

# THE CREATIVE ADVANTAGE

## ARTS PLAN GOALS

Every student in every school receives:

**High quality arts instruction that teaches sequential arts skills and techniques; develops students' 21st century skills; and is culturally responsive.**

**Why:** It has been shown that arts instruction helps develop students 21st century skills leading to **creativity, critical thinking, communications, collaboration, growth mindset and perseverance.**

**Progress:** In the 13 Creative Advantage schools, there was a 34% increase in students demonstrating 21st century skills—especially creativity, critical thinking, communication, and perseverance.

**Next Steps:** In the 2016-17 school year, ALL Seattle arts teachers will begin using 21<sup>st</sup> Century Arts Common Assessments that intentionally teach and assess 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills.

**Instruction from certified arts teachers.**

**Why:** Research has found that students who had instruction from arts teachers were more likely to meet state arts standards than those who received instruction from a non-arts teacher.

**Progress:** Before the Creative Advantage, only three elementary and K-8 schools in the Central Arts Pathway had music programs taught by certified teachers. We eliminated the gap and the number of elementary instructional minutes increased by 200%.

**Next steps:** This year, we are adding music teachers to all 7 elementary and K-8 schools in the South-southwest region of Seattle.

**Integrated arts instruction.**

**Why:** Integrated arts learning is an approach to teaching and learning in which students engage in a creative process that connects an art form with another subject to promote deeper learning in both.

**Progress:** In 2014-15, students at all 13 Central Arts Pathway schools had more chances to learn through integrated arts in collaboration with teaching artists and arts organizations. In addition, more teachers are integrating arts teaching into their practice thanks to nine integrated arts trainings at five schools.

**Next steps:** The 11 schools in the South-southwest K-12 pathway will each receive \$7500 from the Office of Arts and Culture to hire teaching artists and arts organizations for partnerships. The Creative Advantage recently received a grant from the Laird Norton Family Foundation for year-long training and mentorships for 70 K-12 teachers integrating theatre arts in classrooms.

**Arts partnerships with community-based organizations and teaching artists.**

**Why:** Partnerships increase student engagement in the arts, build bridges between schools and the arts community and broaden students' experiences in the arts.

**Progress:** In the 2014-15 school year, 27 teaching artists and arts organizations were hired to work with the 13 schools in the Central Arts Pathway in topics as diverse as writing, singing, and recording poetry.

**Next Steps:** The 11 South-Southwest schools!

**Opportunities to connect arts to careers in high school.**

**Why:** Research shows that arts related jobs in industries such as film, graphic design, and digital gaming are created in Seattle every year. For example, in 2008 the music industry in created 11,155 jobs.

**Next Steps:** Opening Media Arts Skills Center programs that will be available to all juniors and seniors in high growth careers such as music production, film production, and graphic design