

Inspiring Hard to Reach Students to Learn: 10 Steps to a New Beginning

A workshop by April C. Turner

She's sitting in the back of the room, slumped over a desk, waiting for the bell to ring. He refuses to answer any questions or participate in class activities because, "School is stupid." How can these children be re-engaged in the learning process without impeding other students or pushing teachers to the breaking point?

In *Inspiring Hard to Reach Students to Learn: 10 Steps to a New Beginning*, community arts specialist, April C. Turner, shares tools and strategies collected and developed while conducting arts residencies in communities, primarily in school settings where students are underperforming and demonstrating disruptive behaviors.

This workshop is an opportunity for teachers, parents, community workers, artists and arts organizations to hear best practices that dramatically improved classroom dynamics and learn step by step how Turner uses the arts to shift the way hard to reach students feel about learning.

How to Intentionally Build Community Using the Cultural Arts

A workshop by April C. Turner

In this workshop, participants explore how cultural arts programs and initiatives have been used to affect significant development in three different types of communities: campus communities (K-12 through college), neighborhoods and corporate work environments.

Can a drum program reduce crime in a neighborhood? Can a theatre project shift a middle school student's focus? Can a dance residency improve communication among co-workers? The answer is, "Yes!" three times.

During *How to Intentionally Build Community Using the Cultural Arts*, Turner shares case studies and outlines strategies for replicating this success in your community.

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April C. Turner

is an accomplished writer, actress and theatre producer. Among her produced writing credits are *C.O.T.O.: Chocolate on the Outside, Reservations, Starlight and Moonshine Times, Pickle & Lil'Junior* and *Nikky's Gone*.

Ms. Turner's residencies, workshops and theatrical innovations have made her a favorite among community centers, schools and cultural organizations nationwide. She uses the arts to expose individuals and communities to new ideas while offering artistic methods for maximizing potential. Ms. Turner is an experienced facilitator specializing in using art as a tool for positive social change.

Turner has 20 years experience offering performances, workshops and residencies to communities throughout the United States.