The Cultural Arts and Technology Center is developing a high-tech, state-of-the-art learning space, where youth and adults receive academic instruction and personalized attention from industry leaders, explore career pathways, and ready themselves for skilled positions in the high-growth fields of the arts and technology.

thechestercaatcenter@gmail.com

www.chestercaatcenter.org

(484) 766-3698
Meet the CAAT Team

Tara Jones - Owner/CEO of the CAAT Center

Shanae Horsey - Executive Assistant

Tara Jones - Owner/CEO of the CAAT Center

Shanae Horsey - Executive Assistant

Kristie Barnes - Director of Curriculum & Program for Andrew Hicks

Tucker Rodkey - Creator of Painting Freedom & Legacy Arts Chester

Ja'miyah Bowman - Owner of Miy Lips

Chardae Davis - Owner of C Davis Consulting

Aaron McClary - Owner of McClary Media

Dawn Chamberlain - Owners of HCP3 Council

Crystal Burrell - Event Manager

Lucretia Chamberlain - Owners of HCP3 Council

Donate To The Chester CAAT Center Today: www.chestercaatcenter.org/support-us
Mareazi Birthday Celebration

It was an extraordinary honor for the CAAT Center to host the birthday celebration of Steven “mArEaZi” Willis! On June 16, 2022, we celebrated the 40th anniversary of Mareazi by auctioning off some of his classic photographs! It was an elegant event as his family, companions, and photographer friends all came out for a night of good food, drinks, and music. We culminated the night with the official naming ceremony of our media room to M&M Studios.

Did you miss your chance to score your Mareazi Masterpiece? We got you covered! Be on the lookout for details about our online auction, where you will be able to bid on your favorite pieces!

Peculiar Travel is a travel curation company that serves as a vehicle to consult and help bring people’s travel dreams to a reality. Visit us at www.peculiartravel.com to book a consultation or sign up for a group trip.

Maci Lago is an African American female owned professional cosmetics and fashion company founded in 2016 that focuses on women of color. Our company has researched, experimented, and revisited the ideal products for various skin types to enhance and encourage all women to be comfortable in their skin. We have created a full cosmetic company which includes a beauty product line and direct cosmetic services catering to the needs of women of color.

Learn more at macilago.com
Juneteenth Event

The CAAT Center would never miss an opportunity to celebrate Juneteenth!

In the spirit of unity, the CAAT commemorated Juneteenth at Memorial Park. We were truly ecstatic to see all of you join us for our culturally inspired workshops, music, and crafts. Our processional into the park included African drummers, dancers, and even a surprise singing cameo from our CEO, Tara Jones. The kids also enjoyed our stilt-walker friends, and were excited to learn more about the craft and how it was done!

At the CAAT, we take pride in our cultural history and artistry! We feel it is always our duty to educate our kids (and their parents) on the true meaning behind not only the holidays we celebrate, but the culture we represent. “To know your future, you must know your past.” We plan on exposing our community to our beautifully complex history, always.

Our Juneteenth Extravaganza will be bigger and better next year! Don’t forget to check the CAAT Center website at www.chestercaatcenter.org/ for details closer to the date.

Andrew L. Hicks Jr Foundation

The mission of the ALHJ Foundation is to share the love of Christ by connecting two culturally diverse communities, empowering their youth through mentorship and leadership, and building futures.

Looking for cool activities to keep the kids entertained this summer?

Visit https://www.andrewlhicksjrfoundation.org/camp/ for information on how you can register your child for camp, sign up to be a counselor or chaperone, or make a donation to sponsor a camper’s trip!
Spoken Word

Kazeem tops Kirkland to win Democratic Nod in Historic 159th District Win!

Excerpt Taken From Delco Times.

Flanked by dozens of her supporters, Carol Kazeem declared victory in the Democratic primary for the 159th state House contest.

On Tuesday May 17, 2022, based on unofficial election results, she took 55.95 percent, or 2,497 votes, compared to Kirkland, who received 44.05 percent, or 1,942 votes.

Through shouts in front of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. statue by the J. Lewis Crozer Library in Chester Wednesday afternoon, her supporters voiced what the Kazeem victory meant to them.

“Empowerment.”

“Black women making history.”

“Votes matter.”

To resounding applause, Kazeem offered her perspective.

“For me, walking in, it was never going to be easy because this is a machine almost 40 years in, longer than I’ve even been alive,” she said.

Kazeem said when she launched the campaign, she was keenly aware of how Black women are misrepresented.

“Even in our society, we always come last,” she said. “But, we are on fire … We did it, y’all. We free! We free!” She continued by saying, “no matter what came our way, my way. I vowed to make sure we just stayed focused on the ground,” Kazeem said. “I was met with so many oppositions and I knew it. I knew it was coming. You just didn’t know what was coming. I just didn’t know what was coming. So much behind closed doors but God always had that final say. Today, we see that history has been made – the first woman in the 159th through the primary.”

Now, the focus turns toward the fall as Kazeem will face her Republican contender Ruth Moton. “We going to go ahead in November and we’re going to crush,” Kazeem said. “We gonna crush them. Let’s make it the 10th Black woman in the House of Rep.”

“Her Love”

The love that she received from the one she loved made her feel complete.
But without his love, she felt meaningless.
The love she has for him was warm and eventful.
But without it, she felt forgotten.
Without his love, she felt lost, forgotten from the world around her.
She was too attached to her love so she never noticed she lost herself.
Trying to be with him and trying to satisfy his needs break her.
Feeling his love made her feel whole but also incomplete.
Because she was too absorbed in him to notice herself.
Loving him made her whole but slowly made her lose everything she ever wanted.
Her love for him was beautiful but too much for her to obtain.
Making her lose herself and the one she loved in the process.

Rachelle Bobo
STEM Academy at Showalter,
Chester, PA

Business Highlight

Lebron Construction

We specialize in all phases of construction, drywall, framing, kitchen& bathroom renovations, custom decks and much more!!! CONTACT US TODAY at (484) 477-8353

Lebron Construction, LLC
2431 Madison St., Chester, PA 19013
(484) 477-8353

Learn How To Rent The CAAT Center:
www.chestercaatcenter.org/rentals
Artists Spotlight

Aaron McClary

Aaron on advice he has for other entrepreneurs: “It’s nothing wrong with getting a job, but use that to fund something that’s going to last. Have more respect for yourself. Like most of the people who have 9-5’s, as soon as they get a day off, they say they’re going to chill. But that doesn’t make sense right? You want to sleep and relax. But as soon as your alarm goes off at 5am for your job, you’re up rushing. But you wouldn’t do anything like that for yourself. You actually lost respect for yourself, but you don’t see that.”

Watch Aaron’s full interview with Crystal Burrell on our Chester CAAT Youtube channel

www.youtube.com/watch?v=oN4gGFJ_W5o&t=18s

Business Highlight

Abstract Reality Art Gallery

Kenneth “Picasso” Hunt, owner and CEO of Abstract Reality Art Gallery, was given the opportunity to be in his first professional art show, by a art collector named Michael Gray. He displayed his work along side legendary talented artist such as George Benson, Andrew Turner & William Dandrige. These legendary artist were also a few of his mentors and teachers during his younger years as an adolescent artist.

Kenneth has recently opened his second art gallery; Abstract Reality Art Gallery, which he uses as a platform to showcase, inspire and display young and up coming artist and their work as Mr. Gray did for him.

Hunt has multiple collections out, such as The Untitled Series, Sinister, and his most popular collection The Art Monster. Nicknamed Picasso, for his talent to push boundaries with the paint brush, this phenomenal young artist has taken the Art Scene by storm. Conquering all levels and mediums and spreading his Art Monster Movement like no other.

Visit the Art Monster and Abstract Reality Art Gallery at 510 Avenue of the States, Chester, PA 19013

Event In Review

Madame We See You

There are so many wonderful women that deserve appreciation and their flowers. Our Madame We See You event was designed to do just that! Annually, designated members of the CAAT team are picked to honor a special woman in their lives. These honorees are women who exude integrity and love while positively molding and guiding the other women in their lives. If just for that day, we were committed to making each honoree feel just how thankful we are!

Kristie Barnes spoke to our hearts with her engaging poetry, while Angel Satchell captivated us all with her dancing. The food - catered by Chef Sir - was delicious, and one of our honorees- Ebony Cunningham- provided the exquisite decorations.

“Give people their flowers while they can still smell them.” We hope you all felt how much you are valued!

Special S/O to our honorees! We love you!

Donate To The Chester CAAT Center Today: www.chestercaatcenter.org/support-us
The Chester CAAT Center’s Youth Programs offer diverse activities such as a young adult podcast discussing real life topics, a youth-led social club, courses conducting exciting experiments to help children learn about different innovations in media and technology.

Visits Us Online To Learn More About Our Youth Programs: www.chestercaatcenter.org/youthprograms

The Event Venue Designed To Fit Your Needs
The CAAT Event Hall
Bookings Available For
Meetings
Dinner Parties
Art Shows
Conference
Town Halls
Workshops
Receptions
Baby Showers
Classes
& So Much More

Contact Us Now To Learn About Our Booking Specials
thechestercaatcenter@gmail.com
www.chestercaatcenter.org
2300 W 4th Street, Chester, PA
The Foundation for Delaware County works with individuals, private foundations, nonprofits, and businesses to move Delaware County forward. Our mission is to create a vibrant future for Delaware County by promoting generosity in and for the people of our county, improving the well-being of our residents, and energizing participation and partnership across our communities.

Through smart philanthropy and informed decision-making, we invest with confidence in truly effective nonprofit organizations that align with our mission of improving the well-being of the county’s diverse residents.

Thank You To Our Funders

To say 2021 has been an extraordinary year for the CAAT would be an understatement! We’ve hosted several community events including the 2021 Fall Chester Candidate Forum, sustained our CAAT programing like the Legacy Art Club and the Purpose Performers, and even hired some new faces. However, none of this would be possible without the support and the generous donations from our CAAT Sponsors. On behalf of not only ourselves but the community, we thank you!

Funders Spotlight

The Foundation for Delaware County

The Foundation for Delaware County works with individuals, private foundations, nonprofits, and businesses to move Delaware County forward. Our mission is to create a vibrant future for Delaware County by promoting generosity in and for the people of our county, improving the well-being of our residents, and energizing participation and partnership across our communities.

Ethel Waters, born in Chester, PA in 1896, made history and many “firsts.” She was
- the first black woman to appear on radio (on April 21, 1922);
- the first black woman to star on her own at the Palace Theater in New York (in 1925);
- the first black woman to star in a commercial network radio show (in 1933);
- the first singer to introduce 50 songs that became hits (in 1933);
- the first black singer to appear on television (in 1939);
- and the first black woman to star on Broadway in a dramatic play (also in 1939).

She became the first African American to receive an Academy Award nomination for best supporting actress. The following year she won the New York Drama Critics Award. Her 1951 autobiography, which took its title from her character’s hit song, “His Eye is on the Sparrow,” became a best seller. She passed away in 1977.

April 30, 1972 was proclaimed “Ethel Waters Day” in Pennsylvania by then governor Milton Shapp. The Ethel Waters Park in Chester was first completed in July 1971.

In recognition of the 50 year History of Ethel Waters Day, the City of Chester [had a] celebrate in the Ethel Waters Park from noon to 4pm today with a fun community gathering featuring the oldies, vendors, food, and fellowship.

By: Councilman Stefan Roots

Learn About Our Programming
www.chestercaatcenter.org/classes-programs