



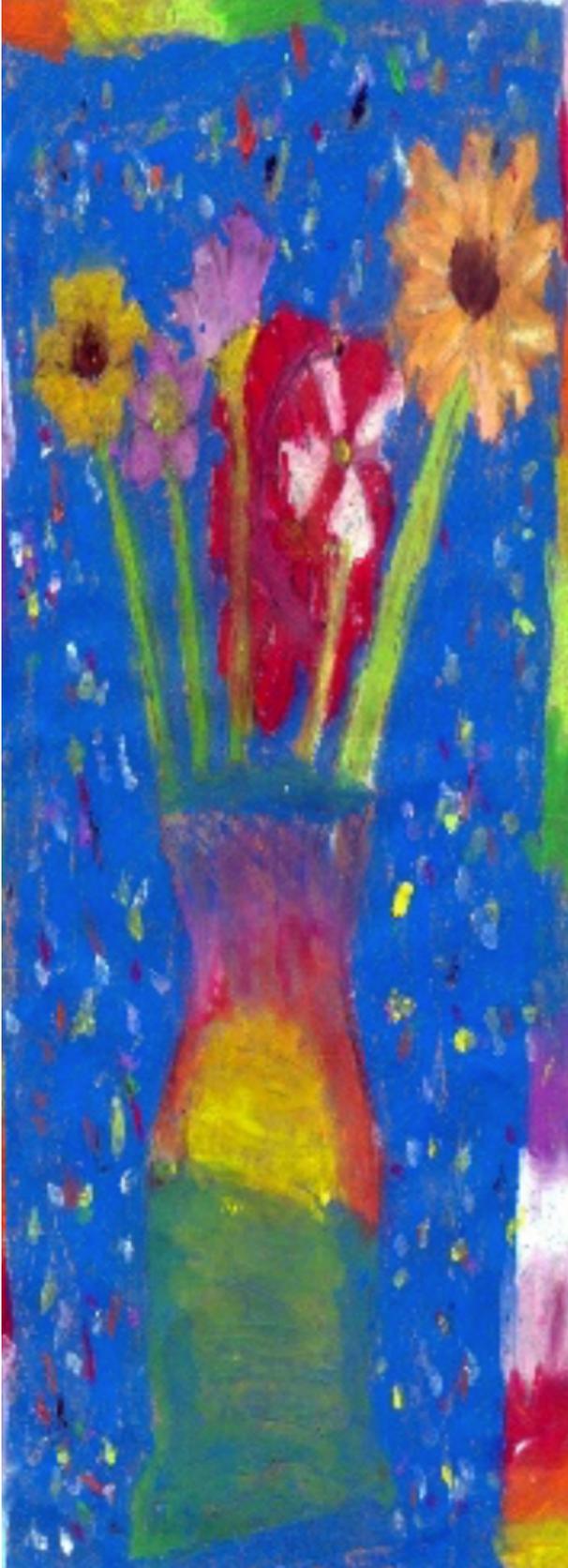
ANNUAL REPORT 2018

Changing Hearts and Minds through the Arts



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SINCE 1974

Since 1974 Educational Arts Team has offered positive cultural, social and recreational experiences for the young people of Jersey City.

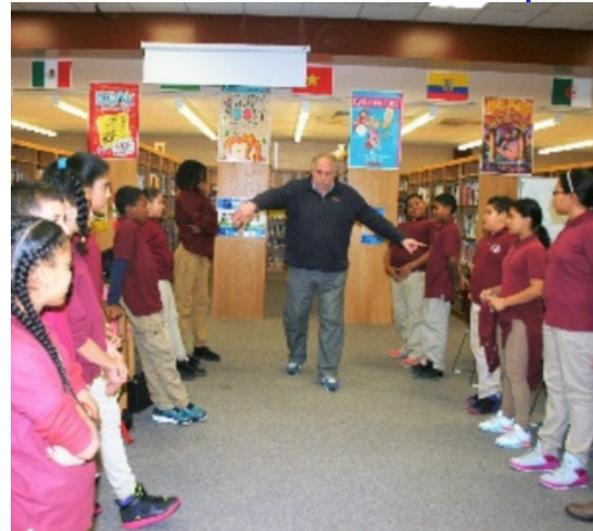
Dramatic Impact, our literacy program, provides struggling and reluctant young readers from low income backgrounds with engaging activities – both in the classroom and after school that have been shown to be effective to improve academic, social and cognitive skills.

The core of our literacy work centers on communication development: speaking and listening, reading, inquiring and writing. Using highly interactive, out-of-your-seat theater-based strategies, we help students explore text from novels and short stories by using acting and directing exercises to access meaning and create verbal and written responses.

In a series of three USDOE projects in the Jersey City Public Schools over a 10-year span (2005 – 2014) independent evaluators found that our literacy work significantly improved the academic achievement, as well as the pro-social, cognitive and critical thinking skills of thousands of young people from the second to the eighth grade.

During 8 weeks of the summer we operate Camp Liberty in a beautiful outdoor setting for young people of diverse ages, races, ethnicities, and economic backgrounds.

The core goal of the Educational Arts Team has been to improve the academic and social lives of young people through innovative programs and creative activities that provide powerful learning experiences and positive group interactions.



A LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, Carmine Tabone

On Sunday night, January 15, 2019, during a segment of the evening news show 60 Minutes, Kai-Fu Lee, writer, artificial intelligence (AI) expert and venture capitalist, whose business has invested tens of billions of dollars into 140 AI startups, claimed that artificial intelligence "is going to change the world more than anything in the history of mankind!"

As an educator, I thought, "What about literacy?"

While AI is certainly a game changing technological advance, it's been literacy that has expanded the human capacity to think new thoughts, enter new worlds, empathize with others, and unlock the imagination. Unfortunately, Mr. Lee's vision of the future, which includes the unbridled proliferation of AI is not terribly supportive of a future literate world.

In *Reader, Come Home: The Reading Brain in a Digital World*, Maryanne Wolf, professor of child development at Tufts University, writes, "We have moved away from the deep reading of different texts and journals and moved towards the skim, light reading of web posts and websites in order to get the information that we want."

Learning to read, write and speak well is neither quaint nor old-fashioned; it's a way of thinking and approaching the world that provides a communication forum that allows introspection, distance and assessment.

I am proud that promoting literacy is at the heart of the work of the Educational Arts Team. Whether through storytelling and theater at Camp Liberty or delving deeply into a text in a middle school classroom, our programs offer positive interactive experiences that inspire young people to read, talk, listen and enjoy each other's company.

That's why Camp Liberty, our summer day camp, and Dramatic Impact, our school-based program, are so important: they create communities of affirmative engagement and dialogue that all children should experience, both now and well into the future.

Carmin Tabone, Ed. S., M.A. has been leading theater and education projects with young people since 1970. He has documented the effectiveness of theater arts integration on academic student outcomes.



SCHOOL PROGRAMS

BRINGING LITERATURE TO LIFE

GRADES K – 12

These highly engaging workshops develop higher order thinking, build vocabulary and teach questioning skills. Once they've shared their thoughts, ideas and opinions verbally throughout the sessions, students can then approach writing as a form of self-expression, rather than as an assignment, completing persuasive, descriptive and narrative writing tasks with purpose.

"I have seen firsthand how these activities develop emotional and social growth! Students in my classes who were shy or reluctant to share ideas really gained confidence and became much more social, not only during the activities, but in classes in general. I have former students who come visit who still talk about how much they enjoy the activities."

- Middle School Language Arts Teacher



**Two students responding to a theme from the curriculum novel, *The Cay*:
"If a person is in trouble, you should do whatever it takes to help."**

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

BULLYING AND DRUG PREVENTION SERIES

GRADES K – 12

This program provides positive, interactive cooperative activities and explores significant social issues that highlight the power of reflecting before acting out and the importance of weighing the effects of our actions.

Besides the social learning, your activities also helped my students make connections to the text and understand character perspectives, a key benefit of reading novels. The lessons also helped my students with essay writing and their PARCC scores.

Students portray and then explore a critical moment in the *Midwife's Apprentice* in which Alice, a young homeless girl, must decide whether or not to save a drowning boy who had been part of a gang that tormented and bullied her.





This mother and her 1st grader proudly display their puppets and scenery.

FAMILY LITERACY EVENTS

GRADES K – 12

Students and their families create a Pop-Up Puppet show: making puppets and scenery and learning to tell a story. These hands-on workshops promote positive family interaction and lay the foundation for a love of reading and learning through shared storytelling and art activities.

“I was told that my son struggles with reading comprehension. Through this extremely creative exercise, we discovered a new way to read together.”

These sessions for teachers and administrators introduce interactive strategies that can be integrated into classroom reading, writing and speaking curriculum.

"With the emphasis on high-stakes testing these activities can help simplify how to attack the PARCC. They give teachers ideas how to experiment and approach classroom activities from a new perspective. We not only discussed activities, but participated and experienced."

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

GRADES K – 12



Examining a theme from the curriculum novel Maniac Magee, teachers debate the fate of a child without a home.

CAMP LIBERTY

Theater and Dance



Each session, campers can participate in dance, acting, puppetry, magic, mime and theater games.

Sports and Swimming



In addition to swimming, campers have the option to play softball, basketball, volleyball, soccer, handball and kickball.

Art and Singing



From watercolor to yarn dolls to theater scenery, the visual arts pervades much of the action at Camp Liberty.

Three times a day campers gather for group singing.

Games and Gardening



Board games, card games and cooperative new games are certainly fun, but they also teach teamwork, problem-solving skills and creativity.

Campers have the opportunity to dig, plant, and weed in multiple urban flower garden spaces.

BY THE NUMBERS

Middle School

996 workshops
11 schools
38 teachers

Grades 2-5

54 workshops
2 schools
20 teachers

Drug Prevention

301 workshops
11 schools
47 teachers

Family Literacy

116 workshops
6 schools
40 teachers

Newark Summer Arts

84 workshops
7 schools
12-19 teachers

Weehawken After School Arts

16 workshops
1 school

Hudson County Summer Arts Program

43 workshops
5 community sites

FINANCES

Revenue	2018	2017	2016
Grants	164,044	149,954	186,511
Donations - Individual	16,696	17,962	9,754
Donations - Corporate	12,241	20,604	22,953
Contingency	45,000	0	0
Fees	540,534	624,600	583,458
Investment Income	-9,186	35,550	25,983
Other	5,443	16,267	5,249
Total	774,772	864,937	833,908
Program Expense			
Camp Liberty	412,126	387,499	457,490
After-School Programs	304,336	353,165	306,885
Total Program Expense	716,462	740,664	764,375
Support Expense			
General Administration	65,877	72,940	64,490
Marketing	0	0	3,760
Events	309	211	1,672
Contingency Fund	0	45,000	0
Total Support Expense	66,186	118,151	69,922
Total Expense	782,647	858,815	834,297

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR DONORS

Camp Liberty would not be possible without your engagement and support.

Agle Family
Agnello Family
Amy Family
Bagunu Family
Bernouy Family
Bergfield Family
Berwick Family
Biasi Marsh Family
Boas Family
Brennan Family
Bumas Family
Colista Family
Conte Family
Cuthbertson Family
Dierig Family
Donaldson Family
Donath Family
Dowling Family
Duif Family
Ehrmann Family
Feinstein Family
Ferrara Family
Fiore Family
Frohworth Family
Freaney Family
Gallagher Family
Gopinath Family
Gosa Family
Governor Family
Granato Family
Greenburger Family
Hashmi Family
Hein Family
Hickey Family
Hines Family
Howlett Family
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Litman Family
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Makris Family
Malabanan-McGrath Family
Meah Family
Miller Family
Mole Family
Morley Family
Morales Family
Moulaison Family
Mueller Family
Murphy Family
Mutha Family
Nacrelli Family
Nallathambi Family
Ndoye Family
Newman Family
Nishi Family

Noth Family
Nussbau Family
O'Connor Family
Overall Family
Panjwani Family
Perez Family
Picker Family
Robert Family
Robertson Family
Robinson Family
Rodriguez Family
Rose Family
Rusignuolo Family
Russell Family
Sachirarwe Family
Sacri Family
Sambul Family
Sangha Family
Santomauro Family
Smith Family
Sommerstein Family
Sperber Family
Stanislaus Family
Steffen Family
Swaminathan Family
Teeters Family
Thanjan Family
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Truong Family
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