



“Connecting and uplifting people, through customized artistic experiences for wellness, empowerment, and dialogue for intercultural understanding is within my mission to catalyze positive social change.”

Gabrielle Gaines-Liwaru, a.k.a. G. D’Ebony— **Artist’s Bio**

Gabrielle Gaines-Liwaru, a certified educator with a BS in Education and Art Endorsement from UNO and an ESL Endorsement from Concordia University, draws from her own multi-cultural heritage and calls herself a “social change artist” with a preference for mixed-media and interdisciplinary art forms. She believes the arts transcend barriers and perpetuate positive change.

Gaines-Liwaru has taught full time and in after school programs, within the Omaha Public Schools district, offering arts that expand cultural awareness and appreciation. She has facilitated workshops at UNO, Joslyn Art Museum, the Hope Center for Kids, the Solomon Center for Girls, Nebraska Children’s Home Society, Omaha Performing Arts, Girls Inc, Malcolm X Memorial Foundation, Love’s Jazz and Art Center, Carver Bank, Women’s Center for Advancement, DCYC and Banister’s Leadership Academy. With African Culture Connection, Gabrielle began as a board member, designed the first ACC t-shirt logo for dance/drumming/arts and has been involved in many ACC productions. She has enjoyed several years of teaching artist opportunities to engage students in African culture-based art projects in OPS, UNO and several Council Bluffs IA schools. She has partnered with UNO and MCC faculty, community organizations and local artists, to orchestrate mural projects and service-learning experiences for kids. Her focus is encouraging people of all ages to know their greatness, explore their talents, and move forward through a variety of arts for social change.

Addressing bullying and biases, Gaines-Liwaru went through national training with the Anti-Defamation League, to engage youth and adults in anti-discrimination workshops. Empowerment arts presentations at Women of Worth Women of Wonder (Lincoln NE), The Release at MCC, and MCC Black History Month are also celebrated parts of Gabrielle Gaines-Liwaru’s resume. In 2011 Gaines-Liwaru founded her social change arts company G. D’Ebony Outreach. She believes in collaboration with any credible entity working towards strengthening youth, promoting cultural understanding, and forwarding progress in equity and social justice.

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