

NZ MISSION STATEMENT:

"The Neutral Zone is a diverse, youth-driven teen center dedicated to promoting personal growth through artistic expression, community leadership and the exchange of ideas."

FUNDERS AND SUPPORTERS:

Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation
Ann Arbor Public Schools
Arcus Gay and Lesbian Fund
Best Buy
Buhr Foundation
Calty Design Research
Comerica Charitable Foundation
Community Evaluation and Research Center at Michigan State University
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Mukti Foundation
PNC Foundation
Redies Foundation
Rotary Club of Ann Arbor
The Stranahan Foundation
University Musical Society
Toyota Technical Center
Washtenaw Coordinated Funders
W.K. Kellogg Foundation



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CURRENT HIGHLIGHTS:

Receive monthly highlights about Neutral Zone. Sign up in the box on the right side of the main web page to receive our email newsletter.

WWW.NEUTRAL-ZONE.ORG

NEUTRAL ZONE PROGRAMS 2011-2012

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Ann Arbor, MI
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The Neutral Zone
Where teens lead, create and innovate
310 E. Washington St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
www.neutral-zone.org
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



NZ PROGRAMS

Programs begin the week of September 12th and run through June 8th.

One annual fee of \$165 covers all community leadership, music, literary arts, and visual arts programs for the school year. Teens can participate in as many programs as they choose. **Need-based scholarships are available to those who apply.** For questions or for more information, contact Lori Roddy (734) 214-9995 or email lori@neutral-zone.org. To register, just show up at the program (unless otherwise noted).

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

North Star, Tuesdays, 4:30-6pm

An open discussion group just for young women — their “guiding light” each week. Discussions are informative, fun, and positive; in an atmosphere that is comfortable and conducive to meaningful conversations. Through these conversations, North Star works to build a stronger community of young women.

Riot Youth, Fridays, 4-6pm

Engage in a youth-run safe space for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, queer, questioning youth and their allies. Through leadership skill building, community organizing, networking, and socializing, Riot Youth connects youth to build an inclusive community.

SEED (Students Educating Each other about Diversity), Wednesdays 7-9pm; interview required.

SEED participants build a close knit community to explore their experiences and expand their understanding of diversity. Then, students create workshops to teach the value of diversity to middle school students through engaging, hands on activities.

Teen Advisory Council, Tuesdays, 7-8:30pm

Supporting NZ's mission to be youth-driven, TAC serves as program advisors to the NZ Board of Directors. TAC approves new programs, funds grants, and leads the evaluation to provide future recommendations. It's a vital leadership role that drives NZ's success.

EDUCATION

No program fees required

S.C.O.R.E. (School, Career, Opportunities are Endless), schedule by appointment

Designed for teens who need assistance to navigate the college and career application process. NZ provides workshops, one-on-one mentorship, and college support for applications, scholarships, and the financial aid process.

Tutoring, Mondays through Thursdays, 3-5pm

Our dedicated quiet space accompanied by tutors and food, provides the ideal study environment. Drop-in or call in advance to request a tutor who has knowledge in the subject area of your need. FREE

LITERARY ARTS

Red Beard Press, Mondays, 7-9pm

Red Beard Press is a cutting-edge, youth driven business passionate about publishing emerging voices and inspiring passionate writers. Teen members select writers, edit pieces, design layout, and market and distribute publications. Join a passionate writing community that reinvigorates the publishing business.

Short Story Workshop, Fridays 4-6pm

Teens write and write - trying out styles and techniques to find their voices as storytellers. The group's stories are shared with the community through ample performance and publishing opportunities.

Volume Youth Poetry Project, Thursdays 7-9pm

Poets meet weekly to write, critique and read their poetry with one another. In addition to writing and performing nationally recognized, award-winning poetry, Volume performs at local coffee shops, bookstores, and several large-scale community events.

MUSIC

Beat Making and Audio Engineering, Tuesday thru Thursday, 6-8pm & Fridays, 4-6pm

After a short introductory course to the studio, certified teens have access to create music through technology by using our MPC2000, Reason, Logic, Garageband, Cool Edit, ProTools, and Triton Keyboard/Workstations. A series of courses that includes Live Sound Engineering, Logic, and Audio Engineering is available.

DJ Workshop, Wednesdays, 6-8

Learn the skills and techniques involved in mixing vinyl records and digital music live. The secrets of scratching, mixtapes, and creating a dynamic full DJ set will all be revealed. All genres are welcome. Meetings include instruction and open lab time to perfect your craft as a DJ.

B-Boying, Fridays, 4-6pm

Learn the art of break dancing. Meet with teens from “The Breakbenders,” a crew of youth who share their love of dancing by welcoming anyone who wants to attempt, learn, and enjoy this unique style of dance. Not just for boyz, girls welcome.

Breakin' Curfew Curator Team, Wednesdays, 4:30-6pm, interview required

Breakin' Curfew is a youth arts extravaganza that sells out the Power Center every May. Join the team of curators who plan the show- everything from finding acts, painting the back drop, designing the promotion material, and working back-stage. A partnership with the University Musical Society.

B-Side Promotion, Mondays, 4:30-6pm

Combine business skills and a love of music through booking and promoting concerts and special events at the Neutral Zone. Event promoters meet weekly to discuss upcoming events, create marketing strategies, and learn what it takes to run the B-Side, NZ's concert venue.

Emcee Workshop, Tuesdays, 4-6pm

Meet up with hip hop artists in our community through writing, recording, and performing rhymes. MCs write original rhymes and share critiques, use ProTools to record, and host open mics to feature our workshop.

Orpheum Recording Studio, Tuesdays, 4:30-6pm

The Orpheum is an all-ages youth-run recording studio housed in the Neutral Zone. With the support of two NZ staff members, teens manage the schedule, make the budget and market the studio. In addition to managing the business side, the teens also engineer the sound. Each youth engineer receives ongoing, advanced training in recording digital audio.

Youth Owned Records, Thursdays, 5:30-7pm

YOR, one of the first youth-operated record labels in the country, is dedicated to recording, distributing and marketing the freshest local teen artists. Teen record company members work to discover the best acts, get them into the recording studio and successfully promote and sell their original music.

VISUAL ARTS

Photography, Mondays, 4-6pm

See the world through the lens of a camera. Join a team of artists as we hike through the community to take interesting photographs, and host critiques to fine-tune our skills. Bring your own camera if you have it, and if not, we have a few to share.

Screen-printing, Thursdays, 6-8pm

Our in-house screen-printing business partner, Modati, hosts the basics of designing and printing images on t-shirts, posters, and more. Learn more about Modati at modati.com.

Visual Arts Council (VAC), Wednesdays, 4:30-6pm

The hub of local teen artists, VAC builds an artistic community through sharing and critiquing art, visiting galleries and museums, creating original art at overnight lock-ins, and hosting exhibitions and art parties.

Drop-in, Monday-Thursday 2:30-8pm, and Fridays until 6pm

Drop-in to connect with friends, use the computers, or play a game of pool. Staff and volunteers support a study space with tutors and snacks. Community volunteers host dinners on most Thursdays.

Concerts @ the B-Side

www.thebsidevenue.com

Hundreds of teens hit the B-Side, NZ's concert venue, for shows by local teen and adult musicians. From hip-hop to jazz, ska to rock, with occasional open jams, open mics, poetry slams, and dance parties.

Start Your Own Program

What are we missing? Neutral Zone's mission is founded on teens participating and taking the lead. Neutral Zone will offer teens the support to explore ideas to make initiate new programs, here is the formula for starting your own program:

an idea + youth passion + youth leadership = youth driven program



Y.O.E - YOUTH OWNED ENTERPRISES

Connecting artistic talents with entrepreneurial opportunities

NEUTRAL ZONE CONTACT INFO

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