

2025

IMPACT REPORT

Leadership. Community. Culture.



OUR MISSION & VISION

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to educate, empower, and support underserved communities. The foundation ensures the next generation has access to the mentorship, scholarships, and creative tools necessary to become global leaders and innovators.

OUR VISION

Our vision is to cultivate the next generation of creative innovators who utilize the arts as a bridge for cultural understanding, social change, and emotional intelligence. By leveraging the power of artistic expression, we aim to build a more inclusive society that honors diverse heritage as a cornerstone of human development.



MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADERSHIP

In 2025, the Caribbean American Cultural Arts Foundation turned adversity into an opportunity for deeper connection. Despite the hurdles of federal funding cuts and a shifting social climate, the Foundation remained a steadfast anchor for the community. By choosing action over despair, we proved that supporting the community is sustained not just by budgets, but by the hearts of those who believe in it. As the year's motto reminds us: "We are Resilient, Resourceful, and Relentless"

MICHAEL THOMAS, CHAIRMAN OF CARIBBEAN AMERICAN CULTURAL ARTS FOUNDATION



OUR PROGRAMS

YOUTH ARTS EDUCATION

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

DISASTER RELIEF

COLLEGIATE ENGAGEMENT

CARIBBEAN

AMERICAN CULTURAL ARTS FOUNDATION



2025: YEAR IN NUMBERS

✓ Youth and families in the programs showed higher graduation rates, increased interest in creative arts careers, and stronger community engagement in the arts.

300

INDIVIDUALS SERVED

1000

DISASTER RELIEF

2

NEW PROGRAMS LAUNCHED

350

FAMILIES SUPPORTED

250

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



Over the Years!

2016-2025: OUR NUMBERS

2500

INDIVIDUALS SERVED



4550

DISASTER RELIEF



6

NEW PROGRAMS LAUNCHED

1350

FAMILIES SUPPORTED



100

VOLUNTEERS ENGAGED



THE POWER OF OUR COMMUNITY



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS & MILESTONES

Q1



Created a pathway for increasing collegiate programs and youth education

Q2



Expanded our education programs to reach 250 youth from 3 different localities

Q3



Hosted our 1st annual community development summit. Supported 1000+ Disaster Relief

Q4



Increase youth outreach, established new structure, and increased donor engagement



NOTEWORTHY STORIES OF IMPACT

STONE MILL ELEMENTARY

For the students at Stone Mill Elementary, the dream of building the future was often sidelined by the reality of equipment costs and registration fees. That changed in 2025 when the Caribbean American Cultural Arts Foundation (CACAF) stepped in to bridge the gap. By providing critical financial support, CACAF ensured that Stone Mill's STEM program could offer its high-energy robotics club to every student at no cost.

This partnership transformed the classroom into a hub of innovation where financial barriers no longer dictated a child's potential. Students who once watched from the sidelines are now hands-on, coding and competing alongside their peers. This initiative isn't just about robotics; it's about CACAF's commitment to ensuring that the next generation of Caribbean-American innovators and their classmates have a seat at the table, proving that when a community invests in its youth, the possibilities are limitless.

INNOVATION ACADEMY

In 2025, the Innovation Academy saw a remarkable shift in its graduating class's trajectory, thanks to a collaboration with CACAF. Through a dynamic career development series, CACAF volunteers and board members engaged students in high-level discussions about the intersection of tradition and technology, covering topics from civil engineering to the ethical implementation of AI in the workforce.

CACAF opened students' eyes to the viability of professional paths in the arts. This mentorship sparked a surge in confidence, resulting in a measurable increase in college applications to film and music programs. For many students, the series transformed a "hobby" into a legitimate career path, proving that the next generation of storytellers is ready to lead the creative industries into a tech-driven future.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

EDUCATION

Maria Manning, a dedicated non-profit leader, was inspired to turn a night of celebration into a year of support. Through a new partnership with Stone Mill Elementary, she launched a vital mental health initiative specifically designed for the diverse multicultural families of DeKalb County.

This collaboration ensures that students and their families have a safe, culturally sensitive space to find healing and resilience. It is a beautiful example of how one evening with the Foundation can spark a ripple effect of wellness across our entire community.



- Serving multicultural families.
- Directly benefiting over 250 youth
- Born from a connection made at our annual gala.

DISASTER RELIEF

The Four Seasons Hotel Atlanta proved to be an invaluable partner in our mission this year, extending its world-class hospitality far beyond the hotel's walls. In the wake of Hurricane Melissa, they stepped up as a pillar of strength for our disaster relief efforts, generously providing over 1,000 families with essential hygiene products.

This vital contribution provided more than just supplies; it offered dignity and comfort to those navigating the difficult road to recovery.



- Providing emergency support for the family
- 1,000+ families supported
- Essential disaster relief supplies

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Our community outreach truly bridged the gap to the creative economy when a visionary film director brought the professional industry directly to the halls of Innovation Academy. In an incredible hands-on opportunity, several students were invited to participate in a live film shoot right on campus.

By stepping onto a working set, these students didn't just gain experience; they earned official film credits to bolster their résumés and college applications. This collaboration provided a rare, behind-the-scenes look at the world of cinema, empowering our youth to see themselves as future leaders of the film industry.



- Students participated in a real-world experience
- Tangible college and job application credits for 20+ youth
- Direct mentorship from industry professionals in the growing film sector.



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648 Evans Street, Atlanta, GA

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

OUR COMMITMENT: TRANSPARENCY. ACCOUNTABILITY. MAXIMUM IMPACT.

TOTAL REVENUE

\$150,000+

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$98,890

WHERE YOUR SUPPORT WENT

- 65% Programs & Services
- 17% Fundraising & Development
- 10% Administration & Operations
- 8% Miscellaneous Expenses



Over 65% of CACAF funding is deployed directly into programs, exceeding national nonprofit benchmarks for community-based organizations.



CHANGES, OUTCOMES, & LESSONS LEARNED

We adapted, we listened, and we grew stronger. Challenges may arise, but so does our determination to serve. Our community is more than numbers - it's the heartbeat of every success story.

Rising Demand

The need within our community for more wrap-around services, including economic opportunities, continues to grow. There's a growing demand for access to arts education, entrepreneurship, and workforce development, and mental health resources and crisis assistance.

Economic Uncertainties

Economic instability, rising living costs, and unpredictable funding environments have made sustaining programs more challenging. Many of the people that we serve have felt this burden most acutely.



Through strong community involvement, active board member participation, and a commitment to fiscal responsibility, we have successfully navigated challenges while maintaining a lean and sustainable operation.



OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE

In the coming year, we will:



Expand services to new communities



Strengthen partnerships



Prioritize Community Development



Continue building sustainable impact



WAYS TO SUPPORT...& WHY?

Sponsor and Donor Pathways

Endowment Contributions – Invest in long-term sustainability by funding scholarships, youth arts programs, cultural preservation initiatives, and disaster-response arts programming.

Event Sponsorships – Sponsor showcases, youth performances, and community arts events that collectively reach 1Million+ impressions and participants annually.

Corporate & Community Partnerships – Align your brand with culturally impactful programming that increases visibility across Caribbean-American communities nationwide.

Support CACAF through volunteer and board engagement, digital promotion, in-kind contributions, and sponsorship of youth internships. Matching gifts and tax-advantaged giving further expand impact while providing meaningful philanthropic and financial benefits.



Our Why

Our communities are uniquely vulnerable to rising climate disasters, cultural erasure, and economic instability that disrupt families and disconnect youth from identity, opportunity, and creative expression. At a time when youth disengagement and underrepresentation in the arts are growing concerns, CACAF provides culturally grounded programs that strengthen resilience, preserve heritage, and create pathways to graduation, careers in the creative economy, and sustained community participation—making support both timely and urgent.

Contact: 404-806-9053