



APPLICATION SPRING 2019

The **Griot Youth Program** is a non-profit organization that provides classes in the arts to students in 7th -12th grades. The classes will meet at the Griot Building at 278 Sunflower Ave. in downtown Clarksdale. Each student that is accepted into the program is required to come to a minimum of 2 days a week of our regular **Monday-Thursday** programming from **4:00-6:15** and must not be committed to any extracurricular activities that will interfere with classes. We also have a new Friday class for our advanced students. **Applications for Spring 2018 are due to the Griot Arts Building.** Drop off the application or mail

it to 278 Sunflower Ave. Clarksdale, MS 38614. After we receive your application, we will call you to set up an interview. The student and a guardian are required to attend. After the interview, we will let you know if you have been accepted. Our **Spring semester will start on Thursday January 10, 2019** with a mandatory orientation from 4-6pm. If you have any questions, please call Josue Atibalentja 662-912-6468. There is a \$120 registration fee per semester due before classes start as well as all required paperwork. Scholarships are available to offset the cost.

PROCESS

There are only 30 spots available in the program each semester. After these spots are full, a wait list will be started.

1. **Fill Out a Flyer:** Turn this into the 278 Sunflower
2. **Interview:** You will be contacted to set up an interview.
3. **Acceptance:** After the interview and all forms are filled out, the director will notify you if you have a spot in the program.

****Performance classes:** These classes are for serious musicians and dancers that want to challenge their skills and have more opportunities to perform. An audition is required for placement in these classes. These classes include: folk band, vocals, dance, and ensemble.

INTERVIEW

Interviews will be held as needed. Each interview will take 30 minutes. Please call/text Josue Atibalentja 662-912-6468 to set up your interview time and bring examples of your art or music to the interview to help us determine what you are most interested in. **We have 30 spots in our MS/HS semester program so apply early!!**

ACCEPTANCE

Student's acceptance will depend on the application and interview process. We will decide who will fit best in the program and choose the new students accordingly. Previous students will get priority unless they have shown in the past that they are not committed to the program and do not show a renewed interest. There is a mandatory end of the semester performance/art showcase for all classes.

Students will attend one arts class each day, Monday-Thursday.

***Classes meet at various times.** We will use your preferences and class availability to help put you in the classes you are most interested in and determine which students are the best fit for the program. Students sign-up for classes on orientation day. We are **very serious about regular attendance at the program.** For us to really make an impact, it is very important that the students attend every day they sign up for.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is very important for your student to be successful in our program. We strive to recruit excellent arts teachers and work towards a high-quality, end of the semester show. Students that do not attend their classes regularly may not be able to perform at the end of the semester. Students that miss 15+ days no longer have a spot in the program and must reapply if they wish to return. Students must have good attendance to be eligible for reward trips, programs, and job opportunities. The first 3 graduating classes from GYP had 100% HS graduation and we have helped them with college scholarships, jobs, ongoing support, etc. We want to help students become everything God made them to be but need them to show up regularly! Students that have excellent attendance (90% and up) will earn rewards at the end of the semester.

SCHEDULE

The program starts at 4:15 daily and all students are required to come to circle time that starts at 4:15. Students will NOT be allowed to show-up late and go to their arts class at 5pm without a valid excuse from a parent. Absences are not excused unless a parent calls the director by 4pm or sends a signed note the next day.

TUTORING

As part of our program, we offer tutoring time Monday-Thursday after arts classes. Students are responsible for bringing school work that they need help with. Students that are not using this time effectively and are distracting other students will not be allowed to stay for it. After each quarter, we offer a reward trip to students that have improved their grades.

PERFORMANCES

There will be a performance and art show at the end of every semester. Attendance is mandatory for all students and families and friends are invited to attend.

TRIPS

Reward trips or gift cards will be offered to students that bring up their grades by a letter grade in a core subject area. Trips are only available to students with good attendance (80% attendance).

Student Name _____

GUARDIAN: Why are you interested in your child being part of GYP?

STUDENTS - Please write a paragraph about why you want to be part of the Griot Youth Program including which area of the arts interests you the most and why you are interested in that subject.

STUDENTS - By signing below, you are agreeing to the following:

- Will you do your best to attend every class that you are able?
- Do you agree to have a positive attitude and respect all other students, teachers, and building space and equipment?
- Do you agree to bring in school work that you need help with and use tutoring time from 6-6:30pm effectively?

Student Name (Please Print): _____

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

PARENTS - By signing below, you agreeing to the following:

- Griot Youth Program also seeks to help students academically and with behavior by keeping up with the progress they make in school. Do you agree to allow Griot Arts Inc. to receive a copy of your child's report card, attendance, state test scores, ACT, and behavioral reports for our records? (It will not be disclosed to anyone except Griot Staff)
- Do you grant your permission for your child to appear in Griot Youth Program/Griot Arts Inc. publications and media?
- Do you give Griot Staff permission to pick-up/drop-off your child if you are unable to do so?
- Do you agree to help your child attend the program regularly and support positive behavior?

Parent Name (Please Print): _____

Parent Signature: _____ **Date** _____