

**The mission of Upward Light Community Cyphers is to provide support through hip-hop based educational related services and resources for the community.**



## Importance of Hip-Hop-Based Education for K-12 Students within the Community

By incorporating hip-hop into education, we create an environment where students feel seen, heard, and valued. Empowering the next generation through hip-hop-based education, we envision a vibrant community where every young person thrives academically, creatively, and emotionally. Our vision is a world where education is engaging, inclusive, and transformative, fostering a brighter future for all.

### Recent Updates:



#### Entrepreneurship Week

ULCC hosted a community hip-hop, spoken word poetry cypher at the Crews Center for Entrepreneurship, at the University of Memphis on Friday, November 21st, 2025. The event celebrated innovation, collaboration, and entrepreneurial growth within the community.



#### The Gentlemen's League Workshop

On Saturday, January 17th, 2026, a select group of middle and high school students from the Gentlemen's League participated in an ULCC Workshop at the University of Memphis. Participants enjoyed creative presentations, featuring poetry, drumming, art, and hip-hop.



#### Christmas Turkey Give-a-way

On Saturday, December 13, 2025, ULCC proudly volunteered with Girls Inc. to give back to the community. Together, we supported and empowered the next generation through service and collaboration.



## ULCC Youth Summit

ULCC proudly hosted a Youth Summit at the Double Tree Conference Center in East Memphis, Tennessee, on September 22nd, 2025. The event empowered high school student leaders through learning, yoga sessions, spoken word poetry, drumming circles, and dialogue.

## Upcoming Events

**ULCC SPECIAL  
COMMUNITY CYPHER**

DATE: SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 2026  
TIME: 2:00-5:00 PM  
LOCATION: NATIONAL CIVIL RIGHTS MUSEUM  
450 MULBERRY ST. MEMPHIS, TN

FEATURED CYPHERS:  
HIP-HOP, POETRY, AND  
AFRICAN DRUMMING CIRCLE

DJ SUPERMAN, 107.1 FM MEMPHIS  
ON THE 1'S AND 2'S

**UPWARD LIGHT  
COMMUNITY CYPHER**  
AT THE LORRAINE HOTEL

ULCC INSTAGRAM: @ULCC.HIPHOP  
[HTTPS://WWW.UPWARDLIGHTCOMMUNITYCYPER.ORG/](https://www.upwardlightcommunitycypher.org/)

### ULCC Special Community Cypher

ULCC Special Community Cypher will take place on Saturday, March 7, 2026, from 2:00-5:00 PM at the National Civil Rights Museum, 450 Mulberry St., Memphis, TN. The event will feature DJ Superman of 107.1 FM Memphis on the 1's and 2's, along with dynamic cyphers, hip-hop, poetry, and an African drumming circle celebrating culture and community. There will be local non-profit organizations and businesses having informational tables that may include giveaways. There will also be a surprise performance from an internationally known blues artist and Memphis Jookin artist!

**SATURDAY  
3/14/26** **12PM-  
2PM**

Raleigh Library - 3452 Austin Peay Hwy, 38128

**ARTIST  
DEVELOPMENT  
WORKSHOP**

Ft. "The Residency" info session plus Artist Panel Discussion and MORE...

**AIREAL WILSON  
VOCALIST** **ROBIN KINDRICK  
MODERATOR** **WALTER PERSON  
PRODUCER/SONGWRITER**

**TONYA DYSON  
RECORDING ARTIST** **D-SUPPA  
EMCEE** **BREA BREA  
SPOKEN WORD ARTIST**

[theresidency901](https://theresidency901.com) [ulcc.hiphop](https://ulcc.hiphop)

### Artist Development Workshop

An Artist Development Workshop featuring The Residency info session, an artist panel discussion, and more.

Date: March 14, 2026

Time: 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Place: Raleigh Library- 3452 Austin Peay Highway, 38128

**Stay tuned for more information about the ULCC Summer Youth Conference that will take place on Tuesday, June 9th!**



[www.upwardlightcommunitycypher.org/](http://www.upwardlightcommunitycypher.org/)



[info@upwardlightcommunitycyphers.org](mailto:info@upwardlightcommunitycyphers.org)



513-227-8255

# UPWARD LIGHT

COMMUNITY CYPHER

## 2025 ULCC Brief Annual Report Snapshot

This report contains information from 3 ULCC Youth Conferences (Spring, Summer, and Fall); 4 Educator Webinars/1 Educator Workshop and 5 ULCC Community Cyphers

### EVENTS

#### EDUCATOR VIRTUAL WORKSHOP EDUCATOR IN-PERSON WORKSHOP



98% 5 star rating from the participants

*"Excellent presentation – very insightful."*  
*"Timely, needed, and incredibly impactful."*  
*"Great session from two strong perspectives."*

#### YOUTH CONFERENCE



95% of attendees found our conferences impactful

*"I can apply what I learned every day."*  
*The conference made me proud of my history."*

#### ULCC Youth Conference

### PARTICIPANTS

#### 10 Local, Public and Charter High Schools Participated



#### Feedback from ULCC Community Cyphers

#### Voices from the Cypher

"The Community Cyphers have been so entertaining and helped me connect with other emcees. I love that each session has unique instrumentals – themes like Black Liberation make it even more powerful."  
 "Being part of ULCC has helped me grow as a performer and sharpen my skills. The cyphers give me the chance to showcase myself and connect with other artists."  
 "ULCC gives me space to perform, collaborate, and improve. A social media element for freestyles could even expand our audience."

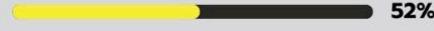
#### Educator Virtual & In-Person Workshops

### TOP INSIGHTS

#### Engagement & Creative Instruction



#### Culturally Responsive & Inclusive Teaching



#### Hip-Hop History & Critical Reflection



Major Themes Taken Away from Workshops

#### ULCC Youth Conference

### ENGAGEMENT & SATISFACTION



95% of participants satisfied with Guest speaker presentation



Active Engagement of participants : 98%



Conference Sessions Approval Rating: 25/28



93% Personal/Professional Goals feedback

#### ULCC Youth Conference

### TOP INTERESTS



PHOTOGRAPHY



MUSIC PRODUCTION



ENTREPRENEURSHIP



ART/GRAFFITI



DANCE



VIDEOGRAPHY

This information is gathered from conference questionnaires

