

Tickets on sale now for THE RESET: An Art & Soul Featured Artist Showcase on October 10

Media assets available [here](#)

Indianapolis (July 9, 2026) – [Indy Arts Council](#) and [Madam Walker Legacy Center](#) have announced that tickets are now on sale for **THE RESET: An Art & Soul Featured Artist Showcase**, taking place Saturday, October 10, 2026 from 7–9:30 p.m.

Curated and hosted by the Madam Walker Legacy Center, the showcase will feature original music, poetry, storytelling, and theatrical performances by the [Art & Soul 2026](#) Featured Artists. This year's showcase is centered around the theme RESET — an intentional pause to release old habits, realign with core values, and create a strong foundation for growth.

The continued collaboration between Indy Arts Council and Madam Walker Legacy Center provides more opportunities to celebrate the artists' work while introducing new audiences to the Art & Soul program and its impact. Art & Soul is supported annually by Lilly Endowment Inc.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for THE RESET: An Art & Soul Featured Artist Showcase are on sale now with a special “by one get one” promotion. For a limited time, [purchase a \\$10 ticket](#) and get one free. Parking is available in the lots directly adjacent to the Madam Walker Legacy Center, located at 617 Indiana Ave, Indianapolis.

ART & SOUL 2026 FEATURED ARTISTS

Now in its 30th year, Art & Soul celebrates Black art and music in central Indiana. Four Featured Artists are selected annually for their exemplary contributions to the creative community.

In the fall of 2025, sixty central Indiana artists submitted an interest form or were nominated by the community for the 2026 Featured Artist opportunity. Indy Arts Council and Madam Walker Legacy Center selected candidates based on their exceptional talent and commitment to their creative career.

The 2026 Featured Artists are:

[Dr. Austin Dean Ashford](#) – Multidisciplinary artist

Dr. Austin Dean Ashford has written and performed award-winning solo shows and currently collaborates with local organizations like Flanner House and IF Theatre to mentor dozens of emerging Black artists in theatre, music, and storytelling. His goal is to build a sustainable creative empire that uplifts Black stories across stage, screen, and community. He aims to build a professional foundation that allows him to tour, produce, and publish at a higher level while continuing to mentor others.

[Kenn.Wav](#) – Musician

Kenn.Wav is a pianist who moves through sound with intention, groove, and soul. Inspired by artists

like D'Angelo, his work emphasizes connection, creating music that invites listeners into a shared experience. His recent projects include the 2023 alternative R&B release *Frequency*, featuring vocalist B.Slade, and a collaborative EP with Breon Lanier, expanding his sound while remaining rooted in soul and emotional honesty.

Auboni Essence – Literary and spoken word artist

Auboni Essence is a poet and performer whose work blends personal experience with universal truth. Recently, they competed nationally with a slam poetry team, headlined That Peace Open Mic, and led a six-week youth poetry workshop and showcase. Known for their authenticity and magnetic stage presence, Auboni transforms every space into a platform for connection. Their work reflects a commitment to exploring life's joys and struggles while inspiring audiences.

D'yshe Mansfield – Multidisciplinary artist

Indianapolis native D'yshe Mansfield is a singer, songwriter, actor, and director building a career across music, theatre, and film. After training at the American Musical and Dramatic Academy in New York City, she returned home in 2021 to create and give back to the local arts community. A genre-bending pop, rock, R&B, and soul artist rooted in emotional honesty and connection, she has performed at signature venues and events including The Jazz Kitchen, BLACK: A Festival of Joy, Legacy Fest, and BUTTER.

CONNECT WITH ART & SOUL

Follow @ArtsCouncilIndy and @WalkerTheatre on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn for updates and behind-the-scenes content. Learn more about Art & Soul at indyarts.org/programs/art-soul.

About Indy Arts Council

[Indy Arts Council](#) is central Indiana's leading arts advocacy and services agency. Its mission is to champion arts and culture. Indy Arts Council believes every resident should experience arts and culture in a way that nourishes and inspires them. This vision of a creative life for all is central to the work they do to support artists, arts organizations, and the community.

About Madam Walker Legacy Center

The [Madam Walker Legacy Center](#) represents a significant piece of the nation's history. It is located in the Madam C.J. Walker Building, which was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1991 and placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1980. It remains a beacon of pride, hope, and the beauty that lies in diversity, ensuring that the significance of Madam C.J. Walker, Indiana Avenue, and the cultural arts are not forgotten.

###