

The image features a large, dark, rectangular structure with a glowing white archway. The word "jamii" is written in a white, lowercase, cursive font above the arch. Inside the arch, several people are silhouetted against a bright light source, creating a warm glow. The background shows a city skyline at night with illuminated buildings. The foreground is a cobblestone plaza. The overall mood is community and urban life.

jamii

**Mandated to build community
& nurture women in leadership.**

www.jamii.ca

Jamii is an arts organization that actively engages people of all walks of life in the Esplanade community and beyond.

Since inception in 2011, Jamii has produced more than 100 public events;
 Directly involved over 1,700 Esplanadians
 Worked with over 150 artists
 Produced over 300 workshops
 Reached an audience of 15,000+ attendees to live events
 And reached an audience of 30,000 viewers to public exhibitions.



Dance on The Esplanade, with company CORPUS - 2011



Patchwork Village - 2018



Transforming lives. One story at a time.

Jamii (Swahili for “community”) is an arts organization with the intent of building community and nurturing young women in leadership.

By creating shared memorable arts-based experiences, Jamii is on a mission to bring Esplanadians closer together to form greater social cohesion and bonded community.

In 2014, Jamii produced the Crombie Park Basketball Court Mural – now a Toronto landmark and one of the most photographed courts in Canada.

In 2019, Jamii’s docu-film “At Heart, Citizens of The Esplanade” was presented the Public History Award by Toronto Heritage. More than 150 people participated in the creative process of this project. In 2020, Jamii is launching LAINI, an initiative to encourage young women to affirm their capabilities to become tomorrow’s creative leaders.

Even though Jamii is based in The Esplanade community, downtown Toronto, the organization is connected to the world: throughout the past ten years, we have offered international experiences to youths - Cambodia (2011), China (2015) and South Africa (2017). Since 2018, our projects connect communities throughout the Province of Ontario, Canada, especially with “The Stories The Wind Carries”. In 2020, Jamii is initiating projects with artists and socially minded individuals and organizations in Kenya, expanding its connections to the African community.

Jamii has a charitable status and was founded in 2011 by Isorine Marc.

Jamii receives the support of Canada Council for the Arts, Ontario Arts Council, Toronto Arts Council and Canadian Heritage.



Écoute pour voir - 2014



Catwalkers - 2013

Jamii offers intergenerational programming that creates a sense of belonging and opportunities for social interaction, dialogue, and empowerment. Jamii partners with organizations based in the community such as business association, residents' association, schools, arts organizations and community groups.

Jamii contributes significantly to a healthier and more engaged community.



The Esplanadians, a talk with John Sewell, David Crombie, Beth Savan and Alan Littlewood - 2013



Transhumance, with company CORPUS - 2012



Crombie Park Basketball Court Mural

2014

The mural was created by 16 local youths under artistic guidance of Shalak Attack, Julian Periquet and Bruno Smoky, and curator by Isorine Marc. Vibrant ideas — and vibrant paint — can go a long way toward strengthening a community..



Queens of The Esplanade

2015

Presented at Toronto Nuit Blanche, 18 Queens and Princesses along with 12 Maestros from the community transformed their public park into a magical and whimsical theatrical venue.



FEETPRINT

2017

170 Esplanadians designed their own shoe exploring the three questions: Who am I? Where do I belong? How do I behave? The shoe exhibit was displayed throughout Crombie Park.



at HEART citizens of the Esplanade

A docu-film created by over 150 Esplanadians
Directed by Ayelen Liberona & Joseph Johnson-Camí
Produced by Jamii Esplanade
Premiered November 2018

www.JamiiEsplanade.org

"At Heart, Citizens of The Esplanade"

2018

A docu- film created by more than 150 Esplanadians that continues to spark conversations on the values that drive community, and advocate for public housing and universal design.

Winner of the Public History Award from Heritage Toronto (2019).

Film producer: Isorine Marc
Film directors: Ayelen Liberona & Joseph Johnson Camí
Film editor: Joseph Johnson Camí





LAINI - Women in leadership initiative - 2020

In 2020, Jamii is launching LAINI, an initiative that encourages young women to be the creative leaders of tomorrow. The goals of LAINI are:

- 1) Nurturing leadership skills;
- 2) Discovering one's artistic path;
- 3) Igniting self-drive;
- 4) Connecting girls to matching mentors.

TESTIMONY: *"In a world like ours today, Jamii is an essential component to what all communities need. Jamii provides a sense of coexistence and equality while also providing young leaders the opportunity to collaborate on projects and events in order to heighten the community feel in the Esplanade."* - Project participant -



On-going public funders



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Basketball Court Photo Exhibit - 2012 - 2018



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Discover Dance - 2019