

## **Summer on the Avenue**

King Arts Complex Summer Children's Program

Columbus, OH

LaVerne Kemp, project director

Fall 2010

The summer program was called "Summer on the Avenue" and it was centered around "Community" as the theme.

While teaching in Pittsburgh. I used Aminah's book , " A Street Called Home" as a teaching tool for several quilts and banners. I never imagined I would be using them in her own community as I did this past summer in Columbus!

I worked with four groups of 4-5 year-old children, 6-7 year-olds, 8,9, and 10 year-olds and 11-12 year-olds. The pieces I'm sharing with you are from the two older groups.

We extensively discussed what community meant and the people, places and things that make up a community. Each group was split into four smaller groups and each was given a job. One group was responsible for making the buildings and houses, one group made the people, another group made the cars, trucks and other transportation, and the final group made flowers, trees, water, etc. They made patterns and then cut them out of fabric and we assembled the banners as we went along.

The final touch was the embellishing with buttons and beads like Aminah (they were given a sewing lesson to learn how to sew on the buttons) . They were very proud as the pieces progressed and they saw a community come to life in our eight- week time together (we still could have used more time).

These pieces were shown in the final production at the end of the summer. The photos show the progression of their work.







