



**For Immediate Release**  
**June 10, 2019**



Courtesy Ara-V

## RICHLAND LIBRARY NAMES NEXT ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE

*Meet Singer & Performing Artist Ara-V*

Columbia, SC- A local artist, known for making fusion music by mixing genres, is sharing her talents with **Richland Library** and the community this summer. We're **excited to welcome Ara-Viktoria McKinney (Ara-V) as our next artist-in-residence, starting Monday, June 10.**

A South Carolina native, **Ara-V is a singer, songwriter, actress, musical theater director and poet.** Her musical career spans 19 years, dating back to her childhood and singing in church. Ara-V says she likes to explore combinations of gospel, jazz, country, classical and soul. She's currently working on her third album and performing with her band, the Ara-V Collective.

"My main joy is helping people find their own true voice and style... and teaching them how to present it to the public," said Ara-V.

Ara-V is set to **host weekly office hours at our Main location** (1431 Assembly Street), answering questions while sharing her knowledge and experience with others. She also is **coordinating with our arts librarian to offer an array of free programs for all ages, including mini vocal lessons and songwriting workshops.** Ara-V plans to feature the work of participants during a Musical Showcase later this summer. Be sure to visit [richlandlibrary.com](http://richlandlibrary.com) for more details. **Her residency extends through September 6, 2019.**



**RICHLAND  
LIBRARY**

access freely.

RICHLANDLIBRARY.COM

Initially developed in September 2016, the concept behind Richland Library's artist-in-residence is to connect the community with local, working artists and to provide creative and educational opportunities to local residents in a way that supports cultural and artistic exchange.

For questions, please contact Emily Stoll at 803-587-3637 or email [estoll@richlandlibrary.com](mailto:estoll@richlandlibrary.com).

### **About Richland Library**

Awarded the National Medal in 2017 by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, Richland Library is a vibrant, contemporary organization that provides resources and information that advance the Midlands. Offering state-of-the-art technology, a variety of literary and cultural programs and 12 bustling facilities located throughout the county, Richland Library provides a truly customizable, modern library experience for residents and visitors alike.

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