



# ***The Importance of Art Programming in Juvenile Confinement***

**March 25, 2015  
2:00-3:30 p.m. ET**



# Moderator



**Michael A. Jones**  
Managing Director  
National Partnership for Juvenile Services



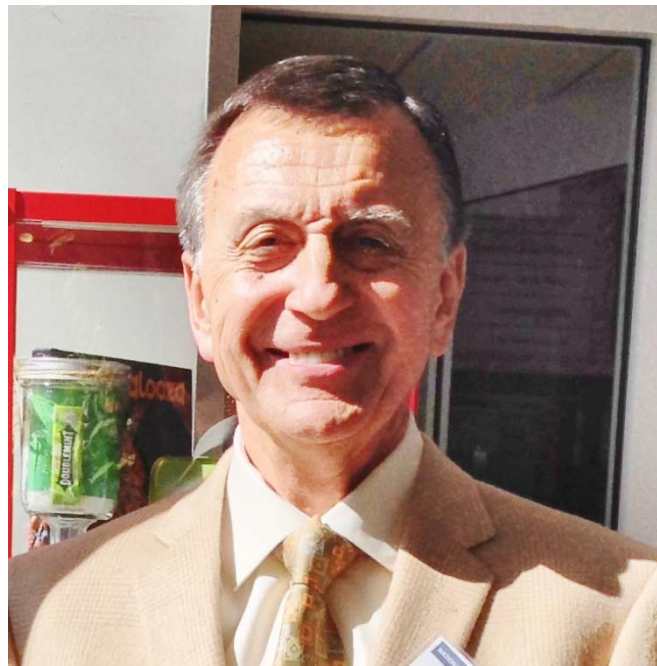
# Webinar Learning Objectives

*During this program, the participant will:*

1. Understand the value of art programming in a juvenile confinement setting by exploring the benefits to a youth's security, self-esteem, motivation, and skill development
2. Learn how academics can be integrated into an art program
3. Discuss strategies for implementation of an organized and safe art program



# Presenter



**Joe Szafarowicz**

Art Integrated Math Program Director  
Lucas County (OH) Juvenile Detention Center



# Art Integrated Math Program

- Teaches academics
- Teaches new skills
- Allows students to explore new concepts and activities



# Art Integrated Math Program

- Grounds academics to the real world
- Introduces students to private sector business
- Introduces youth to secondary art related vocations



# Art Integrated Math Program

- Provides positive reinforcement
- Encourages self-expression
- Enhances self esteem



# Art Integrated Math Program

- Introduces youth to positive role models in the private sector and art community
- Role models share their journey
- Role models stress academics, application, and discipline





# Art Integrated Math Program

- Introduces students to the joy and satisfaction of doing and involvement
- Teaches discipline
- Teaches cooperation and teamwork



# Art Integrated Math Program

*Art programming can explore  
the link between art,  
academics and  
the private sector*



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*Working for Youth Justice and Safety*





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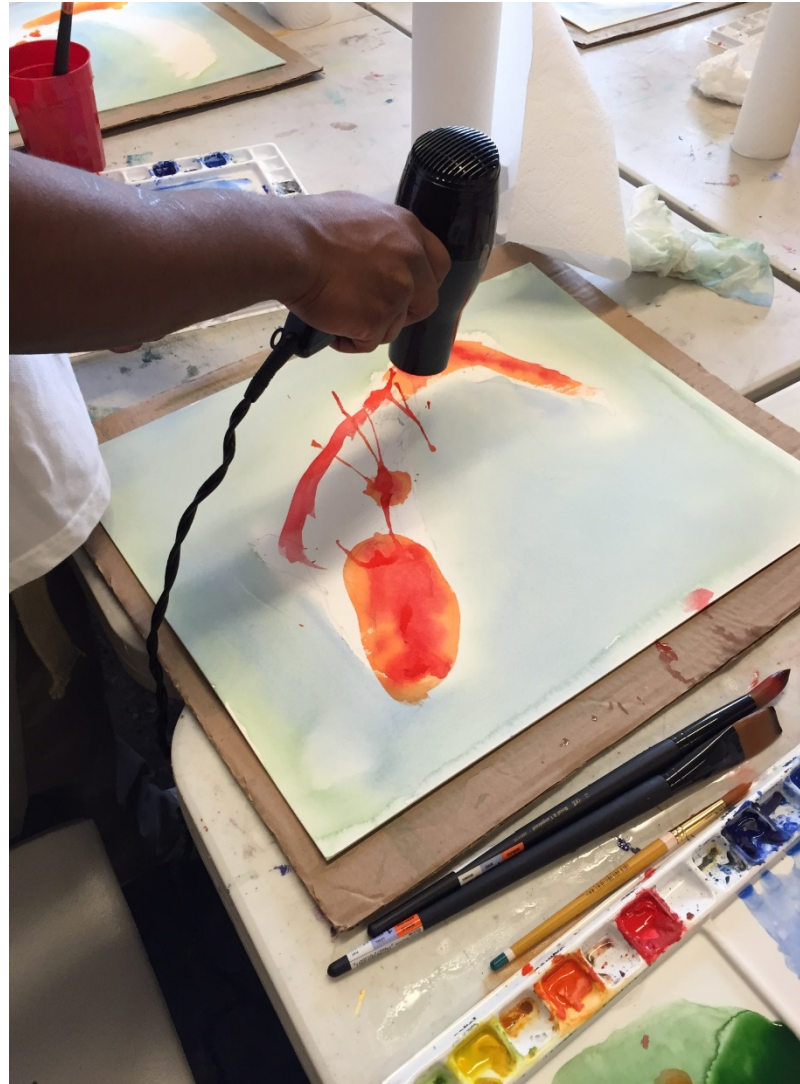
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# Presenter



**Dan Jones**

Administrator

Lucas County (OH) Juvenile Detention Center



# Art Integrated Math Program

- Exceeds mandatory Ohio Department of Education ODE requirements
- Math, Science, History, Color Theory
- Microscopes, Aquariums, Insects
- Program is in its tenth year



# Art Integrated Math Program

- Incentive to attend art class
- Youth enjoy art class
- No behavior issues





# Art Integrated Math Program

- The art room radiates success
- The art room is safe emotionally and physically
- Art provides an emotional outlet
- Youth are proud of their work
- Youth ask for their work when they are released



# Art Integrated Math Program

- The structured environment ensures a safe program
- The teacher is always vigilant
- Constantly assesses the mood and atmosphere



# Art Integrated Math Program

- Youth see that they can do the projects and that transfers to their school work
- Credits transfer
- Listening skills improve
- Self-esteem improves



# Art Integrated Math Program

- Altercations between inmates are down
- Altercations between youth and staff are down
- Destruction to the building is down
- Staff enjoys the art classes



# Presenter



**Gerry Florida**

Title I Art Instructor

Shuman Juvenile Detention Center (Pittsburgh, PA)



# **The Art Room / Shuman Design Studio**

## **Shuman Juvenile Detention Center**

### **Pittsburgh, PA**



***Art is not simply about thinking outside the box or coloring inside the lines... but about “creating the lines and box to think in and out of!”***



The mission is to create an accepting environment that challenges negative attitudes/ expectations and replaces them with attitudes of determination and belief for self-change through art.





- Jewelry Arts – Low Cost / High Impact Program
- No previous or traditional art experience required
- No age requirement
- Most projects can be completed in less than an hour
- Simply fun and creative



# Safety and Security

- Residents create Studio Rules
- Residents in charge of tool inventory
- Incorporate student's leadership abilities to follow studio rules



## Safety and Security (cont.)

- Builds trust - residents prove they can trust themselves and in turn prove they can be trusted by others
- The studio environment relies on trust for each other
- Students self-discipline
- Students share materials, equipment, tools, and beads



## **Safety and Security (cont.)**

- Residents respect the art room and protectively preserve the privilege
- The program is successful for high security residents
- Changes perception of tools from weapons to instruments
- Incident Free for 5 years



# Benefits of Art Programs

- Provides a trusting environment
- Provide opportunities to learn respect for materials, tools and authority
- Creates a mindset of possibilities
- Invites multiple possibilities to solve problems through different medias



## Benefits of Art Programs (cont.)

- Requires added critical thinking skills
- Uses academics to solve problems
- Creates stepping-stones for academic learning
- Helps develop creative and critical thinking, logic and problem solving skills



## Benefits of Art Programs (cont.)

- Provides a safe place to try without the embarrassment or fear of failure or mistakes
- Allows for freedom of expression; explores feelings and experience without words
- Provides safe ways to experience anger and negative emotions
- Builds confidence to challenge negative self-perceptions



## Benefits of Art Programs (cont.)

- Encourages individualism
- Creates opportunities to successfully self-discipline and emotional management
- Creates something of value to others
- Creates a sense of self-acceptance as well as acceptance of others





## Benefits of Art Programs (cont.)

- Builds self-esteem through successful completion with pride
- Promotes giving & creates a bridge to improve relationships through creating gifts, developing positive interpersonal relationships
- Creates smoother relationships with security guards and youth care workers
- Creates a sense of purpose and a future vocation through the arts



# The Talisman Project

## Goal

To separate core identity from surface identity and create a resilient surviving character

## Challenge

To revive and identify hopes, dreams and positive beliefs abandoned due to delinquent histories

## Impact / Outcome

The purpose of the talisman is to create a tangible empowerment piece that encapsulates feelings, experiences and dreams for the purpose of grounding students to a safer mental place and a mindset of control and empowerment.



# Students I Can

A collection of “I Can’s” from students who have worked on empowerment projects and pieces

- I CAN “DO SOMETHING”.
- I can be productive.
- I can tell my story without someone punishing me.
- I can hold onto my dreams without feeling stupid.
- I am not worthless.
- I can do what’s right on my own without others disciplining me.
- I can get along with different people even if I don’t like them.
- I can be patient!
- My ideas are being acceptable and good.
- I am important even though I have been wrong / bad.
- There are people that will not hurt me and I can trust.
- I can accept myself and do better.
- I can transfer what I learned to other areas in my life.



# Building Community Partnerships

*Arts organizations and Area Museums can offer:*

- Exhibitions opportunities
- Scholarships
- Volunteer opportunities
- Employment opportunities
- Residency programs/ Visiting artist
- Donations of supplies



# **ALLEGHENY COUNTY WEBSITE/ SHUMAN CENTER “ENOUGH VIOLENCE” STUDENT EXHIBITION**

<http://www.alleghenycounty.us/shuman/EnoughViolenceExhibition.aspx>



## Women Working in Corrections and Juvenile Justice National Conference





# “ENOUGH VIOLENCE” Student Exhibition

Shuman Juvenile  
Detention  
Center Lobby /  
Pittsburgh, PA





# **“ENOUGH VIOLENCE” Student Exhibition**

## ***Metropolis Collective Gallery / Mechanicsburg, PA***







*Shuman*

*Design Studios*

Vintage, new and recycled  
materials

Handmade

By the Residents of  
Shuman Juvenile  
Detention Center  
Pittsburgh, PA



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EXAMPLE 4  
Cost Of Arms Worksheet

### PERSONAL PROTECTIVE SHIELD

Name

Family

Self

Spiritual

Goals

Negative Influences

Please list on the Back The Negative About Yourself You Would Like to Change

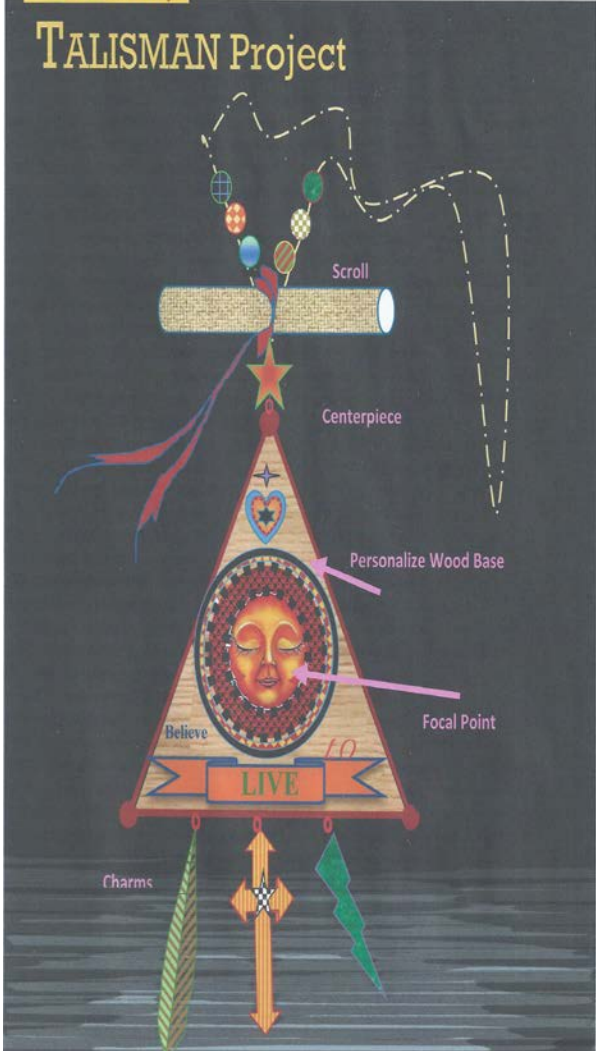


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EXAMPLE 5 Talisman Project





# Outreach

- A welcoming forgiving community can raise the esteem of residents who have poor self-images due to negative and failed histories as well as negative expectations for acceptance and success.



## **Ways to keep residents integrated and grounded to a general community by blending residents into activities that would have otherwise excluded them:**

- Integrate Detention Centers in community/art opportunities.
- Create opportunities for residents to volunteer and give back to communities:
  - Create and donate artwork for homeless shelters, senior facilities etc.
  - Enter Youth Art Contests
  - Generate sales from artwork/ Donations to benefit a charity of choice.
  - Create opportunities to residents to tell their stories through their art.
- Create Preventative Programs



# SHUMAN RESIDENT VIDEO TESTIMONY

<http://vimeo.com/112186742>



# Our Success

*We have successfully:*

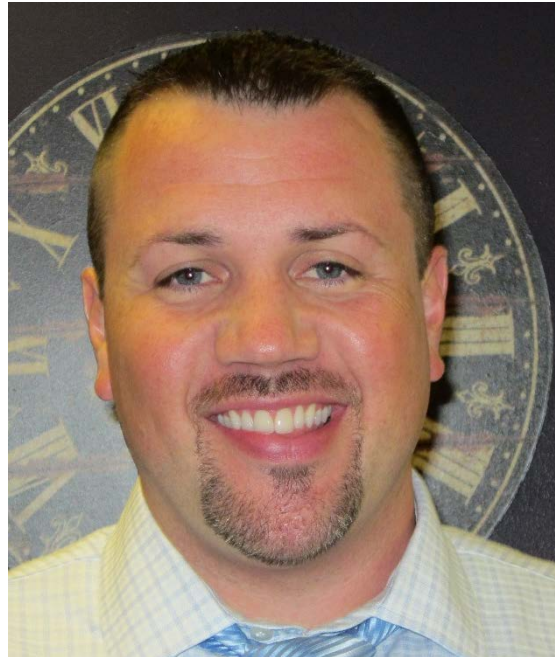
- Created a safe and secure studio environment.
- Gained the respect and support from the established art community to form community partnerships.
- Gained respect from and support from the foundation community.
- Changed public perceptions/attitudes on the problems of delinquency.
- Made use of the scholarship money available for aftercare.
- Proven our track record and acquired first time funding from Allegheny County for special projects.



# Q & A



**Joe Szafarowicz**



**Dan Jones**



**Gerry Florida**





# Presenter Contact Information

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## For more information, please contact:

**Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency  
Prevention (OJJDP)**

<http://www.ojjdp.gov>

**OJJDP's National Training and Technical  
Assistance Center (NTTAC)**

<http://www.nttac.org>

**OJJDP's National Center for Youth in Custody  
(NCYC)**

<http://www.ncyc.npjs.org>