



APPLICATION
KENNEDY CENTER
ANY GIVEN CHILD INITIATIVE

2012

The following application procedure will help identify communities that demonstrate an interest, ability, and commitment to strengthening and expanding arts education for their students (grades K-8) in public schools and public charter schools. Potential applicants should review the Any Given Child website (www.kennedy-center.org/education/AnyGivenChild) and then call the Kennedy Center to discuss the application process (202) 416-8806.

The goal of the Kennedy Center's *Any Given Child* initiative is to ensure that all young people in the community have access to a complete, affordable arts education in music, dance, drama, and visual art. With the assistance of expert consultation services provided at no cost by Kennedy Center staff and other professionals, community leaders develop long-term goals for arts education that are tailor-made for their school district and community. The process reviews the arts resources that already exist in the school district and the education programs offered by local arts organizations, and complements these with the extensive education resources of the Kennedy Center.

This application should be completed by a community contact (typically an executive director/president of an arts organization, the Mayor, or the superintendent of schools) and should be sent, along with three additional copies, to: Director, National Partnerships-Education, The Kennedy Center, P.O. Box 101510, Arlington, VA 22210. Applications will be accepted at any time of the year.

The application is divided into two parts. Part I requests letters of commitment from the Mayor, the Superintendent of the school district, and an Executive Director/President of a community arts organization or coalition of arts organizations. Part II requests information regarding identification of the Community Arts Team members and profiles of the community and the school district.

Priority will be given to applications that:

1. demonstrate a commitment of time and resources to completing an assessment process that reviews arts education resources in the school district and in the community, as well as to developing a long range plan;
2. include strong letters of commitment, including those required from the Mayor, the Superintendent, and the Executive Director/President of a local arts organization or coalition of arts organizations;
3. demonstrate the qualities, skills, and commitment of the site Coordinator;
4. demonstrate a wide range of professional performing arts or visual art resources presented from September through May from which education programs have been or can be developed; and
5. identify a strong Community Arts Team that represents a broad cross section of the community.

PART I: LETTERS OF COMMITMENT

Letters of commitment are required from the **Mayor, school district Superintendent, and the Executive Director** of an arts organization or collaborative of arts organizations. The letters of commitment should focus on the community's desire to create a comprehensive arts education program, and include a statement of commitment that the individuals and organizations will work together to ensure successful completion of the year-long process to audit resources and create a strategic plan. Commitment letters should also include statements about the applying organizations' and school district's openness to considering the recommendations produced by the audit process, a willingness to implement the proposed recommendations, and a desire to create new programs, if needed. The letters should state the name and contact information for the representatives of the Mayor's office, the school district, and the lead arts agency who will participate fully in all meetings of the Community Arts Team.

In addition, a letter from the appointed Coordinator for the project should accompany the application which outlines his/her experience in group/meeting facilitation and in working across community sectors. The application should also include the Coordinator's resume.

A. Mayor

The letter of commitment from the Mayor should describe:

- an understanding of the purpose of *Any Given Child* and the commitment of the Mayor's office to the Kennedy Center process to audit arts education resources in the school district and the community, and to the development of a long range plan for arts education for the school district; and
- the commitment of the time of the Mayor and/or staff to meet with the Community Arts Leadership Team to develop the arts education long range plan.
- the name of the Mayor's representative to the Community Arts Team.

B. School District

The letter of commitment from the Superintendent should describe:

- an understanding of the purpose of *Any Given Child* and the commitment to the Kennedy Center process to audit arts education resources in the school district and community, and to the development of a long range plan for arts education for the school district;
- the Superintendent's current short and long-term goals for arts education in the district;
- additional information about how participation in the *Any Given Child* Initiative will help the school system meet its goals; and
- the school system's commitment to collaborate with local arts organizations and the Mayor's office to provide staff and resources to participate in the *Any Given Child* Initiative.
- the name of the Superintendent's representative to the Community Arts Team.

C. Arts Organization(s)

The letter of commitment from the Executive Director/President of an arts organization or coalition of arts organizations should describe:

- the commitment to the Kennedy Center process to audit arts education resources in the school district and community, and to the development of a long range plan for arts education for the school district;
- the organization's mission statement and the place of educational programming within that mission; and
- the organization's commitment to working on the *Any Given Child* initiative, acting as a convening agent for the community arts groups.
- the name of the arts organization's representative to the Community Arts Team.

D. Coordinator

The letter should include information about any experience in group/meeting facilitation, as well as in working across community sectors. Please attach the Coordinator's resume.

PART II: QUESTIONNAIRE

Use additional pages to respond to sections below.

A. Community Arts Team Members

Please provide the name, title, organization, address, phone number and email address for each member of the Team. Identify which member of the Team will serve as the **primary contact** for the Kennedy Center.

The **Community Arts Team** typically consists of 25 to 35 diverse representatives from a broad cross section of the community including: arts organizations, the Mayor’s office and/or Chamber of Commerce, the school district, the business community, philanthropy, communications, research (who can assist with data collection and reporting – this person may be from the school district central office), and higher education. Ideally, there are equal numbers of school district and arts organizations representatives. (At a minimum, it is recommended that there be two principals and two district-level administrators: one who supervises the principals and one who has responsibility for assessment and has access to student data). Members must commit to meeting once a month over a nine- to twelve-month period to oversee the collection of data and to develop long-term goals.

From the Community Arts Team, the Coordinator and the Kennedy Center will identify a **Working Group** which will meet more often during Phase I of the initiative. The Working Group is a small cadre of leaders (up to six people) that gathers after Community Arts Team meetings to discuss strategies for distribution of survey instruments and best ways to publicly communicate the work, as well as whether permission must be secured to distribute the surveys (by the Superintendent, university authorities, the Mayor’s office, etc). The Working Group is also charged with developing the goals and action steps of the strategic plan for review and approval by the Community Arts Team. Ideally, the group includes a school leader, the Coordinator, a member of the philanthropic sector, the person in charge of assimilating the survey data, a member from the communications sector, and an arts organization member.

B. Arts Resources

Please provide a list of performing arts and visual art organizations (both presenting and producing organizations) within the community. **Indicate which organizations already provide educational programs for K-8 students** (either in schools or at their venues/galleries).

What other arts resources/organizations serve your community (e.g., arts councils, out of school time arts programs, etc.)?

C. Description of Community

Describe the community using chart below (e.g., population; ethnic demographics; local economy; urban, suburban, or rural setting; any historical perspective on the role of the arts in the community, etc.).

Total population of community ____
Percent Caucasian ____
Percent Hispanic ____
Percent African American ____
Percent other or mixed race ____

Median Income: ____

D. Description of School District:

1. Provide the following information for the school district:

School District Name _____

| | Number of Students | Number of Teachers | Number of Schools |
|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Elementary school | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Middle school | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| High school | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| TOTAL | _____ | _____ | _____ |

Number of Students

- Percent American Indian/Alaska Native ____
- Percent Asian/Pacific Islander ____
- Percent African American ____
- Percent Hispanic ____
- Percent other/mixed race ____

Number of Students in Individualized Education Program ____

Number of Limited English Proficiency ____

Number on Free and Reduced Lunch ____

School District Graduation Rate ____

2. Total Number of arts teachers in the schools

| | Number Employed Full-time | Number Employed Part-time |
|------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Music | _____ | _____ |
| Visual Art | _____ | _____ |
| Theater | _____ | _____ |
| Dance | _____ | _____ |

3. A. Total annual budget for the school district for the most recent year _____

B. What percentage of the total annual budget is spent on arts teachers' salaries and instructional materials and supplies? _____

E. What other national partnerships (i.e., Lincoln Center Institute, Bernstein Center, etc.) and federal grants does the school district currently have for arts education programs?

F. Additional Information

What additional information might help us better evaluate your application?

Applicant Signature _____

Name (*print*) _____

Date _____

This completed application form and letters of commitment, along with any support materials, should be mailed to:

Any Given Child
Education Department
The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts
P.O. Box 101510
Arlington, VA 22210