



Ralph M'Vore

2023 Safe Harbors of the Hudson Artist-in-Residence

Ralph M'Vore is a lifelong resident, multi-talented entrepreneur, and social creative powerhouse in the City of Newburgh. For over two decades, Ralph has been beloved by his community and known for his talent, positive attitude, and willingness to educate and serve. Artistically, Ralph is a Recording Artist, Songwriter, Music Producer, Choreographer, Composer, Director, and Producer. His leadership also includes being the Founder/Artistic Director of MVORE INC.

MOTIVATED • VERSATILE • ORIGINAL • REAL • EXTRAORDINARY ... MVORE

Ralph M'Vore is Safe Harbors of the Hudson's first performing Artist-in-Residence for 2023.

Safe Harbors

MVORE performed at the Black Renaissance Festival, Soul Under The Stars, and Newburgh Illuminated's fashion show stage on Safe Harbors Green. Ralph headlined two packed-out concerts in the Lobby at the Ritz Theater bringing together over 40 local performers for a foot-stomping, hand-clapping night of inspiring Soul and Gospel music. He was also the Hip-Hop instructor of an outdoor dance class open to the community on Safe Harbors Green. Ralph was a judge for Safe Harbors Youth Talent competition and Black Renaissance Festival auditions.

Ralph was the director and playwright of MIX-XED: The Hip-Hopera, a contemporary mashup of art and culture, combining contemporary musical genres with traditional Opera, Classical, and Jazz in collaboration with professional performing artists and students in the Hudson Valley. MIX-XED featured original music, arrangements, and song lyrics by Producers Ralph M'Vore, Elex Vann, and Neil 'Nail' Alexander.

Ralph was cast in the lead role as Gabriel in the musical Nativity: The Pop Opera in Dayton, Ohio. Nativity tells the Christmas story from the angel's point of view through song and dance and aims to give back to the community through the production's funding of Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center's NjoyItAll Camp.

In 2020 Ralph produced a groundbreaking song, dance, spoken word, and musical presentation welcoming a monumental sculpture of Harriet Tubman *The Journey to Freedom* to Newburgh Free Library. The commissioned original performance featured multiple emerging arts ensembles rooted in Ralph's practice - Sounds of Heritage, Golden Diamond M'Vore, and the local mother's ensemble Mouvasss.

Ralph is the vocal producer for *Say Their Names* by Poet Laureate Poet Gold featuring the Sounds of Heritage and Artist Suprina Troche. *Say Their Names* was funded by a Statewide Community Re-grants Program of the NYS Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor as well as the New York State Legislature and was administered by Arts Mid-Hudson. The film presentation for *Say Their Names* presents the story of slavery in America, the Civil Rights Movement, Black Lives Matter Movement, beginning with Emmett Till's mother, Mamie Till.

In 2022 Sounds of Heritage performed *Say Their Names* at the screening of Questlove's Academy Award-winning Best Documentary SUMMER OF SOUL [or when the Revolution could not be televised] at the original concert location in Marcus Garvey Park, Harlem.

Ralph is featured in the Docu-series, *Move Me* on the streaming app HUDSYTV. *Move Me* takes a deep dive into Ralph's soul, his story, his creative process, and where his inspiration comes from. For over a decade Ralph has been a leader in enriching and educating Newburgh's youth through performing arts.

Newburgh Performing Arts Academy

Ralph has been on the staff of Newburgh Performing Arts Academy for 12 years. He is an award-winning hip-hop choreographer and coach for award-winning teams Synergy, High Velocity, and Mini Hip Hop Team. Ralph's classes are the most popular and most awarded in the Academy's offerings.

San Miguel Academy

Ralph was asked to join the staff of San Miguel in 2021 as music instructor. He has advanced music education access for elementary and middle school students. The *San Miguel Miracles Performance Choir* is the fruit of Ralph's commitment to and performance at community events.

Orange County Arts Council

In 2021 the OCAC commissioned an original work based on returning to their annual gala following the Covid pandemic. Ralph created and performed *Night Song* with dancers and singers he trained.

In 2022 the OCAC again commissioned Ralph to create *IGNITE* to perform at their fundraiser. A cast of local and international performers along with world-class event designers created an immersive experience beyond expectations. The local press described it as "the best gala the region has ever had".

Social Activism

Parents and adults in Newburgh have access to training in performing arts through Ralph's curriculum offered annually for the community. Adult Showcase provides stage performance and networking opportunities for community building.

Ralph is dedicated to providing spaces for all to be heard. He is the Editor-In-Chief of *Urban Updatez*, a media platform that highlights artists, entrepreneurs, events, and local businesses in the Hudson Valley and abroad. He is also the visionary for media platforms *The Indie Underground*, *Ladies VibeZ*, and *Melanin Magic* - the annual showcase of Black excellence.

Ralph is the Director of *MVORECARES*. For the past four years, *MVORECARES* has been serving nutritious, delicious, no-cost hot meals on the first Sunday of every month to residents in the City of Newburgh. During harvest seasons, the *MVORE* team partners with *Our Core* to distribute free organic vegetables weekly to our neighbors in a local farm-to-sidewalk produce stand. All volunteer support comes from is driven by our desire to be given where we live and raise families. Ralph is the third generation of his family feeding neighbors in the City of Newburgh.

Newburgh's Mayor honored Ralph in 2021 with a Certificate of Recognition for his contributions to residents of the City of Newburgh.

He was also awarded the Community Star award by peers in 2021.

Safe Harbors of the Hudson is proud to announce its inaugural performing Artist-in-Residence (AiR) program. The goal of the AiR program is to provide a local performing artist with space and resources to support their artistic practice, while engaging community-based audiences and promoting the mission of Safe Harbors of the Hudson.

- AiR will:
- Advocate for artistic development in the Newburgh community
 - Create work that engages and connects local community members
 - Broaden collaborations and partnerships with the local and regional performance community

The program will allow ample opportunity for the AiR to focus on writing and rehearsal, while fostering a collaborative relationship with Safe Harbors of the Hudson. Throughout the year, the Artist-in-Residence will share their creative process with the community through a series of workshops, artists talks and performances.

For more information on the Artist-in-Residency program, please contact June Henley, Director of Programming, at jhenley@safe-harbors.org



This program is supported by:



Dominican Sisters of Hope

Transforming lives and building community through housing and the arts.