



Carly Stewart

### OUR MISSION

*To interpret and preserve a unique collection of sub-Saharan African art;  
To expand understanding of African cultures through educational programs that incorporate art, music, storytelling, films, and spiritual ceremony;  
And to enrich the communities of Maine and beyond through the celebration of diversity.*



Andrew Jaspersohn



Carly Stewart

For more information or to schedule an educational program, contact the museum at: [africart@museumafricanculture.org](mailto:africart@museumafricanculture.org)

**THE MUSEUM OF AFRICAN CULTURE**  
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PORTLAND, MAINE

## EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS



Jake Pitcher

A 501(C)(3) organization

## EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

MofAC offers educational programs both at the museum and in the classroom. Our programs feature discussions and presentations of African art and artifacts in conjunction with dance and music. MofAC's programs illustrate the power of culture and tradition in the shaping of human societies on every continent.

We encourage participants to examine their own cultural heritages and embrace those simple but central elements in their own lives that strengthen themselves and their society.

*Words cannot describe the positive impact you have made on our students. Thank you for taking the time not only to share your culture with the students, but also for opening their minds and challenging them to find the voice inside.*

— Audrey Louering, teacher

Programs may include one or more of the following:

- ◆ Displays of African masks and other objects and discussions of their history and significance
- ◆ Hands-on workshops creating masks and children's toys from various media
- ◆ African music, dance, and drumming
- ◆ Traditional masquerades
- ◆ Healing and/or spiritual ceremonies
- ◆ Residencies at organizations or schools



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## EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE CENTER

The ERC expands the museum's educational outreach through its library of resources that are available on loan to area teachers, students, and scholars. Resources include:

- ◆ Books
- ◆ Videos
- ◆ Music
- ◆ "Touch Kits" with objects that can be used for hands-on learning



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## SCHOOL PROGRAMS

MofAC offers programs in public, private, and home schools, grades K-12. On-site programs are designed to meet the needs of educators, enriching curricula and benefiting students through experiential learning.

Presentations are intended to teach children about the cultural richness of the African continent, and to help young people develop greater acceptance of students from different cultural and ethnic heritages.

*Thank you so much! Everything the spirit [mask] told me was true! And the masks are amazing! That was an awesome experience.*

— Amanda M., student

## ADULT PROGRAMS

The objective of adult programs is to develop new thinking about African art, recognizing it as not simply a decorative form, but as a phenomenon of communication—a tool of interpersonal literacy—providing a gateway to understanding of the people and cultures of Africa.

The display and discussion of masks and art objects, along with the experience of a traditional spirit-mask demonstration, offer a deep awareness of the role of art in African cultures, specifically in the masking traditions.