

Ensuring the Arts for  The Kennedy Center

ANY GIVEN CHILD®

JACKSONVILLE, FL

DUVAL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Students K-8—80,129

Teachers serving K-8—5,656

Schools serving K-8—130+

District Budget—\$1.7 billion

VISION

The arts have the power to engage, enrich, and inspire children to build creative and prosperous communities. Duval County Public Schools, in partnership with the Jacksonville community, will ensure every K-8 student equal access to a high quality arts education.



GOALS FOR ARTS EDUCATION

The Community Arts Team set the following long-term goals for arts education in Jacksonville:

- Provide all students in grades K-5 with sequential instruction in the visual & performing arts and provide all students in grades 6-8 with access to sequential instruction.
- Increase professional development opportunities in both the arts and arts integration for classroom teachers, arts educators, administrators, arts organizations, and teaching artists.
- Strengthen existing partnerships and forge dynamic cross-sector collaborations to expand the quality and reach of arts education throughout Duval County Public Schools.
- Advocate for the importance of arts education to families, educators, policymakers, students, and business leaders through a concerted communications plan.
- Ensure the sustainability of the initiative by mobilizing the community and securing financial support.



OUTCOMES

- In March 2016, *Any Given Child* Jacksonville recorded and aired the program *Arts Education: Lift Every Voice* on local news channel WJCT. The event focused on the topic of racial challenges in quality arts education and featured keynote speaker Sonia Manzano of *Sesame Street* and a panel of arts teachers, organization leaders, and advocates.
- A new arts integration position was created at the district level to assist in the conversion of four elementary schools to arts integration centers in 2016-2017. Additionally, positions for a visual art specialist and an elementary music specialist have been created.
- Schools in the district are prioritizing arts integration. The new magnet school Ft. Caroline Middle School will become the district's second arts magnet middle school and will have a dual focus on World IB. Several elementary schools are being converted to form two grade K-2 and 3-6 arts integration centers.
- In multiple ways, the district mobilized financial and community support. The Duval County Public Schools arts department created Instruments for Change, a donation program that collected \$40,000 worth of gently used instruments in its first six months.
- During the 2014-2015 school year, *Any Given Child* Jacksonville worked to ensure that Duval County Public Schools employed at least one full time art and one full time music teacher in every elementary school and at least one full time art or music teacher in each middle school.

CONTACTS

- Mayor** Lenny Curry
- School District** Dr. Nikolai P. Vitti, Superintendent, Duval County Public Schools
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