



## Inner-City Arts Programs

### Programs for Students

Since 1989, Inner-City Arts has provided innovative, hands-on arts instruction to children from high poverty Los Angeles neighborhoods, significantly improving overall academic outcomes among students with limited English language proficiency.

- Through a unique partnership with LAUSD, elementary and middle school students are brought to the Inner-City Arts campus during the instructional day for studio classes in the visual arts, dance, music, theater, ceramics, digital photography and animation
- Instructional day, intersession, after school and weekend classes are taught by teaching artists committed to meeting the needs of every child through experiential learning
- All classes meet on the Inner-City Arts campus in well-equipped studio spaces
- Studio classes at all grade levels emphasize language development and analytical, critical thinking and problem-solving skills
- All Inner-City Arts programs are child-centered, literacy- and research-based; program development is ongoing, driven by observation of student need
- Any Los Angeles Unified School District school is eligible to participate in our programs; principals are regularly invited to our campus to learn about our core curriculum and new developments in programming
- EARLI Arts targets K-3 graders with especially limited English language skills
- Arts in the Middle (AIM), an intensive, cross-discipline program for middle school students, addresses the needs of 6-8 graders who have not yet met minimum language proficiency requirements
- Two-semester weekend programs for high school students offer in-depth study in animation, visual and performing arts, and provide a bridge to higher education
- Through collaborations with community partners and social service agencies, students come to Inner-City Arts for engaging arts programs during the critical after-school hours

### Programs for Teachers

The Annenberg—Inner-City Arts Professional Development Program offers a range of teacher training programs, from single-session workshops to LAUSD-accredited courses eligible for salary-point credits.

- Professional development of teachers is an essential component of student academic achievement
- All professional development classes are experiential and designed to bring the lessons of the studio into the classroom
- All teacher training programs are aligned with State of California Content Standards in the Visual and Performing Arts
- Teachers whose students come to Inner-City Arts for instructional day programs receive training, help with lesson planning and support for classroom goals
- Every LAUSD teacher is eligible to participate in professional development programs at Inner-City Arts, whether or not their students receive instruction here
- The Teachers Institute at Inner-City Arts, a collaboration with UCLA's GSE&IS Center X Teacher Education Program, provides arts training for new teachers committed to working in high poverty schools
- Through the more than 5,000 educators who have participated in our professional development programs, Inner-City Arts has the potential to improve learning outcomes for more than one million students

### **Programs for Parents and Families**

Inner-City Arts provides a variety of programs designed to help families support their children's academic achievement.

- Families are encouraged to feel confident and knowledgeable participating in their children's educational experiences
- Parent workshops offered at area schools and Family Days at Inner-City Arts help families navigate the school system as advocates for their children, build community and engage parents who may feel intimidated by their children's schools.
- The S. Mark Taper Parent-Teacher Resource Center allows Inner-City Arts to provide increasing levels of support to students and their families.

### **Measurable Impact**

Children benefit from participation in Inner-City Arts programs, and those whose teachers also receive training at Inner-City Arts experience the biggest gains in academic achievement.

Benefits of participation in Inner-City Arts programming include:

- Dramatic increases in statewide standardized test scores: 25% in math, 18% in reading, 8% in English proficiency

- Greater engagement and focus in the classroom
- Students are more likely to believe they have control over their future
- Positive correlation between learning in the arts and feelings of success
- Skills highly valued in the 21st century workforce, such as creative and conceptual thinking and collaborating with others

### **Student Population**

Located in the heart of Skid Row, one of the country's most impoverished neighborhoods, Inner-City Arts serves at-risk children, many with limited English language skills:

- 90% are Latino
- 95% live at or below the poverty line
- 100% qualify for free or reduced lunch

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