. THE DEDICATED STAFF, PLETHORA OF CLASSES OFFERED AND AMOUNT OF MATERIALS AVAILABLE MAKES LSA AN AMAZING AND UNIQUE ORGANIZATION.



PARTICIPANTS:  
ALLISON SMITH  
FOZZIA ADEN

MENTORS:  
DR. BARBARA BONO  
MR. TYLER CHOI