



NIA CENTRE YOUTH PARTICIPATE IN THE CHILL FOUNDATION'S SKATEBOARD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Nia Centre for the Arts' Partnership with Chill.org Builds Youth Resilience

TORONTO, ONT (June 2017) – Following a successful winter session with The Chill Foundation's snowboarding program earlier this year, Nia Centre for the Arts has once again partnered with Chill for their new skateboard program at the Regent Park Athletic Grounds (402 Shuter Street, Toronto) for a six-week session for youth. Weekly on Wednesday, from May 17 through June 28, 15 youth aged 10 to 18 have been learning how to skateboard, build their own DIY Roarokit skateboard, and also building resilience through Chill's targeted life lesson curriculum.

Other partners of this Chill Foundation "Build Your Own Skateboard" project include the City of Toronto, and Maple Leaf's Sports Entertainment Foundation, who are committed to bringing the youth development curriculum to high priority neighbourhoods across the GTA. The skateboard program will be held for the next three years in Regent Park, with additional programs added each year.

The funding for a portable modular skate park project was secured to help underserved youth gain personal empowerment—other board sports like snowboarding, surfing, and stand-up paddle boarding are also utilized through Chill's programming. With six weekly themes of: respect, patience, persistence, responsibility, courage, and pride, Chill's organization serves 1,400 North American youth annually. Along with the youth development lessons, for the skateboarding program in particular, Chill provides participants with all skateboard and safety equipment, a Roarokit DIY Skateboard Project tools and supplies, and certified skateboard instructors.

The remaining Wednesday dates for Nia Centre youth are: June 7, June 14, June 21, and June 28 from 4:00pm to 6:30pm, with a proposed make-up date of July 5. For additional information about The Chill Foundation, please visit www.chill.org.

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