

J A N U A R Y 2 0 1 2

Hidden Treasure Academy

Preparing for the future by investing in the youth today!

Happy New Year

Hidden Treasure Academy would like to sincerely thank all of our partners for continuing to support us with your financial gifts and prayers.

We were absolutely fortunate to be apart of some exciting programming in 2011 and meet some amazing kids in the Chicago land area.

We believe our efforts and your partnership is giving youth a unique opportunity to realize how valuable they are to the community.

We hope your holiday season was spent with friends and loved ones and served as a reminder that healthy fellowship is good for the soul.

Have a safe and prosperous 2012



Looking Back to Push Forward

January is usually the time when we reflect on the previous 12 months so that we can make the necessary tweaks to forecast a successful new year. Here is our 2011 in review:

- Served over 1000 kids in one or more of our programs.
- Partnered with the “Legacy Student Development Program” servicing 4 schools in district 218.
- Almost completed our Bus renovations for the “Music on Wheels” mobile studio initiative scheduled for the summer of 2012.
- Started our 2nd year of programming in the Englewood school Anna Langford Academy.
- Completed our annual Flashdrive initiative with the Boys & Girls Club in Miami FL.
- Partnered in a fundraiser that purchased coats, hats and gloves for over 100 kids in low-income households.

“Ever tried, ever failed. No matter. Try again. Fail again. Fail better.” – Samuel Beckett

A defeated mentality is the worst one to have in any situation. If you lack hope, you lack a fundamental ingredient to overcome obstacles big or small. Unfortunately the majority of the students that we encounter even at the junior high level have already lost this important element of survival.

At Hidden Treasure Academy, we have the sensational task of getting young people to believe that they are relevant, that their existence is purposed, and that their purpose is meaningful.

With fine arts courses being drastically cut from school curriculums, our music workshops are often used as incentive programs during afterschool hours (when most adolescents get in trouble). The impact that music and its ambassadors hold on our society is overwhelming, so we use that to our teaching advantage.

Throughout time music has been a tool to set trends, start revolutions, teach us our alphabets, and bring people from many different walks of

life together for a common cause.

The premise to our curriculum takes the powerful tool of “Pop Culture Music” and uses it as the stage by which we build a bridge to younger generations to teach principles of love, accountability, self control, respect etc. These concepts are often skewed or even replaced with themes of selfishness, revenge, hatred and survival by any means necessary.

Once we’ve dissected these songs and their topics, the youth almost always know if they are sending the wrong message or not. We then give them a crash course in creative writing, production, and recording and allow them to be a voice of influence... good influence.

The songs we create affirm their value to society and create a sense of responsibility in them to make the community better. They become anthems of hope to dismiss doubt in seemingly hopeless situations. “Ever tried. Ever failed. No matter. Try again. Fail again. Fail better.”

- Samuel Beckett”



On A More Personal Note...

A word from our founder – Jeremy “Vessel” Holmes

On July 9th 2011 my wife Tamera gave birth to our 2nd daughter Ariel Eliana Holmes. It’s amazing how a child can shake the earth’s axis and make you properly focus on what’s important in life. I have been thinking heavily about my legacy and what I’m building for my children and their children. The work that I do with Hidden Treasure Academy touches me at a deep place and connects me to the core of why I was gifted in the arts my entire life. To be able to use my talents and resources to empower the youth to be better and reach for the stars gives me a joy I have a hard time describing. I’m so grateful that you are able to join in the celebration as we are impacting youth together in unconventional ways but with undeniable results. On behalf of my wife and I and our beautiful girls... Thank You!

Stay Connected



There are so many things happening this year, and we don't want you to miss any action. We will be sending quarterly newsletters, but make sure to visit us online at www.HiddenTreasureAcademy.org for all the latest updates. You will also be able to preview songs from the students, see pictures, videos, make donations and more.

Until Next Time



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