



## Annual Report Form 2014

Date: 7/17/14

Site Name: Iowa City

### Vision Statement

The vision of the Iowa City Community Arts team is to provide ongoing access to diverse, interactive, and inspiring arts experiences for every K–8 child in Iowa City Community School District. Early and consistent participation in the arts develops creative problem solvers, fosters interdisciplinary learning and cross-cultural understanding, and cultivates lifetime participation in the arts.

We will use a multi-sector approach that reaches out to the entire community through elevated parent engagement, strong volunteer participation, and effective partnerships. In the Iowa City area, the arts have always been an essential community resource; these valuable resources will be mobilized to ensure every child has equal access to the arts.

### Goals

1.	Infrastructure: establish the four main components for infrastructure for Any Given Child
2.	Funding: Raise \$25,000 a year for 2 years
3.	Programming: Support current arts programming and help initiate new programs in response to needs in theatre and dance in grades K-2 and 7-8
4.	Communications: communicate the vision and mission to a variety of different constituents (parents, educators, students, artists, business owners & funders)

(over)

Action Steps	Goal Area Addressed	Measurement of Success/ Numbers Served	Date(s) Action Step Occurred
Establish a committee/ board to oversee the project (5-7 people). Identify the charge of the committee and committee composition. Will likely have monthly meetings.	1	Have a partnership arranged between the CAT team and the ICCSD to support the new AGC coordinator position.	June 2013
Formalize committee structure.	1	Completed	June 2013
Determine location where AGC coordinator will work.	1	Completed	July 2014
Start talking to funders.	2	Process has started	April 2014
Explore the school district foundation's role & determine a proper fiscal agent.	2	ICCSDF will be the fiscal agent for the position.	May 2014
Develop budget and fundraising strategies to secure funding from varied sources.	2	Potential donor list has been created and circulated.	January 2014
Presentation to building principals about AGC goals and integrating into school improvement plans with staff input.	3	Pam gave a presentation about AGC to principals, will continue to do this.	August 2013
Create pilot programs that meet needs identified by school mapping tool and CAT. (There are two programs currently identified – one from Orchestra Iowa, one from Hancher.)	3	New programs responded to gaps identified by AGC. Programs have better links to curriculum. Over 5000 students reached.	December 2013
Create a template for pilot activities that can be edited and recreated for future programs focused on common core.	3	Completed	December 2013
Improve arts organizations capacity to learn about common core and school standards.	3	30 members of arts orgs attended a presentation on the common core.	April 2014
Develop a communications timeline.	4	Completed first round of communications by October 2013.	June 2013
Clarify what input and help we need from key early partners. Identify target audiences	4	Completed	July 2013
Identify ways to share outcomes and information up to this point. One page simplified document.	4	One-page created	September 2013
Announcement Event in the fall with a webpage launch.	4	Completed	October 2013
Develop multiple tools (brochure, video) describing AGC vision and goals.	4	Video & brochure created	October 2013

**Please tell us about any changes in arts education policies; or increases in funding, media attention, or staffing, as a result of your Any Given Child project.**

In the spring of 2014, the Iowa City Community School District had budget reductions district-wide. Numerous programs are being scaled back and/or eliminated. Some arts programs are being scaled back, namely performance music at grades 4-12. Band, chorus, and orchestra student lessons (mostly grades 4-6) will be larger—in previous years it was 2-3 students in a lesson, now it will be larger groups of 4-5 participants. Students won't start orchestra until 5th grade, rather than 4th grade; currently we have 400 elementary orchestra students in 4th grade – then it drops to 177 and 112.

At first glance, this reduction of music instruction highlights the AGC mission to increase student experiences in the arts and directly speaks to the need in the district. These reductions were presented to the board April 8. Related to the budget cuts, approx. 50 teachers have taken early retirement, but no teachers have been laid off. These positions have not been replaced. Overall, the budget cuts are a very complex process. In light of this, AGC is a well-timed initiative, ensuring we give all students K-8 opportunities to participate in the arts. These cuts have given our team a renewed sense of urgency.

The superintendent is calling this a one-time cut; the district has been spending more than it has been taking in. The AGC team is using this opportunity to raise money and get the ball rolling for the program. As a team, we are trying to be proactive and use this challenging situation to our advantage.

Most recently, the CAT team, the ICCSD, and the school district foundation have come to an agreement on the structure for the AGC coordinator position. The coordinator will be housed in the ICCSD main office and report to the Director of Community Affairs at the district and the AGC Board. The position will be funded by the community to support the coordination of the program. We are moving forward with advertising the position; our goal is to have someone in place by October 2014.

**Please update the statistics for your school districts below.**

Number of students in grades K-8: 9161

Number of teachers serving grades K-8: approx. 660

Number of schools serving grades K-8: 22

Number of low-income schools (K-8): K-6 = 8 and 7-8 = 2 (at or above the district average of 35.40%)

Percentage of students with free or reduced lunch (K-8): 35.40%

Number of persistently low-achieving schools (K-8): 2

Number of K-8 students with disabilities: approximately 12%

Graduation rate: 4 year cohort for the school year 2012-13 is 87.90%