

GIVINGTUESDAY

Every single person has the power to change the world



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ZCAF's Launches GivingTuesday Campaign To Support New Mobile Woodshop

Washington, DC – November 24, 2020 [The Zenith Community Arts Foundation](#) (ZCAF) is pleased to announce it has launched a GivingTuesday Campaign to support the development and implementation of a mobile woodshop and permanent woodshop. The initial funding is being used to build a stationary woodshop and purchase equipment, including a truck that will serve as a mobile classroom. The goal is to raise \$25,000 funds through a GivingTuesday Campaign which will contribute to a pool of matching funds required by a grant from the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities (\$50,000). ZCAF also received a grant from Events DC for (\$150,000) for developing curriculum, and operating costs including instructors' salaries, and materials.

The mobile woodshop is intended as an experiential classroom to teach students the fundamentals and skills of woodworking. The education program is focused on a dual track. The first track is focused on teaching professional skills for individuals interested in pursuing a career in finish and rough carpentry; the second will be oriented to individuals interested in doing artistic applications and home improvement projects. The project also includes a permanent woodshop, to be located at 1429 Iris St NW, WDC, which will also serve as the headquarters for larger equipment, larger project storage, and raw wood storage. The Woodshop will be available to Ward 4 residents, serving ZCAFs immediate neighbors.

The Mobile Woodshop has been a dream of Margery Goldberg for years, a lifelong wood worker. "Our goal is to teach woodworking skills to a new generation, specifically woodworking, finish and rough carpentry. Additionally, we will raise public awareness." said Margery Goldberg. According to Goldberg, contributions are being sought anywhere in amounts from \$10 to \$25,000. The campaign is being partly targeted to companies that will eventually benefit from the program including contractors, builders, custom home builders and

developers. “There is incredible demand for carpenters today and this project presents an opportunity to expand residents’ exposure to wood working and career opportunities, especially for those interested in the trades,” said Ron Nesson, President of the Board, ZCAF.

Individuals and organizations interested in giving should visit <https://www.zcaf.org/> for details on the program and the campaign.

Background

GivingTuesday

GivingTuesday is a global generosity movement unleashing the power of people and organizations to transform their communities and the world. Our mission is to build a more just and generous world. GivingTuesday was created in 2012 as a simple idea: a day that encourages people to do good. Over the past seven years, it has grown into a global movement that inspires hundreds of millions of people to give, collaborate, and celebrate generosity. GivingTuesday strives to build a world in which the catalytic power of generosity is at the heart of the society we build together, unlocking dignity, opportunity, and equity around the globe. We believe that generosity leads to greater civic participation and other pro-social behaviors.

Mission Statement

Zenith Community Arts Foundation (ZCAF) is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization committed to arts advocacy, arts education, and public art, as well as using art and creativity to enrich the Greater Washington DC area, with an emphasis on our local community. Based in the Shepherd Park neighborhood of Ward 4, ZCAF achieves our goals by fostering alliances between area artists, businesses, other non-profits, & government agencies.

Mobile Woodshop

Our goal is to teach woodworking skills to a new generation, specifically woodworking and finish carpentry. Our key target demographics include DCPS high school students, community college students, veterans, and seniors. Woodshops have been removed from schools, making it hard to learn wood working at any life stage. By learning to use their hands, cohorts will build confidence, strength of character, and problem-solving capabilities, as well as transferable skills that can be applied to careers filled with a great sense of accomplishment and pride. Remodeling a home that has been in the family for years, is affordable, sustainable, and extends pride of ownership across generations. Renovating a home is also a vibrant direction in home ownership in DC, as housing prices soar.

By bringing the tools out of the classroom and into communities in need, our cohorts can practice their skills, learn with experienced woodworkers and artists, improve their communities by helping with neighbors’ home or larger neighborhood projects, develop entrepreneurial skills, and foster a sense of accomplishment and pride.

In addition, the Mobile Woodshop can be used for art projects throughout the city and in the parks. We will encourage other non-profits to utilize our mobile woodworking facilities and offer them to city festivals and community projects. The uses for a mobile woodshop are vast. Washington is the Tree Capital of the country, famous for its wide variety of trees, of which many were given as gifts by grateful nations. These precious trees are an extremely valuable resource we cannot afford to waste. By opening the doors to a career that must be done locally, we are teaching sustainability in a great partnership between forestry stewardship and neighborhood pride.