

# BPS Arts Expansion Grant Information Session

February 11, 2020



# BPS (Boston Public Schools) Arts Expansion

Multi-year, public-private partnership aimed at increasing equitable access to quality arts learning experiences for Boston's 53,000 public school students.



## Goals:

- Expand school-based arts instruction
- Build district and school capacity
- Strengthen and coordinate partnerships
- Ensure long-term sustainability by building broad ownership

# Progress to Date: PreK-8

% students in PreK-8  
receiving weekly arts

Gain **30%**



**67%** in 2009



**97%** in 2019

% students in PreK-8  
receiving twice  
weekly arts

Gain **56%**



**<10%** in 2009



**66%** in 2019

# Progress to Date: Grades 9-12

% students in high school receiving any arts

Gain **40%**



**26%** in 2009



**66%** in 2019

% high school graduates meeting Mass Core arts requirement

Gain **10%**



**52%** in 2014



**62%** in 2018

# Public Investment by BPS

## More public funding and more arts teachers



**More than \$26M** spent by the school district annually on arts education (up from \$15M in 2009)

**5:1**

return of increased public investment for every private dollar invested



**130 additional** full-time arts teachers hired by BPS since 2009

# Private Funding

- Arts Expansion Fund donors include: the Barr Foundation, The Boston Foundation, Katie and Paul Battenwieser, The Klarman Family Foundation, Linde Family Foundation, and other foundations and individuals.
- This will be the 12<sup>th</sup> year of grant making; have made more than \$6.8M in grants to date.
- *Arts Expansion Fund is focused primarily on expanding direct arts instruction for students during the school day through partnerships between arts providers and schools.*

# School Arts Data

## Annual Arts Survey

- First sent to schools in November, with follow up by BPS Arts Department and EdVestors.
- Individual school data published on EdVestors website: <http://www.edvestors.org/initiatives/bps-arts-expansion/>.
- Schools that have incomplete or missing data should contact [artsfund@edvestors.org](mailto:artsfund@edvestors.org).



# School Arts Index

- Tool developed for all schools to measure school arts offerings in their buildings.
- Based on a set of 11-12 indicators detailing arts education opportunities in an individual school.
- Capture arts staffing, dosage, depth, sequential opportunities, and other indicators of arts learning.
- School's initial category calculated by a weighted average, with the final category determined by additional indicators.
- School Arts Index framework available via <http://www.edvestors.org/initiatives/bps-arts-expansion/>.





# Grantmaking Focus

*Three proposal categories for schools with arts partners and one opportunity for individual teachers and teaching artists:*

## **1. Access (preK-8 grades)**

*Who?* Schools categorized as ‘Beginning’ or ‘Developing’ based on the School Arts Index.

*What?* Priority given to projects that expand the number of students receiving twice weekly, year-long arts in the same or different arts disciplines.

## **2. Access (High School, grades 9-12)**

*Who?* High schools categorized as ‘Beginning’ or ‘Developing’ based on the School Arts Index.

*What?* Priority given to projects that increase the number of high school students receiving semester or year-long arts instruction and enable more high school students to meet the Mass Core arts graduation recommendation. Projects that help fulfill the guideline in combination with existing school arts offerings are welcome. Proposals connected to existing arts career and vocational pathways encouraged.

# Grantmaking Focus

## 3. Deepen (preK-grade 12)

*Who?* Schools categorized as ‘Expanding’ or ‘Excelling’ based on the Schools Arts Index.

*What?* One year grant that further strengthens the arts experiences of students by creating sequential pathways, increasing arts disciplines, implementing curriculum integration, or generating an innovative project that introduces a new approach or opportunity to deliver arts education.

## 4. Individual Arts Educators

*Who?* BPS certified arts teachers and teaching artists. Teaching artists must be teaching a long term (min. 30 hours) in school arts residency at a BPS school during the 2020-21 school year.

*What?* BPS certified arts teachers may apply for up to \$500 to support their own professional development or to fund supplies, materials or equipment needed for a specific project or curriculum unit. Teaching artists may apply for up to \$500 to support their own professional development. Applications for Individual Arts Educator support must be completed electronically.

# Grantmaking Guidelines

- Grants in the 'Access' category will be awarded for one year (School Year 2020-21) and typically may range in size from \$4,000 to \$20,000 depending on the scope of the proposed project. Typical grant support for 'Deepen' proposals is between \$5,000-\$8,000 per year.
- Include a cash School Contribution as part of the Total Project Budget. School Contribution should equal at least 10% of the Total Grant Request. Schools that have received BPS Arts Expansion support for 4 or more years with the same partner are required to include a School Contribution equaling at least 20% of the Total Grant Request.
- Schools can be connected with no more than 2 proposals to work with different Arts Partners.
- Arts Partners working with more than 2 schools should serve as the Lead Applicant. Arts partners can apply for support to work with no more than 4 schools.

# Grantmaking Guidelines

Priority given to arts instruction:

- Inclusive of students with special needs and English language learners.
- Culturally responsive arts instruction (aligned with district priority around culturally and linguistically sustaining practices), that reflects repertoire and artists from multiple cultures and traditions, affirming students' cultures and responding to their interests.
- Offering under-represented arts disciplines, including dance, theater, spoken word, media and digital arts.

# Grant Fund Restrictions

- Schools may not use grant funds to pay for teacher salaries but may use funds for teacher stipends.
  - Schools demonstrating commitment to supporting arts instruction through the school budget will be noted
- Grant funds should not be used to replace line items in existing school or district budgets. Funds are intended to extend or complement existing resources.
- The Fund is not intended to support the following types of activities:
  - One-time field trip, performance, or other exposure activities
  - Short-term workshops, residencies and other introductory activities
  - Arts instruction that takes place primarily during out-of-school time
  - Equipment purchases or bus transportation as the primary focus of the grant request

# Returning Grantees

- Demonstrate how a continued grant will support further expansion of services and/or an increase in the number of students served.
- Evidence of increased support from the school(s) involved in the application must be demonstrated.
- Evidence of how the arts partner has become and will continue to be integrated into the school's overall arts vision.
- Current grantees applying to receive continued support from the Fund should expect grant size to be smaller than previous awards to encourage diversification of a project's funding sources.

# Application Detail

- Section 1: cover sheet information
  - Type of Grantee and Request
  - If multiple schools or arts partners complete for each version of the project
  - Summary
  - Data on school(s) from BPS Arts Inventory
- Section 2: proposed project description
  - Describe fully the nuts and bolts of what the program will look like



# Application Detail

- Section 3: project and partner narratives
  - Arts partners: what you do, schools you work with, and if you are new to partnering with BPS, how will your program be adapted to this setting, PartnerBPS database
  - Detailed description of project and partnership, specific Access/Deepen question, project impact
  - Schools: Background on current arts offerings, changes, and choice of partner
  - #4 Returning grantees only
- Section 4: proposed project budget and attachments
  - Instructor/Teaching artist time
  - Cost per student
  - Remember attachments!

# Individual Arts Educator Application

Complete Google form application by March 17: <https://forms.gle/Nat87gzWK3ex5x7m7>

- **Professional Development Support** (BPS arts teachers and teaching artists)
  - Examples include: enrollment in a class that further develops a teacher's artistic practice or teaching methods; attendance at a conference or summer institute; participation in a webinar series.
- **Materials and Supplies Support** (BPS arts teachers)
  - Examples include: purchase of specific materials needed for a clay sculpture unit or costumes needed for a specific theatre or dance project.
  - Any equipment or unused supplies and materials purchased utilizing grant funds become property of Boston Public Schools after project completion.

**Note:** BPS arts teachers may apply for a combination of the above, not to exceed \$500



# Timeline and Resources

March 17: Grant Applications due by 4:00pm to [artsfund@edvestors.org](mailto:artsfund@edvestors.org).

Early June: Grant Awards Announced

June 9: Grantee Orientation Meeting

September 2020-June 2021: Grant Period

## Resources:

- [www.edvestors.org](http://www.edvestors.org)
- [www.bpsarts.org](http://www.bpsarts.org)
- Emmanuel Toledo, Program Director for the Performing Arts, [etoledo@bostonpublicschools.org](mailto:etoledo@bostonpublicschools.org)
- Tony Beatrice, Executive Director for the Arts, [abeatrice2@bostonpublicschools.org](mailto:abeatrice2@bostonpublicschools.org)
- Twitter (@BPSiCreate) #bpsarts
- Facebook (BPS Visual & Performing Arts Department)

## Questions:

Office Hours: Schedule via <https://calendly.com/artsfund/officehrs>

BPS Arts Expansion Fund at EdVestors: [artsfund@edvestors.org](mailto:artsfund@edvestors.org); 617-585-5451

