



Press Contact:  
Jennifer Clements  
904.281.5599 x20  
[jennifer@capkids.org](mailto:jennifer@capkids.org)

### **AGC Jacksonville executive director featured in new arts and education podcast**

Great news for arts education fans – the Essential Culture Podcast Network has launched a series on the arts and education. Purple Crayon is a segment hosted by Any Given Child Jacksonville Executive Director Allison Galloway-Gonzalez, bringing the stories of teachers, students and artists to the forefront of cultural consciousness.

“I often feel arts education is at the bottom of the barrel of priorities in every community sector,” said Galloway-Gonzalez. “This is a wonderful opportunity to share unique perspectives that rarely get to see the light of day.”

The latest episode of Purple Crayon is available now, featuring an interview with the founders and artistic directors of Back to BACH: Kids for Classical, a program by and for young people to promote music education. The program was founded when Noah Lee, then a 14-year-old cellist, along with his mother and sister, learned their local elementary school was cutting its music program.

“The arts are neglected as an essential part of public education,” said Galloway-Gonzalez. “Youth programs are less respected than adult programming at arts organizations, and our entire American culture has failed to invest in public education or arts and culture as economic drivers for business and community building. There are so many studies and stories about how arts education exponentially increases quality of life for everyone, and this is a wonderful new way to broadcast those facts and honor those stories.”

The Essential Culture Podcast Network is a new platform for cultural enrichment, created right here in Jacksonville. JaMario Stills, Heather Moore, Tim Driscoll and Brock Moore have collaborated with dynamic creators of art and culture to curate content covering arts and culture issues in Northeast Florida. Additional featured hosts include Shawana Brooks, Joash Brunet, Dustin Harewood, Toni Hernandez, Clayton Levins and Madeleine Peck Wagner.

“Many years ago – whether consciously or not – I took up this purpose of supporting the arts, helping young people grow, and contributing to the cultural sector of my community,” said Galloway-Gonzalez. “This calling has been, and will continue to be, overwhelming as I will never personally have the resources to do it all. The Purple Crayon podcast and these interviews are offering me a chance to learn from others while allowing the public to tune in and learn along with me.”

Purple Crayon and other segments from the Essential Culture Podcast Network are available on iTunes and Sound Cloud.

###

*Any Given Child Jacksonville is uniting diverse stakeholders that include Duval County Public Schools personnel and students, arts organizations, artists, and business and community leaders. We have worked ceaselessly to raise awareness and build capacity to ensure every K-8 student in Duval County receives access to a high-quality arts education. Learn more at [capkids.org/agcjax](http://capkids.org/agcjax).*