

WE ARE OKA

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Summer 2011 at OKA!

Welcome back to the second edition of We are OKA! This summer, you can look forward to getting to know our teenagers, our volunteers, and lots of people in between. We have a busy summer ahead of us.

Major projects include a weekly art workshop with the patients at Sacred Heart Home here in Hunting Park, creating large flags for an art installation in the park, and creating individual projects for the Artists for Ayuda Show in August. Our daily routines will include a bit of exercise, reading, sketching, and reflection each day to balance out the hard work ahead. We love hosting visitors so if you are in the area, stop by!

- Michaelanne Harriman, Community Arts Director



Meet Our New Interns

Janelle McDermoth is a student at the University of Pennsylvania and originally from the Bronx, New York. She heard about OKA through the Gateway program and hopes her time at OKA will teach her more about collaborative art and urban Philadelphia. Janelle is a singer, writer and photographer and is very excited about this summer.



Faith Kellermeyer is from Berne, Indiana and is a student at Anderson University. She heard about OKA from her cousin who has been involved with Ayuda and is excited to learn more about community art. Faith hopes to “experience the transformative power of creation” through art making and is interested in becoming an art therapist.

Belle Alvarez, originally from Tegucigalpa, Honduras, is a student at Temple University and a part of the Gateway summer missions team. Belle is studying Modern Dance at Temple and hopes to learn how art can be used for community outreach and as a means to encourage unity within the neighborhood. She hopes to “partake in the joy” here at OKA.

Senior Art Show!

The first art show of summer 2011 will be on July 8th. This show will feature work from three of OKA's graduating seniors. 100% of proceeds from the exhibition and sale of the artwork benefit the artist and will contribute to their college expenses this fall. Please Join us this Friday from 6-8pm for the openion reception. Featured artists include Nifeese Campbell, Nathalie Nunez, and Sandy Sovann.

Save the Date!

July 8- Senior Art Show (6-8pm)
August 12-Artists 4 Ayuda

Summer 2011 Teen Volunteers!



This summer, two of OKA's own will be volunteering around the house.

Adi is a 13-year old Hunting Park native who hopes to meet new people, continue developing her art portfolio and get connected to the community.

Julie, also 13, is hoping to do something new this summer. She hopes volunteering at OKA will help her become a better artist and make a real change in Hunting Park.

Say Hello to Our WorkReady Students



Gloria is 16 year old Hunting Park native. She is a student at Northeast High School and a member of a Latin dance troupe. Gloria hopes that her time at OKA this summer will teach her more about photography and allow her to beautify the community.

Anthony is a 15 year old and is very excited about his time at OKA. Anthony hopes to "stay in shape" and "create unique artwork that stands out". This summer, he wants to become a better musician, challenging himself to continue songwriting and learn the piano.



Abby is a 15 year old who attends Little Flower High School. She is very interested in photography, music and dance and hopes that she can learn more about drawing this summer. Abby hopes to continue meeting new people here at the OKA house and is excited to learn about the Hunting Park community.