



## **CENTER for the ARTS**

### **Creativity, experience, empowerment**

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### **PREVENTION, HEALTH & WELLNESS**

“Art can save lives. It can turn around a troubled teenager, help a child kick drugs, get young men and women off the streets and into creative and constructive pursuits. Art can change attitudes, build self-esteem and redirect the path of the wayward. Art can prevent despair.” Jane Alexander

### **THE ARTS IN PREVENTION PROJECTS: A NATIONAL INITIATIVE**

#### **Announcements:**

**6/7/07**

**1. Youthcan, Inc., of Arkansas will be named one of first model Arts in Prevention Programs in the United States by the National Arts in Prevention Projects: National Initiative at this year's Breaking Down The Walls: Reaching Youth, Families and Communities Through The Arts national conference Held on the campus of Rutgers University in New Jersey on October 10 & 11, 2007.**

**Youthcan, Inc., through its' leadership, guidance and vision of its' Executive Director Barbara Price Davis and her talented staff have served the Arkansas community for many years reaching youth through the arts as part of a comprehensive prevention strategy, offering youth and families options, a new vision and hope for the future in a safe, non-judgmental environment. Youthcan will serve as a model which could be replicated across the United States.**

#### **2. Arts in Prevention Projects: NEWARC**

**At the Breaking Down The Walls: Reaching Youth, Families and Communities Through The Arts National Conference, October 10 & 11<sup>th</sup>, 2007, Lois Saperstein, Executive Director of Center For The Arts: Prevention will announce the beginning of a collaboration with the Barat Foundation in Newark, NJ to develop the Arts in Prevention Project at NEWARC to serve as a model inner city arts in prevention program.**

**The Goal of the National Initiative is to educate prevention specialists, social workers, teachers, school administrators, politicians, community youth workers, college students and professors, counselors, artists, public health administrators in the utilization of the arts in prevention as a strategy for youth, families and communities.**

**To raise awareness to the general public on the positive impact the arts can have on youth, families and communities.**

**Our University and College partners are Rutgers, The State University of NJ School of Social Work; SUNY New Paltz, Department of Sociology's Concentration in Human Services; Montclair State University's College of The Arts, Office of Education and Community Outreach.**

**Any Questions call Lois Saperstein, Executive Director of Center For The Arts in Prevention and the Arts in Prevention Projects National Initiative @ 732/591-2362; artsinprevention@aol.com**

