Ubuntu Arts Community integrates inter-generational mentoring, the arts, leadership development, social justice and community building. We do this through building caring relationships, creativity and having fun. The children also receive academic support from high school and college mentors.

Meeting three days a week after school, Ubuntu brings together children, ages 8 -12 at Sullivan School in Holyoke with high school students and college mentors. We begin with snacks, free time/homework-time, and a Community Circle. Then the group participates in a variety of activities. The children take workshops in music, dance, martial arts, drumming, storytelling, and poetry college and high school mentors.

Ubuntu children, First Generation members and their families also come together for Family and Community Celebrations three to four times a year. Family and Community Celebrations invite families and the community-at-large to experience the dance, theater, writing and visual art that Ubuntu children have created, and to enjoy food and music together. Everyone participates in a Community Circle, so that they may experience what their children are doing in Ubuntu.

The caring relationships that First Generation and college mentors build with our Ubuntu children is the foundation of Ubuntu. To lay the building blocks for a successful mentoring network, First Generation members receive ongoing training in empathic listening and communication, conflict de-escalation, gender equity, understanding the socialization of boys and hyper-masculinity, leadership styles and group facilitation.
MAJORS, INTERESTS
Arts, art therapy, youth work and youth development, arts education, mentoring, youth programming, education, academic tutoring, social justice, community building, culture.

SKILLS, REQUIREMENTS
- Be passionate about children and young adults, their well-being, and creating spaces for youth voices.
- Be interested in community building.
- Be playful, patient, reliable, flexible, good communication skills.
- Have reliable access to transportation.
- Spanish speaking a plus.
- References.
- CORI check (required for working with children).

RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE
- Participate in an orientation/training.
- Build caring relationships with Ubuntu children and high school mentors.
- Participate in supervision and team meetings as needed.
- If interested, lead creative workshops while interning at Ubuntu (dance, singing, art, theater, social justice, etc...)

WEBSITE: performanceproject.org

SCHEDULE: Ubuntu meets Mondays, Tuesday, and Wednesdays 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM.
LOCATION: Lt. Clayre P. Sullivan School, 400 Jarvis Ave, Holyoke MA 01040
CONTACT 1: Cristóbal Silva San Martin Email: admin@performanceproject.org Ph: (413) 695-8491
CONTACT 2: Naya Collins Email: nayacollins@performanceproject.org Ph: (413) 530-5272

We strongly encourage BIPOC students to apply and/or reach out for more information about this opportunity.

Ubuntu Arts Community is a collaboration between The Performance Project, Teen Resource Project of The Care Center, and Lt. Clayre P. Sullivan School.

WHAT IS “UBUNTU?” Ubuntu is a classical African philosophy. It is the essence of being human. Ubuntu speaks about the fact that we cannot exist as human beings in isolation. Ubuntu is about our interconnectedness. Ubuntu says that you can’t be fully human all by yourself, and when you have this quality - Ubuntu - you are known for your generosity.

“We think of ourselves far too frequently as just individuals, separated from one another, whereas you are connected and what you do affects the whole world. When you do well, it spreads out; it is for the whole of humanity.”
- Desmond Tutu