
MISSION & BACKGROUND

The Catalyst Hip-Hop program was founded in 2001 by Joel Stigale who had seen first-hand, through his involvement in gang intervention, how the negative messages in mainstream hip-hop had influenced youth to embrace violence, crime, drug and alcohol abuse as a way of life. As a result, he created Catalyst with a desire to offer an alternative message of hope in order to prevent youth from engaging the negative stereotypes and destructive behaviors associated with Hip-Hop.

For over 15 years, Catalyst has been providing high-quality programs that have positively impacted the lives of thousands of youth. We help students fulfill their potential by providing opportunities to discover and develop their talents, as well as increase their confidence and self-esteem, improve peer-to-peer relationships, and learn life skills such as discipline which are qualities known to transform patterns of destructive behavior.

Catalyst is an outreach program of Miami Youth for Christ, a 501 (c) 3 organization, that has been serving youth in Miami-Dade County for over 65 years.

PURPOSE

Catalyst Hip-Hop exists to be a "catalyst" for positive life change and prevention/intervention in the lives of at-risk youth by providing free/low cost classes, programs and events.

We provide a safe place for youth to learn and develop their talents in the multidisciplinary Hip-Hop arts of break-dancing, rapping, urban art, and DJ'ing. Our goal is to train and educate young artists for professional careers as well as for their personal enjoyment.

In addition, youth build relationships with caring adult and peer mentors who teach them to use their talents as a positive influence in the world.

SCHEDULE:

Miami Springs Middle School
Mondays, Tuesdays & Wednesdays
3:50-6:30pm

CONTACT

O: 305-271-2442

C: 305-342-2169

E: catalyst@miamiyfc.com



Catalyst Hip-Hop

Hip-Hop as a catalyst to positively impact the lives of youth





Break-dancing

Students learn the history & origins of breaking, as well as foundational skills such as hand-stands, top-rocks, footwork, transitions, freezes, head spins, & more



Creative Writing/Rapping

Students learn the song writing process, how to freestyle (improvise lyrics to a beat), stage etiquette, respect for peers, show promoting, good practices for artists, & recording basics



DJ'ing

Students learn how to find their way around mixing decks & learn basic DJ skills such as elementary scratching, beat mixing, beat juggling, sampling, use of effects, & basic dance track construction



Music & Sound Engineering

Students learn various instruments as well as foundational skills in recording, music production, sound engineering, & song arrangement



Leadership Development

Mentoring, character development, social-emotional learning, life-coaching, and positive messages that help change youth's perspective in life.



Nutrition & Wellness

Students learn sports nutrition as it applies to the dancer, how nutrition affects health & peak performance; effective & efficient training; & how to develop eating behaviors that will have a positive effect on career longevity