

CREATIVE IMPRESSIONS PRESENTS

Behold The Star 2021

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF

Excellence



History & Mission

For 25 years, Creative Impressions (CI) has actively sought to empower youth through high quality choral, civic and cultural experiences. The programming implemented by CI supports our mission by providing instruction in music and other areas of performance; providing cultural expansion and exposure; and providing a public performance opportunity.

Since its inception in 1996, CI has served over 600 youth and has developed into a choral music ensemble of excellence. Many vocal art forms to include dance, choral choreography, choral drama, and original compositions, are employed to give excitement, color, and an uplifting message to listeners while providing extensive training in the performing arts to future innovators in their respective creative journeys.

Creative Impressions supports approximately twenty-five (25) community youth of diverse backgrounds that range in age from 11 to 18 years old. Through weekly training sessions that focus on excellence, hard work, and committed leadership, the organization instills pride and esthetic appreciation while promoting positive work habits and responsible behavior. Students engage in weekly ear training in addition to rote and/or scored music education sessions while provided group and individual mentorship. Music history and theory are also infused into the curriculum. Students also learn to read music, and develop technique and the self-confidence needed to perform for live audiences. Creative Impressions has inspired audiences along the east coast as far north as Ground Zero in New York City and has performed at a Presidential Youth Summit in Washington, D.C. The organization is active in the local arts community, performing for diverse audiences. Creative Impressions was afforded the opportunity to open for Mr. Jay Leno and perform for the Pay-It-Forward Academy closing ceremony hosted by Coca Cola in Atlanta, GA. Other presentations include performing with the Preservation Hall Jazz Band during Augusta's Westobou Festival.

Board of Directors

Rev. Evelyn Ellis, Founder
Trey McLaughlin, Artistic Director
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About Behold the Star

Traditionally held during the third week in December, it has been held as a highly anticipated fine arts show in the community. Behold the Star infuses traditional Christmas ballads with contemporary arrangements for an artistic experience that brings in the joy of Christmas for its audience. It also serves as a fundraiser for the organization, supporting the impactful programming of Creative Impressions. As the midpoint of the performance season, Behold the Star is utilized to assess the progression of Creative Impressions' young artists.

\$25 for 25 Campaign

There are several ways you can help Creative Impressions students: with donations to programs, workshops, scholarships, and as a student sponsor.

Did you know that \$750.00 provides sponsorship for a student for 1 year, \$200.00 covers tuition and uniform for a student for 1 year, \$550.00 covers touring expenses for 1 student.

To donate to Creative Impressions please visit us online at www.Creative-Impressions.org

Join us in investing in our community's youth and in our community's future.

Behold the Star Program

Carol of the Bells | Arr. Trey McLaughlin
Mary Had a Baby | William Dawson
Ai, Nama Mamina (Cau a Du) | Andrejs Jansons
Because of Love | Natalie Grant/Arr. Trey McLaughlin
Chipmunk Christmas | Arr. Trey McLaughlin
Behold the Star | William Dawson



Trey McLaughlin

Trey M. McLaughlin was born in Augusta, GA on March 30, 1984. He graduated from John S. Davidson Magnet School in 2002. While in high school, Trey was a member of the non-profit, performing arts organization, Creative Impressions, serving as both President and Student Director of the organization from 1999-2002.



Trey is a 2008 graduate of Columbus State University (The Schwob School of Music) in Columbus, GA. During his time at CSU, Trey was a member of its University Singers and Chorale. Trey is a member and past president of the professional music fraternity Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, and he is a former director of G.E.N.E.S.I.S. -- the Columbus State University Gospel Choir. In May of 2008, Mr. McLaughlin attained a Bachelor of Science in Music Performance with an emphasis in Vocal Pedagogy.

In 2014, Mr. McLaughlin began his international career, conducting a Master Class and performing at the L'Opéra de Massy in Massy, France. Since then, he has served as the guest clinician for several workshops abroad. In October of 2015, Trey conducted a 300-voice choir in Krakow, Poland, as the guest clinician of the annual 7x Festival. Trey was also afforded the opportunity to conduct a workshop and perform in Menorca, Spain; Rajadell, Spain; and Aarhus, Denmark. At home, Trey has been extended the honor of serving as the guest clinician for Honor Choruses throughout the state of Georgia.

Trey is a passionate solo vocalist -- recognizing the beauty of, and fusing together an eclectic mix of musical genres for all those who encounter his artistry. He composes and performs original works and prolifically arranged covers with his own recording ensemble, The Sounds of Zamar. Presenting what is known as "The Zamar Experience" Tour this Fall & Winter throughout various regions of the United States, the group has recently returned from a national tour coast, ministering to diverse audiences in Davis, CA; Berkely, CA; Stanford, CA; Portland, Seattle, WA; Boston, MA; Tampa, FL; and Jacksonville, FL.

Trey currently serves at Tabernacle Baptist Church of Augusta, Georgia. As Director of Worship and Arts, Mr. McLaughlin stewards and oversees 12 ministries and approximately 250 ministry volunteers. Mr. McLaughlin has taught as adjunct faculty at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota, teaching graduate level courses where he continues his passion for writing and arranging music, teaching piano, and conducting classes in vocal technique.

As a performer, composer and arranger, clinician, educator, mentor and arts advocate, Trey McLaughlin is ambassador for the Augusta Arts community. As such, he was recognized by the Augusta Arts Council as its 2018 Artist of the Year. His international, national and local work in the arts continues to provide rich cultural, artistic experiences for all who encounter his programming.



Rev. Evelyn D. Ellis, Founder

Evelyn D. Ellis is the daughter of the late Rev. John M. Ellis and Thelma G. Ellis. She is a graduate of Boggs Academy in Keysville, Georgia. Ms. Ellis received her Bachelor of Arts Degree from Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia, and did graduate study at both San Jose State University, San Jose California and at Augusta College (now Augusta University). She received her Graduate Music Teaching Certificate from Kodaly Musical Training Institute in Watertown, Massachusetts.



During her years as a teacher, Ms. Ellis has taught across the country in places such as the Fulton County School System in Atlanta; the Cupertino, California School System; Framingham Massachusetts School System; Greensboro North Carolina School System; Charleston South Carolina, School System; and the Burke County School System in Waynesboro, Georgia. Ms. Ellis has retired from teaching in the Richmond County School System, where she worked for sixteen years. Over the years, Ms. Ellis has also served as musician for several area churches, and she has been the recipient of many awards and recognitions which include the Women of Excellence Award in the Arts by the CSRA Girl Scout League in May 2003; the President's Award given by the Greater Augusta Arts Council in 2005, and the Giving Your Best Award from Channel 6 Television in Augusta, Georgia also in 2005. In the fall of 2006, Ms. Ellis was finally able to realize a long-time dream when she entered Erskine Theological Seminary to pursue a Master of Theology/Divinity degree. In 2009 she achieved the fulfillment of that dream when she successfully completed her Master of Divinity Degree. In the fall of 2010 she successfully completed all ordination exams, and in 2011 she was ordained and installed as Pastor in the Westminster Presbyterian Church (U.S.A) in Waynesboro, GA.

Not only is Ms. Ellis the proud mother of two sons, Paul and Christopher Johnson, the proud grandmother of little Korey Johnson she is also the adopted mother of many members of Barefoot Productions, Inc. /Creative Impressions (past and present). Her unfailing dedication and hard work has set the standard for the quality of the organization's performances, and is also the reason for the success that the group is experiencing today.

Creative Impressions

Lexi Abraham
Frankecia Bartley
Mykayla Mason-Bennett
Jonathan McCormick
Zoe Ellison
AnTaneisha Gary
Kendyll Handy
Sophia Williams
Joseph Jacobs
Aniya Johnson
Jaleesa Johnson
Peyton Johnson
Nya Lawrence

Joseph Jacobs
Aniya Johnson
Jaleesa Johnson
Peyton Johnson
Nya Lawrence
Jeshuah M. Morris-Fuller
Christian Parker
Des'Tini Peoples
Charlissa Smith
Kimora Thomas
Kira Thomas
Kissimmee Thomas
Kadence Wesby

Alumni Participants

Alicia Faith Bloomfield
Que Butler
Shane Carliss Clark
Brittany Hatcher
Kennedy Johnson
Anita Purcell
Angela Saxon
Da'Najah Scott
Alexandria Nicole Smith
Celena Smith Deja Thomas
Joseph Washington
TaVaris Wilson
Aaliyah Wright





\$25 for 25 Campaign

Augusta Mini Theatre
Rev. Billy Alford
LaShana Bradwell
Deborah Brooks
Barbara Bush
Tara Claitt
William Dargan
Tristan Davis
Janice Elamin
Carol Eunice
Grand Fuller

Joynelle Joyner
Gayle McLaughlin
Sabrina Robertson
Anita Purcell
Benjamin Saxon
Brittany Saxon
Naikki Smith
Barbara Thomas
Christopher Thompkins
Joseph Washington
Ta'Varis Wilson

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Dr. Ala'Torya Cranford
Rev. Evelyn Ellis
Shanita Newton
Anita Purcell
John Trai Williams III

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C-St Studios
Timothy Williams
Newton Creative Consulting
Southern Folk Media



*Congratulations
Creative Impressions
1996 - 2021
25 Years of Greatness*

**Continue
to
encourage
educate and
empower
our youths to become
holistic adults
art ambassadors
and advocates in our
communities**

*He has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not
because of our own works, but by His own purpose and by
the grace He granted us in Christ Jesus before time
eternal. 2 Tim 1:9*



**First Mt. Carmel Missionary Baptist Church
6269 Cobbham Road Appling, Georgia 30802**

**Reverend Roscoe F. Perry
Senior Pastor**

fmcbbc.com

