

# STORYCATCHERS THEATRE IMPACT REPORT - FISCAL YEAR 2018



*Their stories.  
Their transformation.*

Storycatchers works with youth in the juvenile justice system. We help them tell their stories through musical theatre. By moving beyond their histories, they transform their own lives, communities, and people like you who are ready to listen.



[storycatcherstheatre.org](http://storycatcherstheatre.org)

## THE NEED.

**75% – 93%**  
of incarcerated youth have  
experienced severe trauma.

*We stop the revolving door.*

Wherever young people find themselves in the system...

- Arrested and detained at a police station
- Placed in a diversion program or put on probation
- Recently released from a detention center
- Or Incarcerated

they can work with us and confront their traumas by writing and sharing their stories. In the process, they lift the burden of lost identities, find their voices and tear down barriers to social and emotional development.

## THE COST OF INCARCERATION.

FY19 figures for Illinois project the cost of incarceration in a juvenile justice facility for one year at

**\$187,765**  
per youth.

## IMPACT ON INCARCERATED YOUTH.

Our trauma-informed programs inside justice facilities provide an outlet for expression and means of personal growth through the process of writing and performing original musicals based on their own stories.

**40**  
Performances  
for the  
community

**231**  
Workshops  
and rehearsals

**2,096**  
Audience  
members

**156**  
Participants

**80%**  
of participants  
had family in  
the audience

## COMMUNITY IMPACT.

Our Changing Voices program employs young people recently released from the justice system in a performing arts development, job readiness curriculum for 30 hrs/week.

### Tours and performances that influence the community:

*87 performances and workshops for...*

**1,548**  
At-risk youth

**1,243**  
CPD recruits

**275**  
Judges and civic influencers

*Impact on development and job readiness:*

**72**  
Young people  
employed

**577**  
Individual  
writing workshops

**115**  
Life and job  
skills workshops

*The Storycatchers Theatre FY18 is 9/01/17 - 8/31/18.*

## WHY OUR PERFORMING ARTS PROGRAMS WORK.

Data shows that group creation and collaboration build important life skills, especially among marginalized youth. That is why theatre is a powerful tool. Our structured curriculum guides participants to achieve the following outcomes:

### Self expression

- Story-writing
- Stage presence and performance
- Character expression

### Productive relationships

- Cooperation and compromise
- Identification with positive role models
- Critical thinking

### Communication

- Sharing and receiving feedback
- Articulating emotions and perceptions

### Leadership

- Peer mentoring and empowerment
- Team management
- Accepting accountability

### Self advocacy

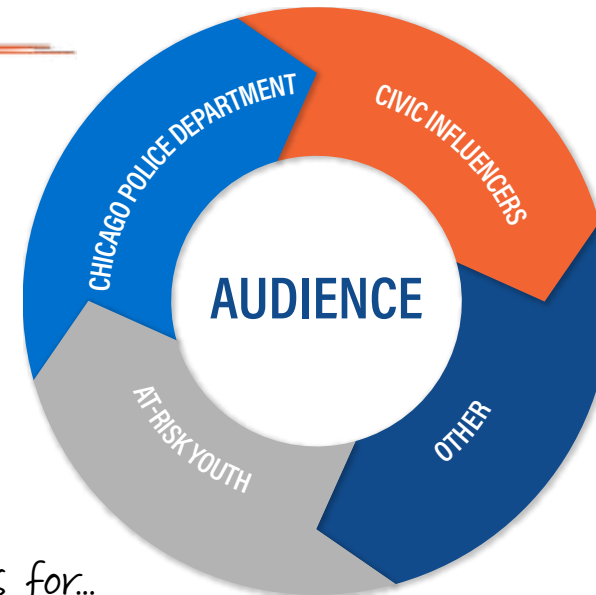
- Developing hope for the future
- Expressing pride in accomplishments
- Positive risk-taking

### Job readiness (In Changing Voices)

- Interview training.
- Job application strategies and skills.
- Technology workshops

### Life skills (In Changing Voices)

- Financial literacy
- Navigating health care
- Principles of self-care





**Institutional Giving:** \$1,366,056  
**Annual Benefit:** \$122,498  
**Individual Giving:** \$96,982  
**Earned Income:** \$22,349



**Programs:** \$1,110,780  
**Development:** \$171,623  
**Administration:** \$362,776

## TOTAL ENGAGEMENT

**228**

court-involved youth served

**127**

performances for  
the community

**5162**

audience members

“

Without Storycatchers, I would be homeless, in trouble, looking for a job, and stressed out. With Storycatchers, I am a leader, mentor, and outstanding person. I am free.”

- Ty'teanna W., Program Participant

## VISIT A PROGRAM SITE.

Contact Tory Davidson at 312-280-4772 or [tdavidson@storycatcherstheatre.org](mailto:tdavidson@storycatcherstheatre.org) to schedule a visit to a skills workshop or rehearsal session to see our staff and participants in action.

## INVEST IN OUR YOUNG PEOPLE.

Your donation will provide our youth the emotional, social and job skills needed to be successful after their exit from the justice system.

Contact Rachel Combs at 312-280-4772 or [rcombs@storycatcherstheatre.org](mailto:rcombs@storycatcherstheatre.org).

[544 W. Oak Street, Ste 1005, Chicago, IL 60610](https://www.storycatcherstheatre.org) | [www.storycatcherstheatre.org](https://www.storycatcherstheatre.org)