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**U<sup>S</sup> R CHANGE**



## ABOUT US

# UFORCHANGE IS AN AWARD-WINNING NON-PROFIT IN THE HEART OF TORONTO.

As a registered charity based in Toronto, UforChange powers the next generation of entrepreneurial creatives as they shape their future as leaders in their community. We provide a supportive and collaborative environment for our young people, ages 16-29, to learn a combination of creative, practical and soft skills that will help them develop career paths and opportunities.

In 2015-2016 we connected 379 youth from all over the Greater Toronto Area with mentors, volunteer and paid opportunities, industry connections, and provided workshops and arts-related experiences. In cycle 10 and 11 we graduated 80 young people from our core arts programs: DJ, Fashion, Film and Photography.



# VISION

**U** 2016 **CHANGE**

**VISION**

**EVERY YOUNG  
PERSON CONFIDENTLY  
PURSUES A  
FUTURE RICH WITH  
OPPORTUNITY.**



# M I S S I O N

**U** 2015 **CHANGE**

## MISSION

**TO MENTOR  
YOUNG PEOPLE IN  
THE PURSUIT OF  
THEIR ARTISTIC  
AND ASPIRATIONAL  
PASSIONS IN  
AN INCLUSIVE  
COMMUNITY.**

**B I G  
T H X**

**U<sup>20</sup> CHANGE**

## FROM OUR BOARD



Dear UforChangers,

On behalf of our youth, Board of Directors, sponsors and mentors I would like to thank you for your continued support in providing our youth with an opportunity to succeed! Our impact is important because scientific evidence has proven that young people who receive arts-based education tend to realize high academic achievement at the educational institutions they eventually pursue.

In the case of UforChange, some of our youth go on to post-secondary education; some go on to volunteer in their community or start a new creative business. To this end, we pride ourselves in offering young people an inclusive space to learn, grow and connect. We look forward to connecting with you over the next several years as our young people become leaders themselves. Here's to their success!

Thank you,

**Gina Gentili**

Chair, Board of Directors

**B I G  
T H X**

**U<sup>2016</sup> CHANGE**

## FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



To all our UforChange community:

This year was a really special time for us at UforChange. We took on new and exciting partners and enjoyed the benefits of our new open concept creative studio in the heart of Regent Park. Thank you to all the youth, mentors, volunteers, staff and the board for helping us continue to be one of

the best places in Toronto for youth to gain skills, confidence and access to the creative industry. I would also like to acknowledge and send deep gratitude to all our donors who help fuel the mission everyday. Here's to another 1000 years of UforChange!

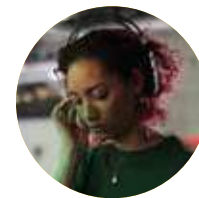
Yours,

**Chalo Hancock**  
Co-Founder & Executive Director

# BIG THX

UforCHANGE

## FROM OUR YOUTH



My name is Natasha and I graduated from UforChange's Cycle 11 DJ Program. It has always been my dream to learn how to DJ on vinyl. So I was thrilled to find a program that provided me with the opportunity to spin on turntables, and learn blending and scratching techniques. At UforChange I learned skills that enhanced my musical abilities, and received access to various opportunities and support systems. UforChange not only has a positive and welcoming environment, but also provides a community of open-minded individuals who I can turn to for support. This experience encouraged me to get involved in the community, focus on career development and personal growth.

UforChange introduced me to people who I can look up to. My DJ artist mentor, L'Oqenz, gave me great guidance, motivation and inspiration. I also received support from Jackie, who taught me about grant writing. With the help of UforChange staff, I was awarded a Toronto Arts Council grant this year to help fund the recording of my first EP. This summer, I was also offered the opportunity to help facilitate Turn it Out in Regent Park. I am so grateful for UforChange because I am now able to earn some money doing something I love, and also because they have helped me keep my life in a positive and creative place. Safe spaces for youth are so important to have in the city. UforChange forever!

**Natasha Davis**

Cycle 11 DJ graduate

# IMPACT

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## IMPACT - HIGHLIGHTS



80 YOUTH  
GRADUATED FROM CORE  
ARTS PROGRAMS  
(DJ, FASHION, FILM & PHOTOGRAPHY)



103 COMMUNITY &  
INDUSTRY VOLUNTEER  
OPPORTUNITIES



156 YOUTH  
RECEIVED ONGOING  
SUPPORT & SERVICES



379 YOUTH  
SERVED THROUGH  
PROGRAMS, PROJECTS  
& WORKSHOPS



23 PAID ARTS SECTOR  
OPPORTUNITIES /  
INTERNSHIPS



20 POST  
SECONDARY SUPPORT  
OR CAREER PROGRAMS



31  
INDUSTRY  
MENTORS



# IMPACT

UforCHANGE

## IMPACT - STORIES



Since graduating from UforChange's cycle 11 film program, Camilla and Kevin are now active members of Toronto's film industry. After graduation, they began working with Black Belt Productions, a close partner with UforChange, where they take alumni on set to give them industry experience by working on videos for web and television, as well as documentaries.



Raheem joined Cycle 10 having never DJ'd a gig before. After graduating from our DJ program, Raheem has taught DJ lessons for our summer Turn It Out workshops, cycle 11 classes and continues to receive paid DJ opportunities through UforChange and his own connections.



Through UforChange's relationship with the Toronto Fashion Incubator, Abinaya from cycle 11 joined the Fashion Your Future program after graduation. She was able to take the skills she learned through UforChange's fashion program and apply them to produce a line of accessories. Since then, she has sold her scarves at Toronto Fashion Week's Press Buyers Brunch. Abinaya continues to stay engaged with UforChange and seek entrepreneur advice from mentors at UforChange.



# PROGRAMS

U 20 CHANGE

## CORE PROGRAMS

The fashion program provides youth with the technical skills and industry opportunities to make their own garments, as well as the confidence to express their own unique style. Through the fashion program the youth attend field trips to Toronto Fashion Week, Fashion Arts Toronto, and learn how materials are produced here in Canada. They also learn about selling their collections and get one-on-one time with mentors to talk about their entrepreneurial goals.



# PROGRAMS

**U**  
FOR **CHANGE**

## CORE PROGRAMS

Our DJ program teaches the basics on classic vinyl turntables, song composition, time signatures and technical skills such as beat-matching, mixing with vinyl and more. Mentors also advise youth on buying equipment, invoicing for gigs and client relations. **DJ** By the time of graduation youth have the knowledge and confidence to DJ at events while UforChange connects them to gigs in the arts community. Our DJ program sets the beat of the city.



# PRO GRAMS

**U**<sup>FOR</sup>**CHANGE**

## CORE PROGRAMS

From exploring street art to event photography, the youth in the program learn it all. During the program, the youth learn how to use professional cameras, lighting techniques & equipment, how to edit their photos using industry standard programs, and how to start their photography careers. Through UforChange, the youth gain hands-on experience and paid gig opportunities. The youth practice their photography at community events such as Vivacity, Workshops in the 6ix and the Regent Park Film Festival amongst many others.



# PRO GRAMS

U<sup>20</sup> CHANGE

## CORE PROGRAMS

Our film program inspires participants to share their unique story with the world. Our youth do not only learn the essentials of expressing their own story, but they also learn how to shoot, produce, and edit a film from beginning to end, as well as film creative shorts and corporate videos. After graduation, the youth are ready for freelancing and come back for advice from their artist mentor regarding editing, pricing and gear rental.

A background image showing a group of people in a workshop setting, overlaid with a semi-transparent red color. The text 'WORKSHOPS' is written in large, white, sans-serif capital letters across the center of the image.

# WORKSHOPS

U<sup>20</sup> CHANGE

## SPECIAL WORKSHOPS

Our theatre program is a combination of improv, character development and script writing. This special program was led by a long-time UforChange artist mentor and alumnus who was trained at Soulepper Theatre and Second City. With the help of current, the youth learned about character development with a full session of trained actors. Throughout the program, Soulepper offered advice on the youth's monologues for their main Vivacity performance. Thanks to Soulepper the youth were able to watch their first production on stage and witness multiple live performances.



# WORKSHOPS

UforCHANGE

## SPECIAL WORKSHOPS

In February 2016 UforChange launched *Workshops in the 6ix*, which provided short-term intense learning for youth who could not commit to a 8-month program. We offered workshops on spoken word, business in the arts, grant writing and mobile photography as well as screen-printing and jewelry design with the help of the Design Exchange. The workshops were hosted by UforChange artist mentors as well as new mentors to engage new members with the UforChange family. UforChange engaged 78 young people from cycles 1-11 as well as youth who had never engaged with UforChange before.



## MAIN EVENT

Vivacity is UforChange's annual multimedia showcase that brings over 200 people from Toronto to celebrate the artistic skills our graduates have acquired during the 8-month cycle. More than 50 youth and alumni work to deliver a professional show that includes an inspirational fashion show, a projection of short films and a photography exhibit all of which are accompanied by the music from the DJ program graduates. This special event does not only further cohesion amongst the community, but also acts as an invaluable skills-building project for the youth.





# EVENTS

UforCHANGE

## OTHER EVENTS

**Turn It Out** provided 8 weeks of DJ and dance workshops to the community led by UforChange alumni and funded by the Daniels Summer Series grant.

**The Campaign for Wool** is a 3-day event hosted by the Prince's Charities in which UforChange participated by planning and capturing the event with our videographers and photographers.

At **Canada's Flag Anniversary** our DJ Artist Mentor and 5 DJ youth provided music, thus allowing them to learn how to DJ a formal event.

**Run Regent** is a youth initiative started by Khadija, Cycle 10 DJ alumni, who reached out to UforChange staff and alumni to start the Regent Park running club.

**The Regent Park Annual Community Clean Up** is an event to keep the neighbourhood clean where UforChange helps plan, fundraise, recruit volunteers and provide photography and DJ services.

**Sunday in the Park** with CRC, Yonge Street Mission and other RP Programs is an annual community event to which we bring UforChange and community volunteers.

**We Got Next** in partnership with the Artscape Youth Mentorship program showcased current youth and alumni's mixed media at YTB gallery.

**We've Got Talent** was a fundraiser with RBC where employees donated to UforChange while youth showcased their garments.

**Improve & Dance workshops** with Harbourfront Center allowed alumni Tony and Stephanie to host a one-day workshop.

**AGO Youth Parties** allowed for UforChange's female DJ's to blend their sounds for a crowd.

# FINANCIALS

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## FINANCIALS

### REVENUE

#### Program Donations

Government Funding.....	250,000
Fees for Social Enterprise Services.....	70,454
Foundations.....	68,017
Events.....	16,218

**Program Donations Total** ..... **404,689**

General Fund & Other Revenue.....	34,317
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**Total Revenue** ..... **\$439,006**

### EXPENSES

Payroll.....	187,772
Audit & Accounting Fees.....	6,964
Depreciation.....	13,130
Office & Program Space.....	74,020
Program Expenses.....	104,821
Supplies & Materials.....	39,258
Communication & Travel.....	3,321
General & Administrative.....	15,771
Expense	

**Total Expenses** ..... **\$445,057**

**NET RESULT**

**-\$6,051**

# SUPPORTERS

**U** FOR **CHANGE**

## SUPPORTERS

## FUNDERS

Ministry of Children and Youth Services (MCYS)

StateStreet • Daniels Corporation • Hellyer Foundation

RBC • Daniels Summer Series • E.W Bickle Foundation

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## PLATFORM PARTNERS

Younger Than Beyonce Gallery • Square Circle • S.T.E.P.S • BAND

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## COMMUNITY PARTNERS

### Soulpepper

Soulpepper offered character, monologue and script development workshops to cycle 10 youth.

### CRC

Works with UforChange during the Taste of Regent Park, Community Clean Up and Sunday in the Park.

### Regent Park Film Festival

RPFF provided UforChange with the opportunity to co-present the Directors Pitch Contest and to be the pre-show for Under the Stars.

### Design Exchange

Introduced UforChange's Workshops in the 6ix.



# N E X T

**U**<sup>20</sup>**CHANGE**

**NEXT**

## **HERE'S TO ANOTHER 1000 YEARS OF UFORCHANGE!**

We are proud to have impacted 379 youth in 2015-2016. Thanks to the support of our funders, community and platform partners we have been able to provide youth with the skills, mentors, networks, work and volunteer opportunities as well as the confidence that will allow them to succeed in their fields of interest. Moving forward

we want to continue providing more young people with these opportunities, but more importantly we want to increasingly help young people succeed despite their personal circumstances or barriers. With creative nurturing and support, any young person can achieve their goals!

**CONNECT WITH & SUPPORT UFORCHANGE >>>>>> [WWW.UFORCHANGE.ORG](http://WWW.UFORCHANGE.ORG)**

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