## PUBLIC RELEASE

## **CT Inclusive Arts Presents: BELIEVE**



New to Greater Hartford, CTIA opens enrollment offering inclusive performing and visual arts classes for ages 10-21, that will culminate in a major public performance entitled BELIEVE on March 21, 2020

## About CT Inclusive Arts

CT Inclusive Arts was founded in 2018 with a mission to profoundly influence youth of all abilities and the Greater Hartford community through an innovative and inclusive performing and visual arts education program that culminates in a major public performance featuring professional guest artists.

Bringing this program to life in the Hartford area, CT Inclusive Arts is thrilled to be working with the following program partners including: American School for the Deaf, Hartford Stage, The Ethel Walker School, Conard High School and others.

A major inspiration behind CTIA's BELIEVE came from LIVE ART, a groundbreaking inclusive arts program founded in 2012 by SPARC, a performing arts school in Richmond, Virginia. CTIA students were invited to perform in their annual production in June 2019, celebrating the power of inclusive communities and the impact of the arts, in what has become a much anticipated annual event in Richmond.

CTIA's production host for BELIEVE is Central Connecticut State University, where students will perform in their 1,800 seat Welte Auditorium on 3/21/20 alongside featured guest artists including CT band, Atlas Gray and singer/songwriter Carrie Johnson. Additional featured guest artists will be announced this fall. Stay tuned!

To learn more www.ctinclusivearts.com

## 2019-2020 Class Offerings:

<u>Modern Movement & Dance</u> at Hartford Stage's Education Center in Hartford. Students will be introduced to a variety of dance styles and choreography in a supportive, all-levels welcomed environment. Students will learn several performance pieces set to the music selected for the final show. Students will have a major feature piece and more in the final production of BELIEVE. **DATES: Tuesdays, beginning November 12<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 - 6:00pm.** 

<u>Percussion Junction & Jam</u> at American School for the Deaf in West Hartford. Using a variety of percussion instruments, students will explore connection and self expression through making music. Students enrolled in this course will work together to create a feature piece for BELIEVE and will provide backing rhythms with guest musicians. DATES: Thursdays, beginning November 14<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 - 6:00pm.

<u>Sign Language Choir & Visual Art</u> at *The Ethel Walker School in Simsbury*. In this class, students will learn to theatrically interpret music using American Sign Language and will connect and express themselves through visual art that will also be part of their performance in BELIEVE. **DATES: Tuesdays, beginning Nov 12<sup>th</sup>**, **5:30 - 6:30pm**.

*Human Story* at *Conard High School in West Hartford*. This is a movement and story-driven class where students will explore the complexities of the human condition through nonverbal, physical theater techniques while incorporating music, poetry, dance and storytelling. This class will also create visual art to bolster their performance pieces and will devise a major theatrical feature piece in the final production of BELIEVE. **DATES: Tuesdays, beginning January** 7<sup>th</sup>, **5:30** - **6:30pm**.

May 2019: Below, students connect in visual art exercises and rehearse for their June performance in a Human Story Class hosted at the American School for the Deaf.

