



**LETTER FROM THE FOUNDERS**

Greetings!

On behalf FAN's Board of Directors we hope you will enjoy our Spring/Summer 2007 newsletter. FAN stands for Fihankra Akoma Ntoaso. In the Akan culture of West Africa, the Fihankra is a symbol meaning "safe enclosure" or "safe space." The Akoma Ntoaso is a symbol that literally means "linked hearts," and is a symbol of understanding and agreement. FAN strives to create this type of environment for our participants every day.

FAN continued to offer after school and summer programs where our participants took part in some of their favorite activities such as chess, spoken word, and tennis. We also added regular classes in photography, soccer, and hip hop dance thanks to a number of community partners and volunteers.

This summer FAN was able to introduce the Youth Ensemble Program (YEP), a brand new program for our older participants in which they are able to specialize in a form of art or an activity of their choice. The program ran from June 25, 2007- August 5, 2007

Ask any of our young people and they will tell you that we constantly strive to offer quality and life changing programs at FAN.

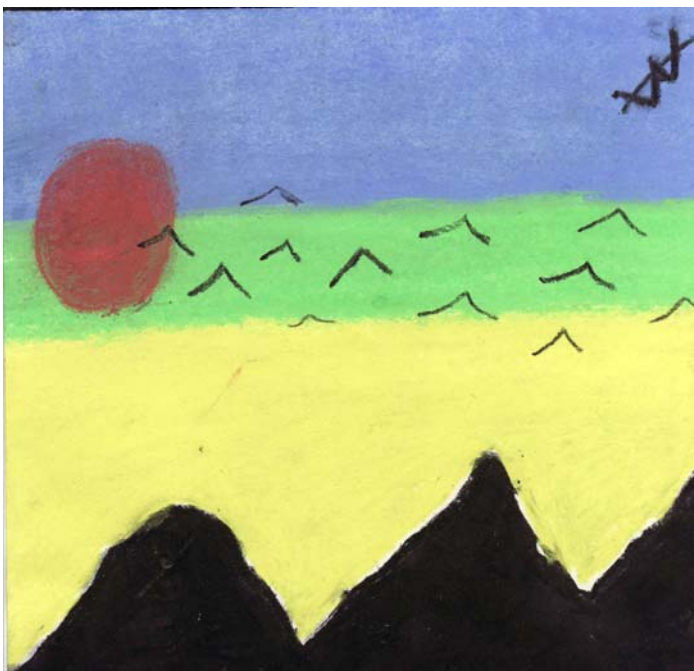
Sincerely,

*Nia West-Bey*, Co-Founder & Executive Director

*Wyneshia R. Hicks*, Co-Founder & Vice-Chair

**Visual Arts Workshop Project**

FAN Participant, Age 15



FAN staff and youth work on the new MLK Avenue Mural

**FAN's MISSION**

FAN's mission is to cultivate a focus on youth well-being and positive development in an environment infused with safety, security, and love.

**Positive Youth Development**

FAN's Positive Youth Development (PYD) program offered a daily after school program and summer program for youth in foster care between the ages of 10 and 14. Young people engaged in community service, extracurricular and team building activities that were designed to help youth develop supportive and caring relationships with adults and peers, enhanced critical thinking skills, a sense of success and mastery, and experience cultural enrichment.

**CONTENTS**

LETTER FROM THE FOUNDERS	1
ORGANIZATION MISSION	1
PYD PROGRAM	1
PARTICIPANT ART WORK	1
BOARD OF DIRECTORS	2
ADVISORY BOARD	2
FAN STAFF LISTING	2
PARTICIPANT POETRY	2
NEW PROGRAM UPDATE	3
SPECIAL THANKS	3



**Program Assistance presents YEP Awards  
Miss Tanya and Miss Erica**

**FAN Staff Listing**

- Nia West-Bey, Executive Director
- Shannon Brown, Intern
- Seantice Fuller, Youth Mentor
- Jane Souder, Youth Mentor
- Brandon Allsup, Driver
- Gequita Beckford, Driver
- Shyaam Simpson, Youth Mentor
- Marquia Shaw, Youth Mentor
- Timothy Puller, Youth Mentor
- LaTanya Simpson, YEP Program Assistant
- Erica Leake, YEP Program Assistant

**NEW PROGRAM:**

**Youth Ensemble Program**

FAN kicked off its Youth Ensemble Program (YEP) serving 10 young people ages 14-15 from June 25, 2007- August 5, 2007. Participants had the opportunity to select an area of specialization from the activities that they have experienced in the Positive Youth Development program. The youth continued to receive academic support and mentoring in the context of "ensembles" organized around artistic, athletic, academic, or vocational endeavors. Participants were also able to increase their skill in a particular area of interest.

**Board of Directors**

- Enola G. Aird, JD, the Motherhood Project, Institute for American Values
- Juan Davenport, Far Southeast Family Strengthening Collaborative
- Jaime S. Fearer, Brookings Institution Press
- Dr. John Henderson, Mount Zion Baptist Church
- Hon. Anita Josey-Herring, DC Family Court
- Wyneshia R. Hicks, Columbia Heights/Shaw Family Support Collaborative

**Advisory Board**

- Lorraine D. Acker, University of North Carolina-Charlotte
- Josh Kern, Thurgood Marshall Academy PCHS (Honorary)
- Jacqueline Velez, Everest Institute
- Lamont Wilder, Consulting Associates
- Elizabeth Gross, Child and Family Services Agency
- LaTalya Palmer-Lewis, Library of Congress
- Maggalean Weston

**POETRY**

**Trouble Father's**

Keep you in my heart while you guide me though the light  
 the sun is beaming while my heart is screaming  
 now I see you out of my life while I cry  
 its day so look me up when I am eighteen  
 look for me to say rest in peace  
 now I see the time going fast tic toc  
 I will see you later  
 dropping tears from your spirit  
 now I am saying daddy come back  
 and then I cry of sadness  
 now you hear me sing rain on me  
 and then I am singing to the left  
 I see you in you coffin I am shedding tears on your face  
 only you understand how much time we spend together.



**Water fight at Spring Closing Picnic**

1227 Good Hope Road SE  
 Room 106  
 Washington, DC 20020  
 Phone: 202-889-5000 x114  
 Fax: 202-889-5035

**LEARN ABOUT OUR SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM AND  
 OTHER OPPORTUNITIES TO DONATE TO FAN:**

Go to [www.fan-dc.org](http://www.fan-dc.org) and click on support

**Donate using the enclosed  
 envelope, or online!**

Visit us at: <http://www.fan-dc.org>  
 Contact us at: [info@fan-dc.org](mailto:info@fan-dc.org)

**Capoeira Workshop****SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS**

These special supporters have contributed the costs to support one or more participants for one year.

**Joel Motley III**

**HSC Foundation**

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION: VOLUNTEERS**

- Jon-West-Bey
- Kennedy Lee McFerguson
- Rakia McDonald
- Edward Gaillard
- Obehi Utubor
- Sir Robinson
- Criston "Cristylz" Bacon
- Virginia Millington
- Michelle Vohlberg
- Alibia Henry
- Kirstan Crawley
- Obehi Utubor
- Mervyn Smyth
- Emily Waldman
- Michele Fuller
- Nura Green
- Antonio Bruton
- Juan Davenport
- Enoch Thompson
- Maurice Hayes
- Derrick Hayes
- Donte Wright
- Diane Harris
- Shaheed Dixon

**SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS**

- American Poetry Museum
- The ARCH Training Center
- Washington Tennis Association
- Georgetown University YIMA
- Pizzazz Inc.
- Southeast Ministries
- Church of the Holy Communion
- DC Department of Employment Services
- SPI Program

**SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR FUNDERS**

- The Commonwealth Foundation
- The Children's Fund of Metropolitan Washington
- Freddie Mac Foundation
- DC Escheated Estates Fund
- The Maximus Foundation
- Jack and Jill of America Foundation
- GE Foundation/Fund for Public Schools
- Far Southeast Family Strengthening Collaborative
- Serve DC

**SPECIAL THANKS TO INDIVIDUAL DONORS**

- |                                    |                                 |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Wyneshia R. Hicks                  | Jon & Nia West-Bey              |
| Susan Soldavin                     | Stanley Carnegie                |
| Michelle Schreiber & Sadie Minkoff | Jaime Fearer & Tony Blankenship |
| Farris & Erin Johnson              | James & Kelly Cronenberg        |
| Scott Filter                       | Odessa & George H Jones         |
| Lorraine Acker                     | Loretta Pleasant -Jones         |
| Dave Copeland                      | George Jones                    |
| Susan Blanchard                    | DuEwa Vallier                   |
| Gloria Williams                    | Michelle Gomes                  |
| Doris Berry                        | Kelly Krucher                   |
| Mary Kwak                          | Anne Acorn                      |
| Stephen Carter & Enola Aird        | Mary Woods                      |
| Lloyd & Patricia Daniel            | Tiffany Smith                   |
| Marion Green                       | Joel Motley III                 |
| Amanda Novelli                     | Kelli D.Ciccarelli              |
| Wrenn Compere                      | St. Luke's Church               |
| Elizabeth Gross                    | American Poetry Museum          |
| Rev. Ronald Miles                  |                                 |

**WOULD YOU PREFER TO RECEIVE THE ELECTRONIC VERSION?  
SEND US AN EMAIL: [MAILINGLIST@FAN-DC.ORG](mailto:MAILINGLIST@FAN-DC.ORG)**



Fihankra Akoma Ntoaso

1227 Good Hope Road SE  
Room 106  
Washington, DC 20020

**Donate using the enclosed envelope, or online at [www.fan-dc.org](http://www.fan-dc.org)!**