

Young Performing Artists (YPAs), Inc.- a 501 c) 3), not-for-profit, statewide focused, statewide recognized corporation whose mission is to identify and address the specialized needs of young (up to 22) visual and performing artists as well as to provide creative solutions to youth development. YPAs, Inc. serves as the lead organization for the RHEAP project. YPAs, Inc. statewide headquarters' offices are located in Sumter County.



Sumter County, FL- a mostly rural area of critical economic concern with approximate population of 92,000. The per capital income of approximately 52,000 is \$18,500, unemployment rate of approximately 2.7%, median household money income approximately \$25,000, persons below poverty approximately 21.4% and children below poverty approximately 32.6%.

**Make donations payable to:
Young Performing Artists (YPAs), Inc.**

9060 County Road 231
Wildwood, FL 34785-8525
352-748-2008
352-748-1536 (fax)

Email: youngartists@aol.com
www.youngperformingartists.org
www.facebook.com/youngartists
www.twitter.com/youngperformart

Proposed Itemized budget:

Salaries & Wages

Project Manager	\$10,000
Lead Counselor	\$ 5,000
Total Salary	\$15,000

Program Supplies:

Program Supplies (art, educational, tutorial, etc.)	\$11,900
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Other Expenses:

Telephone, internet ,etc. (\$150/mth)	\$1,800
Utilities (\$150/ mth)	\$1,800
Insurance (\$150/mth)	\$1,800
Maintenance (building)	\$1,800
Marketing & Management (Consulting, TSO,LLC.)	\$2,000
Administration (YPAs, Inc.)	\$1,800
Security (alarm system)	\$1,800

Total Match Funds \$13,500

Donated In-kind:

Marketing & Management Consultant (TSO,LLC)	\$2,500
Parking & Lawn (Sumter County)	\$5,000
Project Manager	\$2,500
Historical Items	\$2,300

Total Donated In-Kind \$12,300

TOTAL PROJECT \$50,000



Special Building Project Collaborators:

Sumter Board of County Commissioners
Sumter, LLC and SR44, LLC
T & D Concrete, Inc.

**Alonzo A. Young, Sr.
Enrichment & Historical Center
'A Governor's Point Of Light Project'**



**ROYAL HISTORICAL ENRICHMENT & ART
PROGRAM (RHEAP)**

A historical and educational support program whose mission is to enhance self-worth, build character & self esteem, develop interest, increase awareness and explore history, arts and culture. This program helps develop the attitudes, characteristics, intellectual and advocacy skills required to participate effectively in today's world. The program is located in the Alonzo A. Young, Sr. Enrichment & Historical Center, 9569 County Road 235, Wildwood, FL 34785.

352-748-0260

RoyalProject@cfl.rr.com

www.CommunityOfRoyal.org

www.youngperformingartists.org

Project Summary: Our project, entitled Royal Historical Enrichment & Art Program (RHEAP), is the cornerstone of the Alonzo A. Young, Sr. Enrichment & Historical Center. The program is offered to the children of Sumter County, FL and housed at the center located in the Community of Royal. Former slaves from the Withlacoochee River formed this community, located 5 miles west of Wildwood, in 1865. The Community is one of the oldest African American communities in the State of Florida. The center once served the Community of Royal school children during segregation. Mr. Alonzo A. Young, Sr. was the last Principal of the Royal Elementary & Middle School, serving 22 years.

Description of Project and Statement of Need: RHEAP, an after school, holiday and summer program, addresses the needs of Sumter County youth and families in a controlled and positive environment. The program enhances self-worth among the young participants through the development of interest in history & culture, awareness of opportunities and exploring the arts to build character and self-esteem. The program helps develop the attitudes, characteristics and intellectual skills required to participate effectively in today's society. The program addresses some of the pressing issues for children today, such as violence, nutrition, bullying, tobacco and drug usage. Also, RHEAP features art, history & culture hands-on workshops, i.e. music, visual arts, dramas, and the development of historical collections. Professionals, who are known for incorporating youth behavior modification techniques with their teachings, are invited to conduct the workshops.

Such as Alvon Griffin who created a rhythmic system that incorporates algebraic equations, into his drum playing. His workshops allow youth participants to play "plastic buckets"/ drums by using math and geometry rhythms. These rhythms involve 34 different sounds with the end result producing a progressive, entertaining percussion resonance. Mr. Griffin's workshops are a proven tool used as a positive anger management tool. While no specific data to back up these thoughts, caseworkers have found, by observation, that the youth participants have more control over their anger and impulses.

RHEAP's goal is - to enhance self-worth among Sumter County's youth.

RHEAP's objectives are- 80% will have an increased awareness of arts, history, culture and diversity. 80% will have an increased understanding of respecting others rights and the importance of living violent free. 80% will have increased self-esteem via character building techniques. 80% will have an increased understanding of becoming literate. 80% of the young participants will increase their awareness of healthy living alternatives.

RHEAP's target population- this program will target youth in the K-12 Sumter school age children, including youth who are underachieving in school, who are at risk of dropping out of school and who are at risk of criminal or drug involvement due to family or associational circumstances. The program anticipates working with all youth regardless of race, gender or creed.

RHEAP- Historical project will capture, record, document and improve the knowledge concerning the early years of the Community of Royal to commemorate and celebrate its past. To ensure that one of Florida's oldest African American Communities, founded by former slaves from the Old Green Plantation located near the Withlacoochee River, when slavery was abolished in 1865, is not engulfed, nor enslaved by present new development or its rich heritage vanished from the State of Florida historic landscape. Community of Royal is located 5 miles west of Wildwood, FL, Sumter County. The project engages the youth to capture the rich history of this Community. Royal, at one time, had a school, gas station, cleaners, striving tobacco industry, livestock, sugar cane & cotton crops. The Alonzo A. Young, Sr. Enrichment & Historical Center of Royal built in 1950 and served as the Royal Elementary & Middle School cafeteria, before de-segregation, will house the program. The historical exhibit room features some of the community's artifacts, articles, pictures and stories. Plus, a power point, dvd and companion booklet to accompany this project. Showcases will coincide with other long standing activities, i.e. MLK Day, African American History Month, and the annual Royal Community Homecoming. The 44th plus annual homecoming, where more than 5000 former residents and friends return to the community, is designed to re-connect the returning residents with their beginnings. "Involving the youth of this area in such a project is a great way to foster appreciation of the genesis of this community as well as enhancing a feeling of pride, self-worth and advocacy through their connection to this important historical time (1860s) in our nation's and state's past. Also, foster the desire in the youth to identify other concerns and problems in order to advocate effective change whether on a local, state, or national basis", stated James Stevens, Former Wildwood Historical Society Member.