

Business Connection

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Business Spotlight



With a projected opening of winter 2020, "I Can Do That!" will feature three studio rooms and a café/lounge for the local youth community.

Empowering youth through the arts

"I Can Do That!" was founded in 2016 by two childhood friends with the goal of creating amazing youth theatre. Over the past four years, Shayna Ronen and Jarusha Ariel came to realize something very important: their students were not just looking for training in theatre. They were looking for a place to belong, to be accepted, and to create meaningful relationships.

It was over this time that Shayna and Jarusha became the figures that their students trusted to share success and failures. Their students confided in them with everything from getting an 'A' on a school assignment and to making a new friend to sharing fears of social pressures and even wanting to end their lives. It was through these moments that they realized that their purpose was much bigger than originally planned.

I CAN DO THAT! PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

As their mission and goal evolved, their vision grew to fulfill this new purpose. "The lease is signed, demolition is complete, and we have a projected opening for winter of 2020," said Shayna, referring to transforming 194 Diablo Road in Downtown Danville into a joyful space for the youth community to connect and flourish.

Upon completion, the 6,000-square foot center will feature three studio rooms and a café/lounge for the local youth community to call their own. "Our expanded goal is to use the power of community, wellness, and the performing arts to fuel our youth," said Shayna. "This is for the individuals who will

become the problem solvers, citizens, and leaders we need in this world."

To date, "I Can Do That!" has raised \$607,832 of the \$750,000 needed to complete this project by the end of the year 2020. They still need community support to reach their goal, and are interested in meeting with local companies, clubs, and individuals who are moved and motivated by their mission of empowering local youth and bringing this youth center to life. Digital donor recognition starts at \$100 and donor wall recognition starts at \$10,000. Shayna and Jarusha believe, now more than ever, that young people need resources to create an empowered view of the world. Check out www.ICanDoThatPAC.org for more information and to help build a place to belong.



The studio is currently offering outdoor, in-person and virtual theatre classes.