

## Art's Facet Program Report for 2019-2020 Tacoma Chapter of the Links, Inc

The Arts Facet of the Tacoma, Washington Chapter of The Links, Inc. has had several years of busy and exciting work supporting children in the arts. Our focus has been and continues to create and support opportunities for educating children of color in the arts.

### Western Area Links Conference in Austin, Texas

In the spring of 2019, I was invited to participate in a sharing and discussion of Program objects at the 2019 Western Area Links Conference in Austin, Texas. I used visual aids to show the program work the Tacoma Links Are Facet had done supporting the training of young music students in classical music during my group share with other Link sisters, I also discussed some of the self image problems our young students of color experience in ballet. I shared the importance of mentorship for our young students in preparing to enter the world of classical music education. This need for support also involves supporting our children as they audition for positions in professional orchestras.

### Mental Health Forum

In September 2019, The Tacoma Chapter of the Links held its second forum on Mental Health. All members of the Links participated in helping with planning, registration, and other duties as needed. This forum continues to serve as a vital need to our community and beyond.

### Tacoma Symphony

This year, The Arts Facet changed its focus and began an exciting partnership with Symphony Tacoma. Members of the Tacoma Links attended the Symphony Tacoma's annual gala to raise money for their education program. Our art's facet will continue support sponsoring "Peter and The Wolf" for their mini maestro outreach education program. Children and their families are able to attend different concerts that included a "petting zoo" for children. This "zoo" experience gives children and their families a chance to play an instrument. Each concert focused on a different section of the symphony from strings to percussions.

### Symphony2U

Due to changes in scheduling with Symphony Tacoma, The art's facet decided to split our funding to support two schools in our community through classical music instruction. Our facet will be supporting First Creek Middle School in East Tacoma. Our chapter president and I attended a coaching class with seventh grade

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students and loved it. The approximately twenty-five students each had special time during class to have small group interaction with a professional string musician. Committee members of the art's facet will have an opportunity to observe students and coaches refining their craft this spring.

As mentioned before, our art's facet will also support an elementary school with mentorship for 5th grade students. The program is structured the same way as First Creek Middle School for children in string education. Planning with Symphony Tacoma, members of our facet will be able to observe students working with professional coaches in music instruction. It is hoped that that will be spring concerts and both school schools to celebrate the student's hard work.

#### Dark Diva Fund Raiser

All members of our chapter planned, supported and enjoyed a special fundraiser entitled, Dark Divas. This creative performance thrilled the audience with songs from the 1940's. The actors dressed in period customs and the setting was reflective of a 1940's Club.

Respectfully Submitted  
Link Jorge-Ayn Riley, Chair  
Arts' Facet