



NEWS

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Kansas City Non-Profit Places Homeless Youth Center Stage to Shine

Kansas City, Mo. – HALO and the Kansas City community are recognizing the outstanding achievements of its local homeless and at-risk youth, bringing them center stage at the [HALO Summer Showcase Celebration](#) July 28, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. at Gould Evans in Westport. Community members attend this special event to inspire, and be inspired by HALO youth showcasing what they have learned at HALO.

While on Summer break, youth dive into HALO's program emphasizing vocational training paired with lessons on art therapy and life skills. Through its partnerships with area shelters and residential facilities, HALO provides free programming for Kansas City's at-risk and homeless youth to explore areas such as cosmetology, sewing, fashion design, and entrepreneurship to discover new talents and interests. Carly Manijak, HALO Kansas City Program Director, said the vocational workshops develop youth self-efficacy, helping set tangible goals for their future.

"Showing the youth that they are capable of going in to different trades, helps them to start seeing themselves in a more positive light," Manijak said. "With every effort, HALO is breaking the cycle of youth homelessness in our community and providing a path to a positive future."

Local businesses join to empower the youth, creating an evening all about them. [Gould Evans](#), an architecture firm who provides workshops and mentorship through its non-profit organization the STEAM Studio, will host the event featuring interactive digital media displays to showcase the work of the children. Gould Evans is a long time supporter of the organization, receiving HALO's 2016 Advocate of the Year award. They continue to donate and host events to further HALO's mission. Boxx Media partnered with HALO to offer promotional services, directing a bright community initiative spotlight on the event.

The Summer Showcase Celebration is a way for HALO to change the lives of youth by offering them a chance to dream about their future, set goals and define a path to attain them. The Kansas City HALO Learning Center serves more than 500 youth each year with art therapy, peer support, transportation, job skill development, scholarships, housing, food and education.

Hors d'oeuvres and drinks provided along with special HALO youth performances. Gould Evans is located at 4041 Mill St, Kansas City – Westport District. A suggested donation of \$15 at the door. RSVP for the event by contacting Carly Manijak at carlymanijak@haloworldwide.org.

ABOUT HALO

Featured in the Moroccan oil *INSPIRED* film series, "American Spirit" of CBS Evening News, "Heroes Among Us" of PEOPLE magazine, "The Today Show", and Variety Magazine, HALO provides housing, healing and education to youth in the greatest need. Its goal is to empower youth to become contributing members of their communities. HALO is a volunteer-driven, grassroots non-profit with more than 80 percent of donations going directly to programs. HALO serves more than 1,000 youth each year. HALO currently has 21 programs. Internationally,

HALO supports youth homes and programs in Uganda, Kenya, Mexico, India, Guatemala and Nicaragua. This includes providing food, water, shelter, clothing, education, art therapy, caretakers, and vocational training or college for youth in the greatest need. Domestically, HALO operates Learning Centers and TLP (housing) programs in Kansas City, and Jefferson City, Missouri, and programming in New York, Portland, and Los Angeles. Learn more at www.haloworldwide.org.

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