



EDUCATIONAL ARTS TEAM

ANNUAL REPORT 2015



www.educationalartsteam.org



TRANSFORMING CHILDREN'S
HEARTS AND MINDS THROUGH
THE ARTS





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Celebrating 40 Years!

The Educational Arts Team engages young people through innovative programs and creative activities
that spark powerful learning experiences and develop positive social interactions.

Educational Arts Team was founded to improve literacy for students in underserved urban schools and provide positive cultural, social and recreational experiences in an outdoor setting during the summer months for local children. We achieve these goals through the two branches of our organization, Dramatic Impact and Camp Liberty.

Dramatic Impact is our in-school literacy program, helping economically disadvantaged young people become better readers and writers, as well as socially matured individuals.

During eight weeks of the summer we operate Camp Liberty in a beautiful outdoor setting that provides artistic, cultural, social and recreational experiences for young people of diverse ages, races, ethnicities, and economic backgrounds, primarily from Jersey City.

In 2016 we are embarking on a capital campaign and seek multiyear commitments and at least one essential funder to achieve the following by the end of 2018:

- Build Dramatic Impact's capacity to improve literacy in low income, urban school districts throughout the New York City/Northern New Jersey area;
- Substantially renovate our arts camp in Liberty State Park for Jersey City, Hoboken and Bayonne children into an upgraded facility that can provide premier cultural and artistic experiences;
- Create a scholarship fund that can provide positive experiences for an additional 25 income-qualified urban youth.

Please consider joining us to meet our ambitious and important objectives.

From the Director

A LETTER FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CARMINE TABONE

Dear Friends of the Educational Arts Team,

On April 16, 2015 more than 100 friends and supporters gathered at the Liberty House to join the Educational Arts Team in celebrating over 40 years of programs for young people. The evening prompted a great deal of reflection for me.

During the year I was visiting #22 School in the Lafayette section of Jersey City. The maintenance man stopped me on the hallway. I thought maybe I was in the wrong part of the building or on the up staircase when I should've been on the down staircase. But then, instead of admonishing me he started singing one of the camp songs with a great smile. I laughed out loud! "Do you remember me? I came to Camp liberty when I was about eight years old. I just loved coming to your camp!"

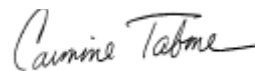
I can't tell you how many times through the years I have been privileged to have received that kind of gift from a 20 or 30 or 40 something year-old: the recollection of a positive experience from childhood involving the Educational Arts Team.

In many ways this is our true purpose --- to create those exceptional moments for children and teenagers, whether in the classroom or at a summer camp.

We never know for sure what joys and trials life will provide each of us. But I try to remember that each moment I get to share my skills and talents with people is a privileged moment.

I'd like to thank all of you, the many families, individuals, community groups, government agencies and corporations, who are responsible for funding and supporting our programs. You've given thousands upon thousands of children many great memories and countless positive educational, artistic and social experiences.

Best,



Carmine Tabone, Ed. S., M.A.

Executive Director of the Team, has been leading theater and education projects with young people since 1970. He has documented the effectiveness theater arts integration can have on academic and social student outcomes.

In-School Programming

BY THE NUMBERS

2034

Workshops Conducted

25

Schools Visited

7184

Students Reached

"Educational Arts Team is the most effective program that I have encountered in Jersey City during my many years of teaching. It has changed my teaching style and has definitely impacted my students' critical thinking and ability to reflect deeply; all with a focus on skill integration."

Ms. Chiaro, 6th Grade Teacher at PS 23



IMPORTANT LITERACY SKILLS

Workshops focused on citing textual evidence, supporting opinions with reasons, understanding character and setting, identifying sequence of events, writing with descriptive detail, and comparing two or more texts.

“The impact of this workshop on my reading and writing abilities has been immense. Every single activity we performed and wrote about has taught me that writing is an expression of your opinions.

Now when I read something, I can picture where it takes place and how the character looks. I feel more comfortable sharing my opinions and speaking in front of my class.”

7th Grade Student at MS 7

Theater Integration, Grades 2-5

Thanks to a grant from the Jersey City Public Schools EAT continues to work with teachers in grades 2-5 on ways of integrating highly engaging arts strategies into the language arts classroom. This project continues the work that was begun during the highly successful series of United States Department of Education grants (2005 to 2014)

The lessons incorporate standards from the new national common core curriculum, and demonstrate ways for teachers

to help students learn to make logical arguments and cite relevant text.

One participating teacher at PS 28 stated,

“Educational Arts Team is always a fun, meaningful experience for my students. It’s by far the most interesting and engaging workshop they participate in.”

Drug & Alcohol Prevention

This program provided a series of five 90 minute workshops for 20 groups of young people that helped students examine a number of important prevention issues. Activities included role play, tableau work, script writing, discussion and presentation on how the choices we make effect not only ourselves, but others as well. The workshops make use of both children’s literature and local news articles, while exploring social values and examining ethical issues.

Bringing Literature to Life

Thanks to grants from the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation and the City of Jersey City 20 middle school teachers are learning new approaches such as process drama (the creation of a make-believe world through improvised encounters); and drama inquiry (exploring issues and themes through role to increase student learning and engagement) to increase academic performance and improve the interpersonal relationships of over 400 young people.

Family Literacy

GRADES K-2



Thanks to a grant from the Turrell Foundation, EAT provided over 500 parents the opportunity to work with their young children (K – 2nd grade) on a storytelling and puppetry activity.

The funding enabled approximately 3000 students to see a short puppet show in the classrooms.

The next day, many of these children worked with their parents on their own puppet presentation.

The program also offered parents information and techniques to strengthen literacy development at home.

The workshops gave families an opportunity to be actively involved in their young child's educational and social growth, in turn, promoting positive family relationships.

The sessions served to improve language arts literacy skills through exposure to storytelling and drama; and support the development of communication and interpersonal skills and valuable personal attitudes among young children.

The Family Literacy Project aimed at building language and literacy skills and instilling a love of reading in children, grades K-2.



CAMP LIBERTY



Art

From water colors to yarn dolls to theater scenery, art pervades much of the action at Camp Liberty. Campers are encouraged to pursue self expression in new and creative ways, while learning techniques as well as art history. The art program is led by a qualified staff, many of whom teach art in the JCPS during the school year.



Sports

Campers remain physically active each day at Camp Liberty through a variety of sports and recreation activities. In addition to swimming, campers have the option to play Softball, Basketball, Soccer, Handball, and Kickball. Through these activities, campers build strength as well as learn sportsmanship and teamwork.



Theater

The theater arts program at Camp Liberty is one of the main draws for many attending families. Each session, campers get to act, sing, dance, and design scenery for a play, which is directed by talented senior staff members, and performed on the last day of the session. In 2015, performances included "Black Magic," "The Pretzel Girl," "Anansi's Story," and "As the Fates Would Have It."



Games

Aimed at teaching teamwork, problem-solving skills, and creativity, the games at Camp Liberty are a popular activity. Options include small group games, board games, card games, and solo thinking games. Larger group games, such as Capture the Flag, are also favored.

Finances

AT A GLANCE

REVENUE	2015	2014	2013
Grants	\$221,392	\$435,315	\$435,196
Donations - Individual	\$7,438	\$6,502	\$4,181
Donations - Corporate	\$23,663	\$1,998	\$7,458
Contingency			\$120,000
Fees	\$589,279	\$481,387	\$359,896
Investment Income	(\$13,084)	\$2,700	\$21,839
Other	\$20,560	\$5,013	\$4,680
Total Income	\$849,248	\$932,915	\$953,249
PROGRAM EXPENSES			
Camp Liberty	\$362,251	\$270,463	\$318,377
In-School Programs	\$316,551	\$440,668	\$400,333
After-School Programs		\$7,011	\$16,390
Total Program Expense	\$678,802	\$718,142	\$735,100
SUPPORT EXPENSES			
General Administration	\$103,747	\$115,353	\$142,249
Marketing		\$244	\$69,879
Events	\$11,621		
Contingency Fund			
Total Support Expense	\$115,368	\$115,597	\$212,128
Total Expense	\$794,170	\$833,739	\$947,228



THANK YOU!

The Educational Arts Team and Camp Liberty would like to acknowledge the following individuals, families, foundations, and organizations for their generous support and partnership. Without them, we would not be able to fulfill our mission and have such an impact on the community.

Agraz Family
Kalimah Ahmad
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Farmer Family
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Flynn Family
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Green Family
Nancy Healy
Hines Family
Ishmael Family
Kim Family
Lado Family
Michael Leon
Lipsits Family
Lopez Family
Mahalick Family

Mankoff Family
Meah Family
Mitchell Family
Murphy Family
Richard Myrlak
Navarro Family
O'Connor Family
O'Kane Family
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**THE
TURRELL
FUND**



The **HENRY & MARILYN
TAUB Foundation**



★★★★★★
JERSEY CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ENVISION EXCELLENCE AND EQUITY EVERYWHERE





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