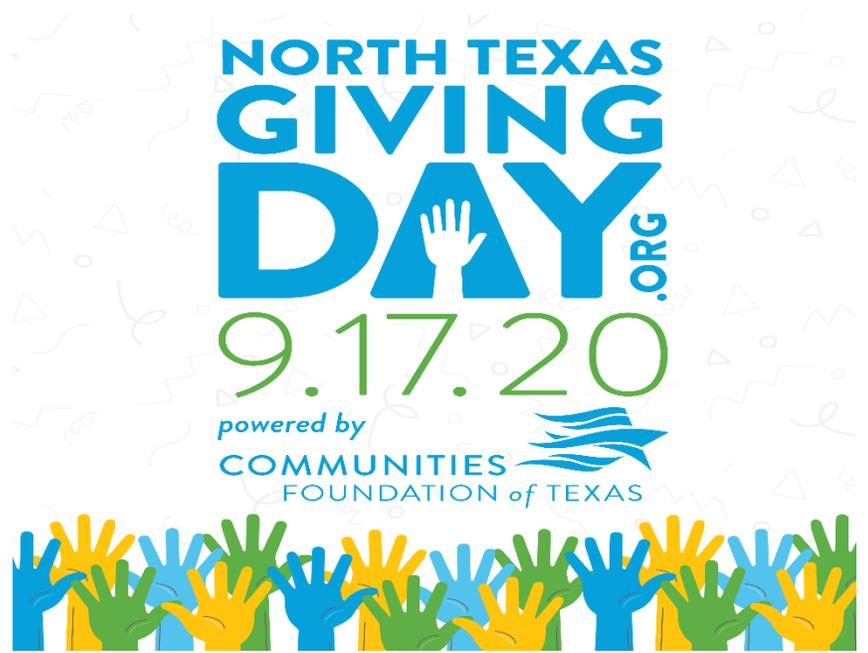




# Artis the Artist Foundation Newsletter August 2020



## A Banner Year!

In June 2020, The Artis the Artist Foundation awarded five \$2,000 scholarships to well-deserving artists. Their stories are featured in this newsletter, and you can watch their videos on Facebook and on our website at [www.Artis-the-Artist.com](http://www.Artis-the-Artist.com).

Our goal as we move forward is to keep the number of scholarships awarded at five. However, we will increase the dollar amount of each scholarship as donations increase. This is a huge milestone for this small Non-Profit Organization. Thank You. Thank You, Thank You!

**A Brief History of the Foundation:** After the death of Artis James (Artis the Artist) in 2012, his mother committed to helping young artists continue their passion and cover some of their expenses, especially art supplies. In May of 2012 a \$500 memorial scholarship was given to visual artist Bryan Jordan III. Since 2012 the Foundation has awarded scholarships to twenty-four graduating seniors, totaling over \$28,000.

The scholarship application includes samples of their artwork, academics, volunteering, along with an essay describing the impact that art has made in their life. The scholarship winners after 2012: Markel Briggs, Ashley Minster, Andrew Ortiz Lamont Bufuku, Douglas Angelle, Jr., Anthony Cole, Guadalupe Gonzales, Rodney Moore, Jr., Laticia Ordonez, Breanna Hollier, Roman Jessie, Marleena Garris, Alexandra Hoben, Kayla Barnes, Kenzie Aldridge, Christopher Wheel, Jr., Erin Spence, Nehema Kariuki, Britney Orina, Trinity Roussell,

Endurance Malcolm Badjejo, Ayanna Green, and Agustin Martinez.

These artists are from all races, economic backgrounds, religions, gender and culture. However, they all have the common threads of resiliency, strength, talent, creativity, and passion for Art. Artistic expression captures the deep feelings that cannot be communicated with simple words. The appreciation for the small scholarship, the exposure, and encouragement is heartfelt and life changing. Not all students are academic scholars, or athletes, or cheerleaders, some are creative artists that look at the world through a different lens. The Artis the Artist Foundation and its Board of Directors thank you for helping us build a history of support for young artists.



## Meet The Artists Through Their Essays

**Visual Artist - Trinity Roussell**, writes

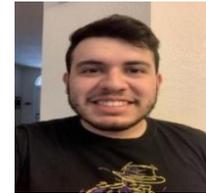


"I'm in love with art because it allows me to express the beauty of life in many creative ways. I love getting lost in the beautiful colors that allow me to define the very things that many of us take for granted, such as life, love, family, health, and time. I think art is a powerful

force that speaks a language to the heart of people that everyone can understand at that moment. I feel happiness when my pictures speak to the heart of others and motivates them to embrace all facets of creation. Art is beauty and beauty is art! Just as art has impacted my life in so many amazing ways, I hope that each piece that I create will encourage people and help to appreciate life's beauty and everything it has to offer.

I want to become an Art Therapist and own my own art museum and store. I plan to attend Tarrant County College for two years and then attend a university that will further my career."

**Musical Artist - Agustin Martinez**



writes, "It's funny being where I am now. I have grown to love the art of music and I have no intention of stopping now. I grew to love playing the

bass trombone, it is my passion for making music that can truly move people's soul. I joined the film department for fun during my sophomore year, it changed something in me. Seeing many of my classmate's emotional reaction to a song that I composed about substance abuse made me realized that I have found my calling. Creating music out of my own mind is what I love most. I now look to the great film such as John Williams, James Horner and Hans Zimmer. I now have a passion to compose at a level as my musical heroes, so then one day I can change people's lives for the better without saying a word. I will be studying music composition at the University of Houston.

Then I plan to attend USC and complete a graduate degree in screen scoring. My final goal is to become a successful film composer. I hope not only to make a living by doing what I love, but to master the craft of music. Music has changed my life for the better and I hope to give back to music one day."

**Visual Artist - Britney Orina** writes,



"Since I was little, I knew I wouldn't fall into the traditional career that many parents had in mind for their kids, such as being a doctor or lawyer. I found myself gravitating towards The Arts from the age of five - drawing, sewing, mixed media, and more. However, photography and graphic design became my first love. I developed my love for graphic design in middle school as I would create online book graphics and posters just as something to do for fun.

In high school my interest in photography, multi-media, and digital editing became my passion. I found myself learning and exploring more about myself as well as the others around me. Art has helped me grow as a person and made me conscious of the world around me. Art helps me express myself in various forms and has opened up a whole new world for me as I see the beauty in the world. I can't imagine myself pursuing any other career.

I'm attending Wade College of Art & Design this fall as part of their "Top 25" program. I want to build my skills in Visual Arts and pursue my Bachelor' Degree in Art. Also, I accepted an internship with the school so that I can give back to other art students.



**Musical Artist - Endurance Malcolm Badejo** writes, "My

parents expected me to go into one of three professions: medicine, law, or engineering; and for years, I was expecting to go into one of those careers. By my third year in high school band, I knew that music was the field I truly wanted to be a part of. Eventually, they came to understand and believe in my dream.

I have been playing the clarinet for six years now, mainly playing classical and

contemporary wind band pieces with large and small ensembles. I also have been in jazz ensembles and have performed solo acts. My career goals are to perform with chamber groups, wind bands, symphony orchestra's, and I would also like to become a clarinet professor at a university.

Music means discipline. Being a musician has reinforced my strong work ethic through the countless hours I have poured into practicing my instrument and my conducting. It is a commitment in which you often do not feel the gratification of your work until your performance, and you might go months without having one. It takes an incredible amount of discipline to continue practicing despite the end being so far away. But when you stay committed and reach the "big day", all of the work you put in pay off monumentally. It is delayed gratification at its finest.

Moreover, music means friendship. The friendships I have with people I have met through the music world means a lot to me. Many of them have existed for years and will continue to hold strong for years to come."



**Vocal Artist - Ayanna Green** writes, "I am an artist in more ways than one. I believe in music, I understand the music, and I verbalize my music.

Art is a special language that not many people understand. I believe I use my voice to communicate in many ways by expressing the joys and pains of life.

I sing what I feel in my soul and it enables me to tell my story. I have studied many famous voices in the world, yet I try to be uniquely ME. Every song has a story. As young artists we often worry about the words and thoughts of others. Singing helps me to express my own thoughts and encourage others. When expressing yourself as an artist, your mind is clear and you are more determined to get through tough times.

As I walk around every day, I realize that I have a God given connection with music. I hear and see music in everything. I plan to attend Tarrant County College in the fall and continue singing".

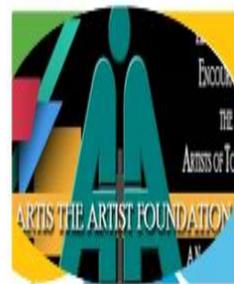


## Your Gift MATTERS!

9.17.20  
6 A.M. - MIDNIGHT

### STEPS TO GIVE:

- Go to [NorthTexasGivingDay.org](http://NorthTexasGivingDay.org)
- Search for **ARTIS THE ARTIST FOUNDATION**
- Donate on North Texas Giving Day 9.17.20 or make your gift early beginning 9.01.20
- Tell your friends why you give with the hashtag #NTxGivingDay



**Artis the Artist 's** rendition of "American Gothic" by Grant Wood, painted by AJ in 2007. There is a lot of darkness going on in the background of America today.



[www.artis-the-artist.com](http://www.artis-the-artist.com)