

# THE ARTS

[CREATE] [INNOVATE] [CONNECT]

## HOUSTON

### THE ARTS CONNECT TO STUDENTS

Students in arts-rich schools show higher levels of engagement in school, increased aspirations for higher education, and higher attendance rates.



### THE ARTS CONNECT TO DEEPER LEARNING

Arts integration is a powerful tool for teachers of any subject or grade level, blending artistic practices with core academic subjects to achieve rigor and depth of learning.



### THE ARTS CONNECT TO THE FUTURE

The skills most valued by employers today include creativity, adaptability and collaboration—all competencies deepened through creative learning opportunities.

### THE ARTS CONNECT TO STUDENTS

Providing more creative learning experiences at school is a proven way to help draw students into a lifelong love of learning. Students who attend arts rich schools show **higher levels of engagement** in school and have **increased aspirations for higher education**.<sup>1</sup> Access to the arts also **boosts attendance rates**, positively impacting instructional progress across core disciplines and funneling more dollars into our local schools.<sup>2</sup>

### THE ARTS CONNECT TO DEEPER LEARNING

Creative learning is the best learning. Cutting edge research in education overwhelmingly demonstrates that the most **impactful learning experiences** for students do not happen in a lecture hall or on a worksheet, they happen **when learners ask questions, make connections, and most of all, create**.<sup>3</sup> Arts integration is a powerful tool for teachers of any subject or grade level, blending artistic practices and hands-on learning with core academic subjects to **achieve rigor and depth of learning**.

### THE ARTS CONNECT TO THE FUTURE

Houston's finest engineers, doctors, business leaders, and change makers drive our city and our economy using the very skills that the arts are positioned to deliver: a critical eye, innovative ways of thinking, and persistence through difficult problems.<sup>4</sup> **An arts rich education also bolsters social-emotional development, ensuring that our future leaders are well prepared to be empathic, open minded members of society**.<sup>5</sup>

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[1] Daniel H. Bowen & Brian Kisida, "Investigating Causal Effects of Arts Education Experiences: Experimental Evidence from Houston's Arts Access Initiative," Research Report for the Houston Independent School District 7, no.4 (2019) [2] "2019 State of the Arts Report," Texas Cultural Trust, 2019, <http://txculturaltrust.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/658131-Texas-Cultural-v2-Pages.pdf> [3] Mitchel Resnik, Lifelong Kindergarten: Cultivating Creativity Through Projects, Passions, Peers, and Play (Boston, MIT Press, 2018). [4] Ellen Winner & Lois Hetland, "Art For Our Sake: School Arts Classes Matter More Than Ever-But Not For The Reasons You Think," Arts Education Policy Review, 109(5), (2008) 29-32. [5] Camille A. Farrington et al. "Arts Education and Social-Emotional Learning Outcomes Among K-12 Students: Developing a Theory of Action," Ingenuity, 2019. [https://www.ingenuity-inc.org/filebin/images/slideshow\\_images/Spencer\\_Report\\_final\\_June\\_2019.pdf](https://www.ingenuity-inc.org/filebin/images/slideshow_images/Spencer_Report_final_June_2019.pdf)