



Funds Distribution Report

Recipient Organization:

Arts Corps

Address:

4408 Delridge Way SW, Suite 110
Seattle, WA 98106

Contact:

(206) 722-5440
<https://artscorps.org>

Organization's General Goals:

Arts Corps is a nationally recognized youth arts education organization that works to address the race and income-based opportunity gap in access to arts education. Through participation in our arts integration, out-of-school arts and teen leadership programs, youth experience the transformative power of creativity and gain a deepened belief in their own capacity to learn, take risks, persist and achieve.

Date of Award:

2018 Q4

Level:

\$2,501 to \$5,000

For more information, please read the attached report from Arts Corps.

8802 27th Ave NE
Tulalip, WA 98271

TulipCares.org

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Final Report to Tulalip Cares- July 2020

Re. General Operating Support- March 29, 2019
www.artscorps.org

Organizational Overview

Arts Corps is a nationally recognized youth arts education organization that works to address the race and income-based opportunity gap in access to arts education. Through participation in our arts integration, out-of-school arts and teen leadership programs, youth experience the transformative power of creativity and gain a deepened belief in their own capacity to learn, take risks, persist and achieve. In 2012, Arts Corps was awarded the highest national honor in community-based arts education by the White House, The National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award. In 2014, our arts integration program, the Creative Schools Initiative, was recognized by the Department of Education with a \$1.75 million grant to research the impact of arts-integrated learning on students' academic success.

The most significant impact that Arts Corps had was creating a community of self-expression for our students and giving them an opportunity to showcase what they developed. The relationships built between our TA and our young people will have an impact beyond the school year, for which we are grateful.

- Program Partner

Progress & Results

Arts Corps' 2019- 2020 arts education programs successfully met our goals of providing underserved youth with transformative arts learning opportunities that develop artistic skills and foster creative capacities (also known as 21st century skills). Arts Corps worked with over 3330 students at 24 partner sites. Approximately 77% of the youth who participated in Arts Corps programs come from low-income families and 84% are youth of color.

With the COVID-19 school closures in March 2020, Arts Corps staff worked quickly to pivot to remote programming. Although our after-school enrichment classes were cancelled, we continued with most teen programs by offering online classes, performance opportunities, and in some cases, technology resources and support. Our arts integration programs have shifted to provide a number of resources for teachers, as

well as video recordings of arts lessons, and art kits/lesson packets for families distributed via meal sites.

Arts Corps also provided over 20 professional development sessions for 120 teachers last year, this included a cohort of 50 teachers from Highline Public Schools, who participated in PD in culturally responsive arts integration since the closure of schools in March. Over the course of the year we have also presented at 5 conferences, reaching 250 educators and creative youth development



professionals.

Creative Youth Development

Through our 2019-20 Creative Youth Development Program, Arts Corps continued to engage youth ages 5- 19 in high-quality after school arts instruction, arts showcases, open mic performances, writing circles, poetry slams, and leadership activities. We provided 137 classes, and held 74 performances/showcases for a total of 1434 youth in Seattle and South King County. After school enrichment classes included spoken word poetry, music production, choir, visual arts, and theatre.

Our Teen Artist Program included opportunities for 14 young people to participate in intensive workshops and internships that explore the intersection of community organizing and artistry. Over the course of the year, these young leaders successfully implemented the annual Youth Speaks Seattle Poetry Slam Series, through which 20 teens performed at spoken word poetry slams (2 in-person and 2 virtual slams) before a combined audience of approximately 270 community members.



In its second year, the Learning Immersive Technologies (LIT) program continued to address the need for low-income students of color in our region to gain equitable access to STEM fields through arts education. Teaching artists worked with a core group of 8 high school students twice a week on projects based in virtual reality, augmented reality and video game creation. Our COVID transition to virtual LIT classes was seamless with Arts Corps supplying computers and other technology support for participants to work from home. We also piloted our first virtual hackathon event in May where the high school students taught coding to a group of 24 middle school youth.

Arts Corps' Art Space Program offers therapeutic, creative experiences to help youth who have experienced abuse and/or homelessness develop their voice and express their feelings in safe and imaginative ways. Classes are taught by master level teaching artists with specialized skills in working with youth in crisis. During the 2019-2020 school year, Arts Corps provided 34 quarter-long classes for a total of 165 students living in low-incoming housing sites, residential crisis centers and through social service sites.

Our partnership with Seattle Public Schools' Interagency Academy has continued to grow. This network of small alternative high schools is designed to provide extra support for students who have not found success at traditional schools due to a wide range of oppressions and factors. Arts Corps now holds classes at 8 of their 13 campuses, where we provide up to 144 hours of arts learning each year at a single campus. The arts have become a core strategy for student engagement and community building at Interagency. An exciting highlight of this partnership is the Print for Life program,

MAKE ART ANYWAY.

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where students design and screenprint apparel and accessories to sell at farmers markets and other events city-wide. In the past year, 12 students built on the foundations of their artistic skills and gained hands-on experience as leaders and arts entrepreneurs in their communities.

Arts Integration

Through our 2019-2020 Creative Schools Program, Arts Corps successfully delivered school-day arts classes to a total of 1958 students. In these arts integrated residencies, teaching artists collaborate with classroom teachers at high-needs and low performing schools with the goal of positively impacting student learning, engagement, and school culture. Teaching artists partner with classroom teachers to develop and implement culturally-responsive project-based lesson plans that integrate the arts with core subject areas while deepening academic learning and building social emotional learning. This

collaboration strengthens the learning environment and expands the teachers' ability to engage students creatively. Through this program, Arts Corps delivered teaching artist residencies at 7 Highline Public Schools, 2 Seattle Public Schools, and 1 school in the Lake Washington School District.

Three of these schools participated in our most intensive school-based program, Creative Schools LAB (Learning Arts & Belonging), reaching approximately 1300 students. This program places teaching artists, who specialize in culturally responsive arts integration, in a school for 20 hours each week. As part of the school community, they

collaborate with teachers to provide arts integrated learning, as well as providing arts-based family engagement activities over the course of the school year. As COVID-19 caused school closures, teaching artists continued to provide remote, arts-based lessons. One fourth grade teacher remarked:

Their artwork came out SO WELL! I also noticed students did their art assignments long before finishing their literacy or math assignments. I had two kids this week that art was the ONLY assignment they completed, which just goes to show how badly our kids are desiring expression and creativity during this time.

In Conclusion: Through our 2019-2020 programs, Arts Corps successfully met our overall goals related to student learning and development, as well as narrowing the race and income-based opportunity gap in arts education. We are deeply grateful to Tulalip Cares for your support of Arts Corps' programs. We value your partnership as we work to cultivate a generation of youth with the creative skills and courage necessary to bring about a more just and vibrant world.

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