BRINGING THE POWER OF THE ARTS TO NEW ORLEANS STUDENTS

PROGRESS REPORT 2016-2017
Dear Advocates for the Arts,

As I’m sure you can imagine, we were thrilled to hear the words quoted above from people working with arts-education groups all over the country. It is through your support that KID smART was able to establish itself as a New Orleans-based national standard-bearer for arts integration, and we cannot thank you enough for playing a leading role in our work.

KID smART’s success derives from a consistent focus on our mission to engage students in dynamic, creative, and rigorous learning through the arts. Our New Orleans public school students are, for the most part, from low-income families. I state this well known fact to underscore the critical effect that arts learning can have in their lives. A recent study published by Americans for the Arts found that students with high arts participation and low socioeconomic status have a dropout rate five times lower than their peers. Arts education is also an equity issue: 85% of New Orleans students are African American; this dearth of programming gives Black students less access to a comprehensive education.

KID smART has developed measures to not only fill the need for arts education in public schools, but also to understand the impact of arts-based teaching methods on students’ Social/Emotional, Critical Thinking, and Problem Solving skills. These evaluations – described in more detail on page 6 – examine how arts-based learning prepares students to be creative, innovative thinkers able to meet the complex world they will inherit as adults.

Having visited many KID smART classrooms over the years, I’ve come to believe that the most tangible measure of KID smART’s achievement can be seen in the joyful and engaged learning that happens in its classrooms. I encourage you contact us and arrange to visit one of our classrooms, so that you can experience first-hand the innovative work you support.

I am proud to pass the torch to our 2017-2019 Board Chair, Philip J. Gunn, and confident that he will guide KID smART into new and uncharted success during his tenure. Thank you for bringing us this far; we look forward to all the future has to offer and we hope you join us!

Sincerely,

Scott P. Howard
Board Chair, 2015-2017

“KID smART has developed the most effective arts-integrated learning program in the country.”
-Kennedy Center for thePerforming Arts consultant
VISION
An educational landscape where the arts empower all children to unlock their full academic, creative and personal potential.

MISSION
To engage children in dynamic, creative and rigorous learning through the arts.

CORE VALUES

![Creativity](image1.png)
![Equity](image2.png)
![Collaboration](image3.png)
![Evidence](image4.png)

EXPANDING ACCESS TO THE ARTS
A staggering 84% of New Orleans public school students are considered economically disadvantaged, meaning their households are eligible for SNAP, TANF or Medicaid. These students have the most to gain from arts education, which can reduce – and even eliminate – the achievement gap between disadvantaged students and their wealthier peers.

Yet, fewer than half of New Orleans schools surveyed have a full time arts specialist in visual art or music, and the vast majority of public school students receive less than the mandated 60 minutes of instruction in any art form per week.

KID smART works to fill this significant community need with K-8 students in 12 partnering schools by providing each of our 3,000+ students with 60 hours of arts-integrated learning per year.

By increasing access to the arts, KID smART is supporting the creative life force of the city.
CREATIVE SCHOOLS
New Orleans public schools commit to arts-integrated teaching through a year-long partnership that includes:
• Teaching Artist embedded in the classroom throughout the year
• Professional development for teachers
• Arts resources for schools

THINK smART
THINK smART brings MORE arts power to two Creative Schools. Visible Thinking strategies developed through a research project of the Harvard Graduate School of Education enhance this work that also supports change at the supervisory/administrative levels.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
Any school can participate in KID smART’s nationally lauded professional learning activities for teachers. From 60 minute demo lessons to full week sessions, our workshops include multiple art forms, focused instruction in content areas, and social emotional strategies.

AFTERSCHOOL & ENRICHMENT
KID smART offers engaging arts enrichment classes in a variety of mediums including puppetry, dance, photography, improv, storytelling, and visual art.

LABORATORY
Each year KID smART explores ideas, concepts, and projects that support the growth of forward-thinking education strategies and programs to fill specific community needs. The following programs were offered in 2016-17:

In collaboration with partner organizations, the Homegrown Teaching Artist Initiative supports artists of color and artists born and raised in southeast Louisiana in accessing employment opportunities as teaching artists.

From 2015-17, KID smART took the lead in the planning and development of Any Given Child New Orleans (AGC). AGC partners across cultures, communities and classrooms to ensure that every K-8 child receives high-quality, equitable, and culturally relevant arts education. In FY18, AGC will become a wholly-owned subsidiary of KID smART who will continue to work closely with AGC.
COMMUNITY SUPPORTS

KID smART also serves as an active participant in the following city-wide initiatives to support student well-being:

- **YouthShift** – coordinating youth services throughout the city to fill gaps of service, increase quality, and coordinate sectors.

- **Youth Program Quality Initiative (YPQI)** – focused, data-driven supports and training to increase the quality and intentionality of out-of-school-time student services.

- **Campaign for Grade Level Reading** – launching in 2018, this city-wide initiative is working to ensure that all children are reading at grade level by the 3rd grade— a goal that can make a significant impact on student success.

LOOKING FORWARD: ARTFUL FAMILIES

Research shows that—regardless of socioeconomic status—children are more likely to succeed academically if their families are involved in their education. KID smART will introduce Artful Families in 2017-18 to achieve two goals:

1) activating the power of the arts to provide parents and guardians with creative and hands-on activities that support child development;

2) fostering positive relationships between families & schools.
“KID smART is a smart, educational way of learning both science and theatre wrapped all into one to make learning great!”
- Behrman Student

Behrman students in KID smART classes blending theatre and science showed a 67% growth in social-emotional skills.

Mr. Thornton’s assessments revealed a 70% growth in his fifth graders’ earth science skills while learning through the arts.

Step inside KID smART Creative Schools > KIDsmART.org/blog
While each of KID smART’s Creative Schools is unique, we track the same set of skills in students across all classrooms, regardless of academic subject or art form. Our research confirms the power of the arts to transform a testing-focused classroom. KID smART gathered the following data across all 12 of its Creative Schools during the 2016-17 school year.

**SKILL SHEETS**

KID smART’s evaluation model includes skill sheets: an assessment tool that measures student progress in five areas. Completed by the classroom teacher and teaching artist three times per unit, skill sheets take into account a spectrum of 21st century skills rather than focusing simply on rote memorization and academic achievement.

![Skill Sheet Rubric](image)

Over the course of the units, our students’ skills grew by:

- **Joyful Learning**: 42%
- **Social & Emotional**: 42%
- **Creativity & Imagination**: 72%
- **Depth of Learning**: 36%
- **Critical Thinking**: 41%

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### Percent of KID smART Students Reaching Mastery in Creative & Academic Skills

- **Critical Thinking**
  - Beginning of year: 5%
  - End of year: 23%
- **Social & Emotional**
  - Beginning of year: 7%
  - End of year: 31%
- **Academic**
  - Beginning of year: 31%
  - End of year: 31%

### MILESTONES

“I have used KID smART techniques in my classroom for the last three years! I can no longer imagine teaching without this level of creativity and joyfulness. It brings another level of learning to my ELA classroom. I am utterly grateful for KID smART.”

- KID smART Teacher, Martin Behrman Elementary School

“74% of KID smART students noted improvements in their ability to use art to express their emotions and ideas.”

“96% of teachers in KID smART Creative Classrooms noticed improvements in their students’ depth of learning.”

“T&amp;T Survey & Testimonial: 2016-17”

“You can actually have fun and learn at the same time.”

- KID smART Student
Cocktails for KID smART 2017 presented by Regions Bank
Home of Virginia and John Rowan!

Let Your Fancy Take Flight on October 18th!
Cocktails for KID smART 2017 presented by Regions Bank
Home of Virginia and John Rowan!

KIDSMArt.ORG/CFK2017
THANK YOU TO OUR MAJOR FUNDERS FROM 2016-17!
YOU MAKE LEARNING COME ALIVE THROUGH THE ARTS.

$100,000 +
Baptist Community Ministries
Lambent Foundation

$25,000 - $99,999
New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Foundation
Daybrook Foundation

$10,000 - $24,999
Arts Council of New Orleans
Booth-Bricker Fund
Campbell & Allison Stewart Hutchinson Fund
CMA Foundation
The Ella West Freeman Foundation
Entergy Corporation

GPOA Foundation
The Greater New Orleans Foundation
The Joan Mitchell Foundation, Inc.
New Orleans Theatre Association, Inc.
Oscar J. Tolmas Charitable Trust
Pro Bono Publico Foundation

$5,000 - $9,999
Art4Moore Fund of Tides
Foundation
Gregory Holt and Lucy Burnett
Institute of Mental Hygiene of New Orleans
Kabacoff Family Foundation
Louisiana Division of the Arts

The Helis Foundation
Mary E. Peters and Robert W. Polchow Foundation
Mary Freeman Wisdom Foundation
The RosaMary Foundation
Ruth U. Fertel Foundation
The Woldenberg Foundation

$2,500 - $4,999
Domain Companies
Domain Companies
Associated Terminals
Jones Walker
Keller Family Foundation
Postlethwaite & Netterville, APAC

Regions Bank
Boatner Reily Family Fund
Lisa Sinders

$1,000 - $2,499
Stephanie and Jim Huger
Tamara and Campbell Hutchinson
IBERIABANK
Elly and Merritt Lane
Paula and Gary Lee
Sheldon Lykes
Shirley Olander
Marie O’Neill
PajWell Foundation
Patrick F. Taylor Foundation
Jill and Minor Pipes
Pizza Delicious
Ann and Larry Rabin

Reily Foods
Virginia McCollam and Andy Ryan
Troy Scroggins
Susu and Andrew Stall
Studio WTA
Jackie Sullivan
Nia Terezakis
Allison and Ben Tiller
Trapolin-Peer Architects
Tulane Med Arts
Sarah and Patrick Vance
Zemurray Foundation
KID smART recognizes the importance of recruiting staff and board members that represent the racial and ethnic diversity of the communities in which we work.

Between 15-16 and 16-17, KID smART increased the percent of teaching artists of color by 110%, staff by 100%, and board members by 72%.

We understand that recruiting and retaining an inclusive staff and leadership cannot be reported simply within one year of data. Our commitment to diversity is an ongoing and central part of our strategic planning process.

Audit for FY17 is not yet completed. These numbers include Any Given Child.
2016-17 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
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Philip J. Gunn, Chairman-Elect
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Sandra Diggs-Miller
Suzanne Dumez
Lesli D. Harris
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R. Campbell Hutchinson
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Jill McKay Pipes
Joanie Quinlan
Troy Scroggins, Jr.
Lisa Sinders
Brandi Thomas-Scott
Kate Werner

EMERITUS
Campbell Hutchinson
Allison Stewart

THANK YOU TO OUR OUTGOING BOARD MEMBERS FOR THEIR SERVICE!
Lesli D. Harris
Joanie Quinlan
Troy Scroggins, Jr.
Lisa Sinders

WELCOME TO OUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS FOR FY18!
James Logan
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Patrick Templeman
Adele Bienvenu Tiblier
Angela Herbert White

KID SMART STAFF
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Zeb Hollins, III, Arts Coach
Jenn Potts, Arts Coach
Tiana Nobile, Arts Coach
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Taylor Arroyo-Tabin, Fall and Spring Intern
Hannah Rose Ryan, Summer Intern