



The Al Wooten, Jr. Heritage Center is a neighborhood approach to the revitalization and empowerment of a community in crisis. We provide a safe, nurturing environment committed to good citizenship and academic excellence.

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WOOTEN CENTER HOSTS HIPHOP WORKSHOP

LOS ANGELES - The Al Wooten, Jr. Heritage Center, a South Central Los Angeles after-school program that helps prepare low-income minority youths to succeed in college has scheduled Sebastien Elkouby from The Foundation For the Study of Hiphop Consciousness, Inc. to present a workshop, "The Artist Development Program" for the center's middle school youth.

The Foundation For the Study of Hiphop Consciousness is a community based non-profit organization dedicated to using Hiphop culture as a tool for education, social change and youth empowerment. The Artist Development Program is a 5 week program that will use all of the elements of Hiphop culture as tools for self empowerment, improving self-esteem, cultivating an interest in learning, broadening participants' awareness about their local communities and the world in general, and the importance of their city in a global context. The instructors will teach the youth creative writing, live performance, and recording techniques. The program will result in higher self-esteem for the children and the ability to overcome adversity through the exploration of the history of the Watts area. Children will acquire a more defined vision of their future, and children will cultivate an appreciation for the arts.

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The program began July 1, and will run through the end of August, every other Friday from 4:00 PM-6:00 PM. Participants are middle school youth enrolled at the Wooten Center.

The Wooten Center, located in gang territory fewer than two miles from the outbreak of the 1992 Los Angeles riots, provides college-prep guidance and educational, cultural and recreational activities for more than 200 low-income minority youths ages 7 to 18. More than 90 percent of the youths served come from single-parent or foster-care households with incomes of less than \$17,000 per year.

The Wooten Center was founded in 1990 by Myrtle Faye Rumph after the senseless drive-by murder of her son, Al Wooten Jr. Wooten Center programs including literacy tutoring, the CollegeTrack readiness program, one-on-one tutoring, youth leadership programs, a Boys-to-Men character building program, computer lab instruction, daily homework assistance, vocational assistance, a music program, gardening activities and more. The Center is the site of the Ella Fitzgerald Library, the Rhino Entertainment Study Hall and the David & Elizabeth McFadzean Building.

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