



...an **art works for kids** partner

JUNE, 2006 STATUS REPORT FOR THE GOVERNING BOARD OF art works for kids

Thank you again for the continuing support you have given the Salt Lake District to have outstanding **art works for kids** education programs. The district program, ARTSTREAM Choice Initiative, is being developed, based on the **art works for kids** model. The result of this initiative, now in thirteen schools, has been to see the view of arts education changing from being a "fluffy add on" to a critically important and integral part of educating every child. The experience gained and leadership developed in these schools is being extended to additional schools through the ARTSTREAM Choice Initiative. This means that even more students and families will have the opportunity to attend schools that share this philosophy of education stated in the ARTSTREAM Mission Statement:

To provide a rich, engaging educational experience honoring the individual needs and talents of all students by offering a K-12 curriculum strong in academics as well as in comprehensive, sequential and interdisciplinary fine arts education. Utilizing a 3-point approach:

ART FOR ART'S SAKE – The study of individual artistic areas, including skills, concepts, methods, history, critical analysis, and aesthetics.

ART AS AN ENTRY TO OTHER STUDIES – Art concepts, materials, strategies and processes used to illuminate and reinforce work in all disciplines.

OTHER STUDIES AS TOOLS TO EXPLORE THE ARTS – Materials, strategies or methodologies from other disciplines used in studying art forms.

In the 2006-2007 school year, Beacon Heights, Dilworth, Hawthorne, Highland Park, Indian Hills, Nibley Park and Whittier Elementary schools along with Hillside Middle and Highland High School were participating in the District's ARTSTREAM Choice Initiative. Beacon Heights and Highland Park were also receiving model school grants from **art works for kids**. All have worked collaboratively to offer sequential, comprehensive, interdisciplinary arts education, pre-K to 12, as part of their plans to improve student success in school.

In March, **art works for kids** provided model school grants to seven schools: Beacon Heights, Highland Park, Jackson, Lincoln, Nibley Park, Parkview, and Wasatch. In addition, funding for a ½ time district coordinator for ARTSTREAM was provided. Finally, Bonneville's school community chose to join ARTSTREAM, making the total number of schools fourteen!

2004-05 was first year for ARTSTREAM and was spent primarily in planning and organizing the program. In 2005-06, ARTSTREAM moved forward organizationally as well as in providing quality arts education services to students.

1. Brief Overview of Use of Funds for 2005 – 2006

The entire **art works for kids** grant has been used to pay the ARTSTREAM Coordinator to implement and facilitate the program on an hourly, half time basis. The work is enhanced by a professional development grant from the Eccles Foundation as well as the substantial district arts education program. ARTSTREAM activities this year include:

- a. Monthly meetings with ARTSTREAM teacher leaders
 - b. Creation of a separate parent support council, made up of representatives from each ARTSTREAM school, which also meets monthly.
 - c. Monthly meetings with the Highland High Arts Council to facilitate the K-12 emphasis of ARTSTREAM
 - d. Communication with district officials, school board members, principals, legislators, and community members
 - e. Development of strong arts teams within ARTSTREAM schools which include the principal, teachers and parents working to support their programs.
 - f. Printing and disseminating the new ARTSTREAM brochure and poster – providing each participating school with CDs of each so they may be reproduced as needed at the school.
 - g. Sharing the ARTSTREAM Common Calendar Online
 - h. Providing an updated district website link which offers the latest power point, calendar and summary of activities for ARTSTREAM.
 - i. Creating a plan for providing K-3 music specialists in ARTSTREAM schools
 - j. Creating a professional development plan – to include seminars, development in each art area, curriculum writing, and development of rubrics for quality integrated arts lesson plans, taking advantage of existing workshops in the community, district offerings, as well as university, state and national offerings.
 - k. Offering grant and resource development to participating schools:
 - Assisting ARTSTREAM schools to write grants and to find teaching artists and additional resources for their programs
 - Developing a federal grant designed to add additional schools to this initiative.
 - Preparing an **art works for kids** Tier 2 district level grant
 - l. Creation of an evaluation plan
2. Estimated number of individuals impacted by the program and or project:

The nine 2005-06 ARTSTREAM Schools Choice Initiative impacted some 6,300 students and their families. An additional five school will bring that total to approximately 10,000. These schools will offer the ARTSTREAM Choice Initiative outside the Highland feeder area, thereby increasing the access to quality arts education to students in all areas of our district.

3. Documentation of program outcomes and results for students:

The first priority of ARTSTREAM for the 2005-2006 school year has been to establish desired results for students and an evaluation plan for the program. Data and documentation will be gathered to demonstrate the results we have developed:

STUDENTS will receive quality arts education that is interconnected with instruction in other core subject areas and tied to meeting the school's student achievement goals.

STUDENTS will be able to demonstrate arts skills mastered with K-12 arts portfolios developed by the Utah State Office of Education Fine Arts Department, or by another means collaborative developed by ARTSTREAM participants.

STUDENTS with a variety of individual needs and talents, participating in arts education classes in ARTSTREAM schools, when compared with students in schools without a focus on comprehensive academic and arts education classes will have:

- Higher achievement in core subjects for regular and at risk students.
- Lower dropout rates.
- Higher emotional intelligence
- Greater representation in arts education classes as they progress through school.

STUDENTS will have the opportunity to participate in K-12 arts activities, such as the Honors Orchestra, which will enable them to interact with teachers and students from all levels by participating in K-12 performance and exhibition activities.

STUDENTS at all age groups will have opportunities to work and learn in a variety of age groups, with different teachers as learning groups are created to meet student needs.

STUDENTS will become known to the teachers and other students at all levels, increasing the likelihood of camaraderie and continuity of learning in the arts.

STUDENTS opting to stay in Salt Lake District to pursue additional courses in arts education following the 6th and 8th grades in ARTSTREAM schools will increase in number in secondary arts education classes

4. Future objectives for the ARTSTREAM Choice Initiative:

- Create an ARTSTREAM website with current information about the initiative, arts education, curriculum, interdisciplinary lesson plans and an online handbook for schools.
- Create a plan for providing K-3 Music Teaching Artists in ARTSTREAM schools
- Assist participating elementary schools in developing one other comprehensive arts education area in their schools to link to secondary arts programs.
- Develop a strong link with the University of Utah Fine Arts Department in an effort to support the work both the district and that department are doing to provide quality, comprehensive arts education in schools.
- Continue resource development to support teacher professional development and providing qualified teaching artists to work with students in schools.

Again, our heartfelt thanks to art works for kids for the outstanding leadership and support being offered through our partnership with **art works for kids**. We are delighted with the high quality of arts education taking place in our schools as a result of our collaborative efforts.