



# *Ensuring the Arts for* **ANY GIVEN CHILD**

## **Houston**

Joined in 2015

### **FAST FACTS**

**71,654 Students**

**276 Teachers**

**106 Schools**

### **VISION**

Arts Connect Houston is Houston's collective impact effort that advances equitable access to arts education for every Houston ISD student by driving systems change and positioning the arts as essential to a complete education. Using data, capacity building, advocacy, and strategic funding, Arts Connect creates new pathways for students, schools, and the district to implement high-quality arts education. Arts Connect's vision is to realize the tremendous potential of every student by ensuring the arts as essential to a complete education, recognizing that when students prosper, our community thrives

### **GOALS FOR ARTS EDUCATION**

Arts Connect's five-year strategic plan (2019-2024) has established the following goals for arts education in Houston. The 2023-2024 school year is the final year of the strategic plan. Going into a year of transition, the goals from this planning and strategy process remain the same; however, our work will invariably pivot as we navigate the twists and turns of this dynamic moment.

- 1) Build data systems to guarantee strategic decisions and deployment of resources, maximizing systems change.
- 2) Set standards of practice to create a shared language and understanding of quality arts education for Houston, providing students with the most relevant and valued arts education possible.
- 3) Grow Houston's capacity to ensure a strong ecosystem for arts education, expanding our partner base and our capacity to collaborate strategically with new sectors.
- 4) Advocate for the vital role of the arts within the education ecosystem to stakeholder groups that will be critical in ensuring that every student has access to an arts-rich education.

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- 5) Investigate and secure new funding avenues in Houston to advance the role of the arts within the arts education ecosystem.
- 6) Ensure the strength and sustainability of the collective by using our foundational statements to guide our work and sustain internal operating systems and support structure

## **OUTCOMES**

Arts Connect's five-year strategic plan calls for the following outcomes, which were outlined prior to the State of Texas takeover of Houston ISD. While valuable measures, these are changing rapidly as the district is in flux. Our review of this year's activities and outputs will look different when we reflect back on the 2023-2024 school year.

- Established data collection systems and provision impact goals to measure our success in:
  - Unifying data across HISD, the schools, and Houston's arts organizations
  - Closing the arts education equity gaps across HISD schools and neighborhoods
  - Connecting schools to arts education programs available through Houston's arts organizations
  - Revolutionizing how arts organizations connect programs to schools and impact students
  - Driving local and state policy and funding
  - Targeting data-driven grantmaking from foundations and corporations
- Through our advocacy, see evidence that HISD and the School Board have:
  - Ensured that all schools are compliant with state requirements for fine arts teachers, and fine arts TEKS
  - Adopted the arts as integral to a well-rounded education
  - Rewarded arts-rich campuses
  - Approved a robust fine arts plan backed with funding support
- See evidence of success at HISD schools, with principals, teachers, administrators and parents embracing the arts as central to campus goals, activities and overall culture.
- See early evidence of the implementation of quality standards across the arts education landscape, showcasing students as active participants in their own arts- rich education.

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## LEADERSHIP

<b>City Leadership</b>	Sylvester Turner, Mayor
<b>Backbone Organization</b>	Mid-America Arts Alliance
<b>School District</b>	Houston Independent School District; F. Mike Miles, Superintendent
<b>Primary Any Given Child Liaison</b>	Jack McBride, Interim Executive Director

## CONTACT / SOCIAL MEDIA



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