

Creative School Institute

Accelerating Arts Education and Creative Learning in HISD

What is the Creative School Institute?

Arts Connect Houston, in partnership with Houston Independent School District, HISD's Fine Arts Department and the Powell Foundation, are excited to launch the **Creative School Institute (CSI)**.

In its initial pilot, the CSI will bring together a group of 5 elementary schools to focus on principal leadership and planning, teacher training in foundational arts integration strategies, and the creation of an innovative group project designed to facilitate campus' continuous commitment to growth in the arts.

The CSI model is designed to create the right conditions for school leaders and teachers to embrace the arts in key areas, including strategic planning, curriculum creation, and campus culture.

About The CSI

The Goal

To equip school leaders and teachers with the tools needed to achieve their campus goals through and with the arts!

Campus Benefits

- Teacher PD and Support for Arts Integration, SEL and Culturally Responsive Teaching.
- Transform School Culture
- Increased Parent Engagement
- Implementation of Innovative Arts Project
- Partnerships with Arts & Culture Organizations
- Strategic Planning and Support
- Leadership Networking

Funding & Support

We will invest nearly \$25,000 into each CSI campus to support centering the arts in the lives of their students.

That money includes \$5,000 to help implement arts programming over the course of three semesters.

\$6,000 to implement two innovative arts projects.

Additional money will be provided to support extra-duty pay for teachers to attend professional development outside of the work day.

"... the arts have been an inseparable part of the human journey; indeed, we depend on the arts to carry us toward the fullness of our humanity. We value them for themselves, and because we do, we believe knowing and practicing them is fundamental to the healthy development of our children's minds and spirits. That is why, in any civilization - ours included - **the arts are inseparable from the very meaning of the term 'education.'** We know from long experience that no one can claim to be truly educated who lacks basic knowledge and skills in the arts."

- *National Standards for Arts Education*



Project Timeline

Fall 2021, Leadership Cohort Strategic Planning

The School Leadership Cohort will be comprised of the Principal, Assistant Principal and/or any other Tier II leader from each selected campus. Together we will work to challenge the current arts education paradigm and develop a plan to support the arts as a central part of the school culture by intentionally using the fine arts to address campus priorities.

Spring 2022, Teacher Cohort Training

The Teacher Cohort will be comprised of a small group of teachers selected by the principals. Through foundational arts integration training, teachers will have the opportunity to explore how to apply art-based (and supporting pedagogies including culturally relevant teaching and social emotional learning) into their contexts. This training will also prepare teachers to support colleagues in arts integration training.

Fall 2022, Innovative Project Launch and Community Partnerships

The Teacher Cohort will participate in continued training on arts integration. In addition, the teacher cohort will develop and begin implementation of final innovative project. Campus Leadership Cohort will work to support the development of the final innovative project and the continued implementation of strategic plan.

Spring 2023 - Innovative Project Culmination and Community Spotlight

Launch final innovative project. Reflect and provide input for future campus-wide fine arts strategic plan.

CSI Leadership

Arts Connect Houston

- Deborah Lugo, Executive Director
- Faith Hillis, Capacity Building Manager and CSI Project Lead
- Arts and Culture Partner Organizations

HISD Fine Arts Department

- Wenden Sanders, Fine Arts Director
- Craig Hauschildt, Arts Integration Specialist and CSI Project Lead

Additional Partners

- Rick Cruz, HISD Deputy Superintendent
- Brent Hasty, Executive Director MINDPOP



For More Information Please Contact

faith@artsconnecthouston.org
&
craig.hauschildt@houstonisd.org