

David Kibuuka
Artistic Director
Modern Batik Art Workshops



Dear David:

On behalf of MicroSkills, I want to express our profound appreciation for the opportunity to partner with you on the Youth Express project, a one-year modern batik art project funded by the Youth Challenge Fund. This project not only broadened the art experience and skills for 73 youth in under-invested communities, it also provided the unique and sustainable component of train-the-trainer workshops, giving 14 youth the opportunity to instruct other youth in the skills they learned under your expert tutelage.

We also had the pleasure of partnering with you on the Off The Wall project funded by Toronto Arts Council and Ontario Arts Council, where you instructed some of the batik arts program graduates in Masters level techniques.

David, we are especially thankful and impressed by your dedication and commitment to developing youth's talents while mentoring them in the career and business aspects of art, and exposing them to a wide range of career options and opportunities. You had the foresight to recommend including in our Youth Express project art exhibitions and a calendar that continues to be requested by many individuals. You also contributed your time in seeking key partners to support the youth and provide them with venues where their talents could be exposed to a wider audience. One such example is RBC, who sponsored the creation of a quilt from art works produced in the Off The Wall project. This quilt is being hung in the lobbies of RBC branches.

Moreover, we see that you invest yourself personally in ensuring that the youth you work with are receiving the best instruction and experience that can help them make choices in their lives overall. We realize you are continuing to work with the youth who participated in our project, providing professional guidance to them in the formation of the modern batik art guild. You are indeed a mentor and role model for the youth in art, in business and in life.

We hope to continue partnering with you in developing the skills, talents and options for youth who may not otherwise have such an enriching opportunity.

Sincerely,

Hazel Webb
Director, Community Programs and Services