



Inspiring & Transforming Lives!

2020 Theatre Education Program Report

Educational Programming

Claude McNeal Productions partners with schools and community organizations to provide alternative educational theatre experiences for children and adults in order to build healthy relationships with individuals and communities.

117 total performances for 4,208 program participants

Just like every other non-profit arts organization across the county, our programming was greatly affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic. Our numbers went down



dramatically in 2020, as you can imagine. We went from 182 performances in 2019 to providing 117 in 2020. In 2019, we reached 14,800 participants. Our 2020 programs reached a total of 4,208, which included 2,192 students, 262 adults, and 1,754 Indiana State Police Officers.



Our *ACT Out* Ensemble traveled to 43 different schools, organizations and community centers throughout the state of Indiana.

With 84 total school-related performances, and 33 Indiana State Police Mandate shows, we ended the year with **117 total productions.**

2020 Highlights Include:

- Completion of our evidence-based randomized control trials for 1,846 students
- 79 ACT Out shows for 25 Indianapolis-area schools
- 3 productions of the Henrik Ibsen classic, *A Doll's House*, at Herron High School in February.
- Our third annual program with Sycamore Services, Inc. – another local non-profit serving individuals with developmental disabilities – partnering on a “recreational arts therapy” program for their clients
- Our annual Performing Arts Camp serving 16 youth from 3 different area high schools in musical theatre and acting workshops
- 1 show for 300 Franklin College students on date rape & resident assistant training



Act Out
SOCIAL-ISSUE THEATER



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Our work with the Indiana State Police

Since 2006, a health and human service initiative by the Indiana Drug Education Association has partnered *ACT Out* with the Indiana State Police. The State of Indiana requires each police officer to attend mandatory training on SIDS (sudden infant death syndrome), biohazards, human trafficking, mental illness, domestic violence, and blood-borne pathogens. *ACT Out* helps the Indiana State Police meet state mandates while the ensemble expands its social outreach, illuminates root problems and identifies solutions.

In 2020, our *ACT Out!* Ensemble performed 33 shows for 1,754 Police Officers in 17 different counties.

CMP & SYCAMORE SERVICES Developmental Disability Arts Program

Starting late-July 2020, and running through September, Claude McNeal Productions partnered for a third year with another local non-profit, Sycamore Services, Inc., to present a unique "Recreational Expressive Arts Therapy Program"



(REAT) for their clients. Ten weekly virtual workshops were held on building improvisational and communication skills for their clients.

CMP is "Dreaming a City" for the Indianapolis Bicentennial Celebration!



In late April, CMP's original production, "Dreaming a City", was officially endorsed by Mayor Hogsett and the Indianapolis Bicentennial Commission as an "Official Bicentennial Community Project." Two years in the making, with rehearsals beginning in mid-August and filming completed in late September, CMP worked with over 30 local actors, designers and technicians combined to develop a hybrid, filmed

stage/documentary, COVID-safe production to be broadcast on our local PBS station, WFYI. Now in the post-editing process, we expect the production to air sometime late-February, early March 2021.



INDIANAPOLIS
BICENTENNIAL
2020-2021

Thanks to our Sponsors!

Our 2020 educational theatre programs were made possible by the following sponsors:

Lilly Endowment, Inc.

**The Arts Council of Indianapolis & the City of Indianapolis
IMPACT 100**

Allen Whitehill Clowes Charitable Foundation, Inc.

Mr. & Mrs. John Mutz

Mr. & Mrs. Ned Lamkin

Indiana Arts Commission & The N.E.A.

Indianapolis Classical Schools

IN Dept. of Child Services/Children's Bureau, Inc.

Lilly Endowment, Inc.

The Sheila Fortune Foundation

The Indianapolis Foundation

Sycamore Services

Downtown Optimists Foundation

Indpls Classical Schools: A Perfect Laboratory

Our **Youth and the Arts (YATA) program** partners Claude McNeal Productions with Indianapolis Classical Schools (a collective of the acclaimed Herron and Riverside High School's) in downtown Indianapolis.



The Greeks – 2019

CMP brings their many years of expertise in educational theatre programming for youth to this endeavor by teaching beginning, intermediate and advanced theatre courses throughout the school year, and in the supervision and mounting of

ICS's four annual productions. ICS is the perfect "laboratory" for the innovative programs offered by CMP, working with over 230 students in the theatre department each year.

ACT Out! to become Evidence-Based!

Thanks to a generous grant from Lilly Endowment, Inc., our live social-issues theatre program, *ACT Out*, has completed their randomized control trials, and the final results paper has been submitted for publication in "Prevention Science", the flagship journal for the Society of Prevention Research. The data shows strong evidence that our ACT OUT presentations (for all grades combined) helped to dramatically reduce incidents of bullying and (especially cyber-bullying) for those students who were involved in the program. Once the paper becomes published, this becomes our evidence-based designation in youth prevention programming!

IMPACT 100 Change-maker Finalist

In June 2020, the local funding group IMPACT 100 of greater-Indianapolis announced that Claude McNeal Productions was the arts and culture finalist in their annual "Change-Maker" grants. While we did not win the overall competition, we were rewarded residual funding in the amount of \$26,500. We are so thankful for their support!