

celebrating 10 years



Annual Report 2011

Arts @ Large is an innovative program designed to foster curiosity, inquisitiveness, persistence and transformational learning for students using literacy, performing, visual and multimedia arts as learning tools across all academic content areas.

Professional development for teachers, after school providers and the artist community are at the core of the Arts @ Large mission. Collaborative learning environments for educators are designed that result in unique, imaginative curriculum where creative learning is the platform to express knowledge through all senses.



Created in 2001 by Milwaukee Public Schools through funding from the U. S. Department of Education, Arts @ Large became a nonprofit organization in 2005 to join with local, regional and national funders to maximize resources for K-12 MPS schools. A@L tirelessly advocates for equity in creative education for all students, encouraging the pairing of licensed arts specialists with the artist community to create an inclusive atmosphere of classroom learning.



We believe that in ten years when we look back at Arts @ Large, the 2010/11 school year will be the one that really helped define our organization. We celebrated our first ten years of providing quality arts opportunities to students in the Milwaukee Public Schools. What began with just the two of us, “lean and mean,” finally graduated from working out of our cars and homes. We eventually grew to having a small staff of dedicated employees and a space that we feel is our very own home. Our new location is in the heart of Walker’s Point and it has captured our heart and imagination. It offers gallery space to display and showcase the many talents of our students and artists that we are so privileged to work with on a daily basis. We have office space and work space to offer professional development trainings. This summer we hosted a summer arts camp and partnered with our wonderful new neighbors, Walker’s Point Center for the Arts, to provide programming for more than 60 K-8 students. This gallery space was something that we have always dreamed about from the very beginning and in the Spring of 2011 this dream of ours became a reality. We can still hardly believe it!

We cannot say thank you enough to the schools, principals, teachers, after school and CLC providers and of course our students that help to make the Arts @ Large program

come to life in our schools. Literally, we could not do this without you. A special thank you to the artists that work side-by-side with our teachers and students.

It is an amazing opportunity to inspire and motivate those around you. We know how very hard our teachers work and to be able to listen and help facilitate their creative ideas around student learning and the arts is a blessing and a gift. It has transformed us as an organization and it pushes us to do more for more students.

While we are all very proud of the many accomplishments that we have achieved over this past year and throughout the ten years, there is still more work to be done, more schools that need our help, more students that deserve to have the arts as a part of their educational experience. We know that we need to continue to work to improve our efforts. Our kids deserve the very best.

When the arts are part of an educational environment, barriers that exist between disciplines are broken down by a sense of discovery and wonder. Students are given the opportunity to exercise their imaginations, make new connections, transcend limitations, and realize their potential.

As we look back over the past ten years, it truly has been an amazing journey. We have worked hard and accomplished some incredible things. We continue to be overwhelmed by the talents that surround us and the generosity of the local community that helps us to provide artistic programs and services for our students. Our entire staff is committed to continue the work and the journey, and even though we do not know exactly where it will lead us, we know that wherever that may be, it is where we belong. Thanks to the many supporters of Arts @ Large for helping us to do what we love to do. You inspire and challenge us and for that we are grateful.

Kim & Teri



Can you imagine what
I would do if I could
do all I can?

Sun Tzu

2001 MPS District creates new program connecting arts teachers, classroom teachers and the arts community to enhance classroom learning in 4 pilot middle schools. All MPS schools have licensed art, music and phy-ed specialists.

“art in school is a way to express yourself, and you can just put anything on there—it’s like there are no mistakes.” 6th Grade Student from Fairview School

Milwaukee Public Schools

53rd Street School
95th Street School
Browning Elementary
Brown Street Academy
Clarke Street School
James Fennimore Cooper Elementary School
El Puente High School
Green Bay Avenue School
Hamlin Garland Elementary School
Hawley Environmental School
Hopkins Street School
Albert E. Kagel Elementary School
Keefe Avenue Elementary School
Lowell Elementary School
Maple Tree School
NOVA School
River Trail School of Math, Science and Technology
Albert Story School
Gilbert Stuart Elementary School
Escuela Vieau School

Eau Claire Area School District

(A Special Initiative with the Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities)

Longfellow Elementary School
Roosevelt Elementary School

Special Project Schools

Elm Creative Arts School
Fairview Elementary School
Hartford University School for Urban Explorations
Indian Community School
Kilmer South High School
Tipppecanoe School for the Arts and Humanities
U. S. Grant Elementary School
Washington High School
Yeshiva Elementary School



100% of teachers and principals surveyed “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that Arts @ Large was a positive partner with staff in creating programs to fit school needs and that Arts @ Large has encouraged teachers and artists to work together as a team.¹

Creativity is allowing yourself to make mistakes. Art is knowing which ones to keep.

Scott Adams



▼ 2002 U. S. Department of Education provides \$1.5 million to expand the pilot program.

2001 2002

2011

“The students are inspired to come to school because of the different activities they are learning through the arts; it gives them the pleasure to feel proud and confident of themselves.” *Teacher Yolanda Estante*

Funding Partners

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Brew City Bruisers
JPMorgan Chase & Co.
Greater Milwaukee Foundation
Greater Milwaukee Foundation Mary L. Nohl Fund
Harley-Davidson Foundation
Richard and Ethel Herzfeld Foundation
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Milwaukee Public Schools pARTnership for the Arts Fund
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Jewish Museum Milwaukee
Pat Josten
Lowe's
M&I Bank Volunteers
Milwaukee Public Schools
Music Design
Norwood Neighborhood Group
SB Framing Gallery
Service Painting Corporation
Sherman Park Neighborhood Association





I've been absolutely terrified every moment of my life - and I've never let it keep me from doing a single thing I wanted to do.

Georgia O'Keeffe



2003 Arts @ Large creates a new logo and officially brands itself.

2001

2003

2011

“The more the projects became their own, the more proud and involved they became.” Artist Julie Calteaux

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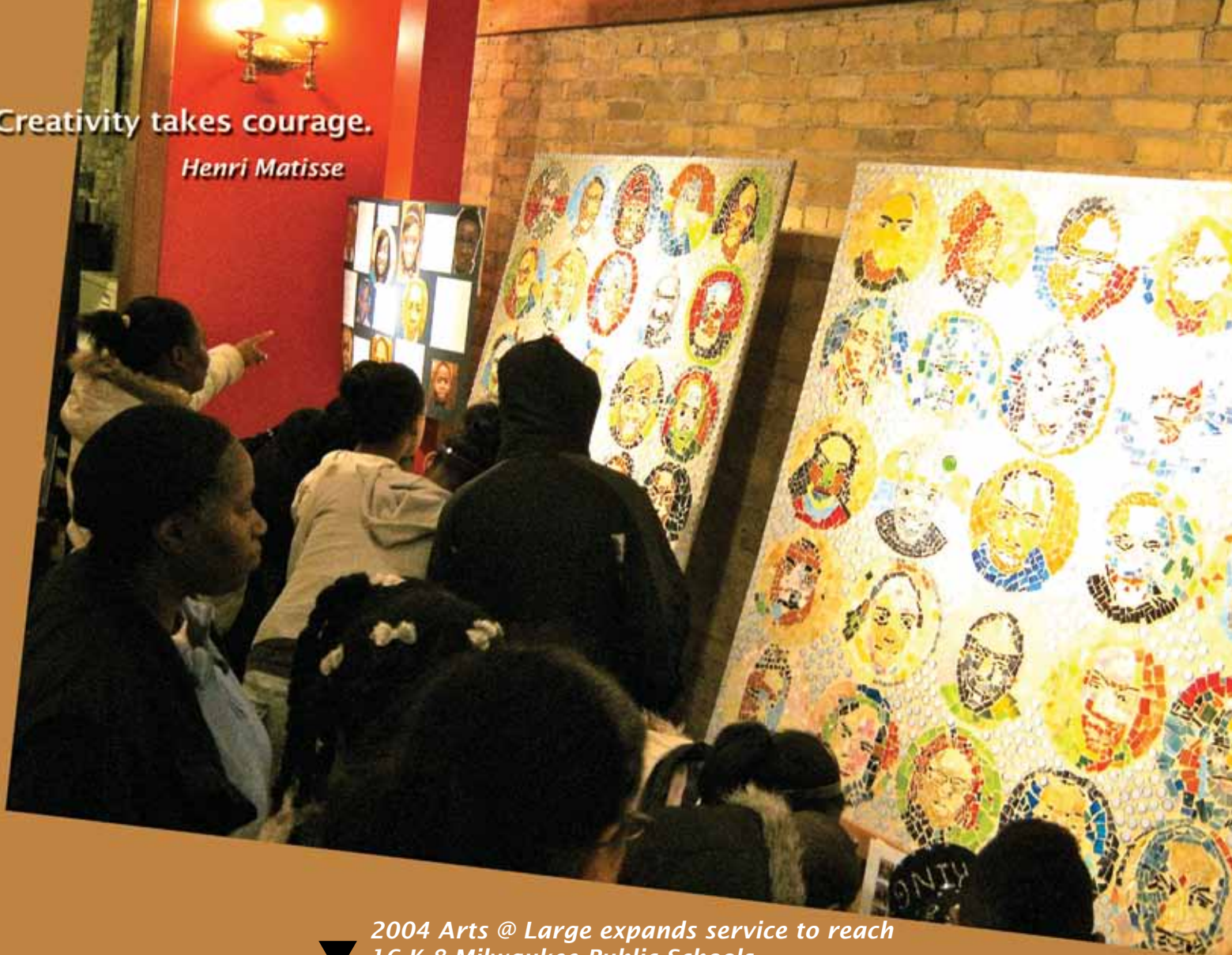
Newsletter Design: ypoonsDesigns



100% of principals and teachers surveyed “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that students can express ideas through arts in the classroom; and that Arts @ Large helped motivate all students to work together and learn.

Creativity takes courage.

Henri Matisse



2004 Arts @ Large expands service to reach
16 K-8 Milwaukee Public Schools

2001

2004

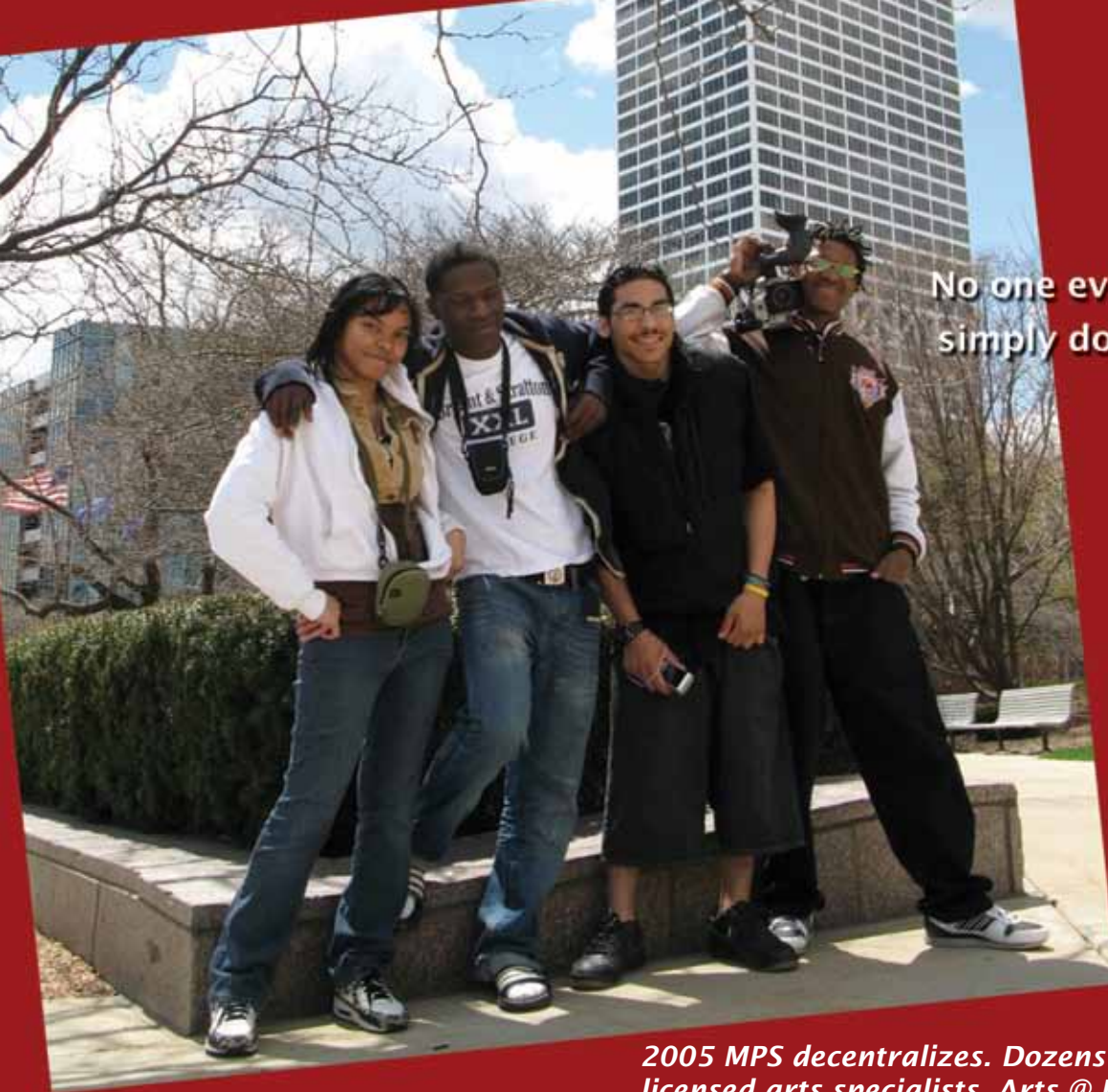
2011

“There’s a zero tolerance policy for ignorance of the soul...the zero tolerance policy is really how we should be.” Excerpt from Zero-Tolerance Policy by Neosha Hampton



Arts @ Large has studied the impact of its programs from many different perspectives using a variety of research methods. Data show that Arts @ Large programming has uniquely benefitted students, regardless of their backgrounds or needs.

By the end of Arts @ Large program participation, Emotional Intelligence (EQ) post-testing revealed that 60% of students had positively increased their overall Emotional Intelligence Scores. This growth occurred as a direct result of Arts @ Large participation.



No one ever attains success by simply doing what is required.

Charles Kendall Adams

2005 MPS decentralizes. Dozens of schools lose licensed arts specialists. Arts @ Large responds by creating a nonprofit organization to maximize resources by creating partnerships with the funding community.

2001

2005

2011

“Thanks for helping us to change the culture of our school.” *Arts @ Large School Teacher*

Emotional Intelligence benefits of Arts @ Large programming include: improved self-awareness and management, ability to cope with challenges, improved reasoning and self-guidance, and better teamwork and cooperation (with increased empathy and pursuit of noble goals)².

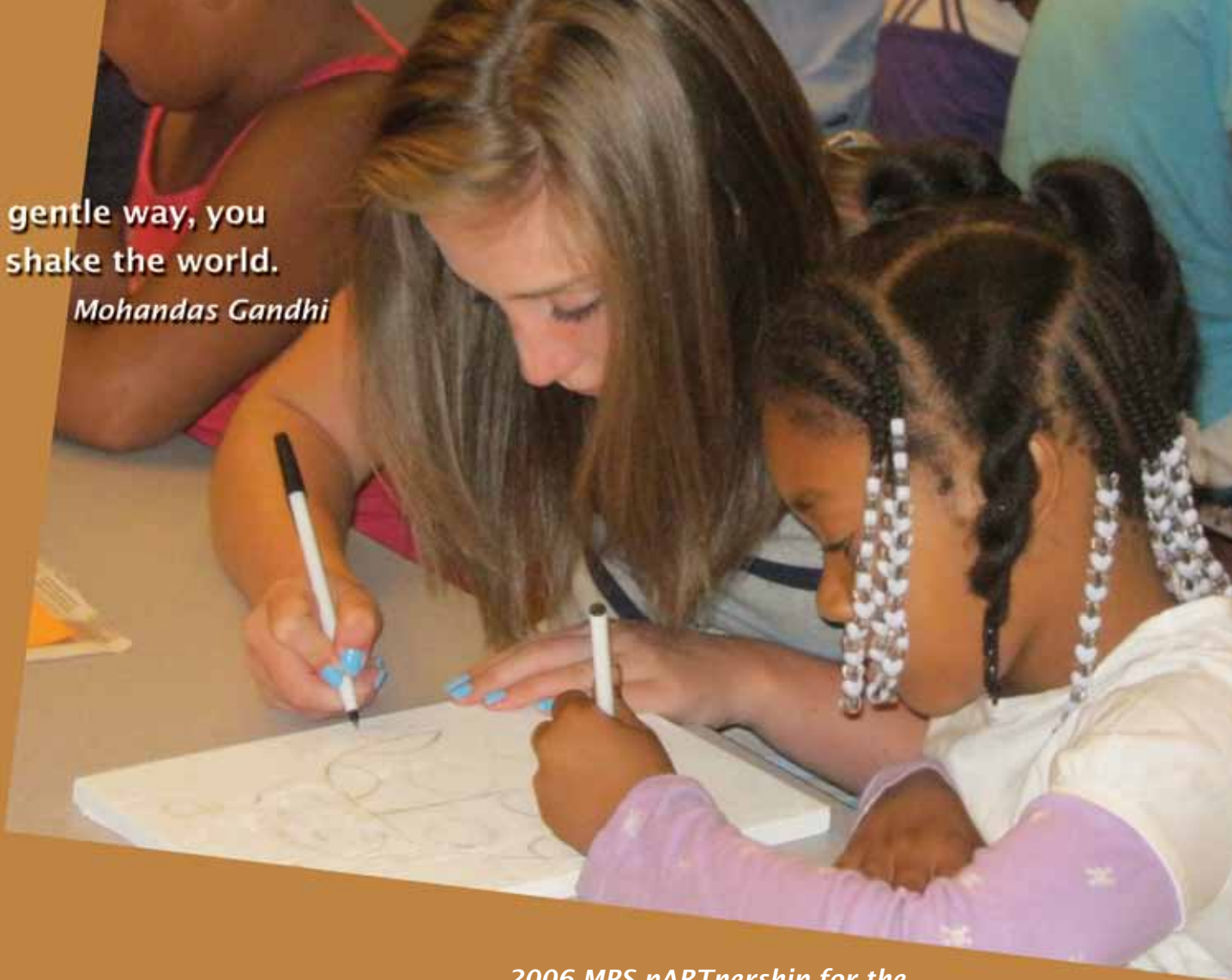


Arts @ Large was beneficial to students most in need of emotionally enriching programming. All students who started the program in the “vulnerable” and “challenge” end of the Emotional Intelligence scale, reached “average” or functional levels by the end of the program. Even those who started the program with “low average” scores achieved statistically significant growth.



In a gentle way, you
can shake the world.

Mohandas Gandhi



2006 MPS pARTnership for the
Arts Fund is modeled after the
Arts @ Large program.

2001

2006

2011

Arts @ Large in one word: “Amazing. Because it’s just been amazing working with the kids and seeing their potential.” *Student from Arts @ Large Environmental Arts Camp, in collaboration with Ulster Project Milwaukee*



90% of principals and classroom teachers from partnering schools “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that Arts @ Large has increased interaction between students with and without disabilities AND has increased staff

Four out of five artist educators “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that Arts @ Large has:

- a) improved their ability to create inclusive lesson plans,**
- b) increased their capacity to support students with disabilities/special needs working side-by-side with their regular education peers, and**
- c) made them more likely to encourage students with disabilities/special needs to actively engage in arts integration projects.**



When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect.

Aldo Leopold

2007 Arts @ Large graduates from working out of our cars into a real office, hiring our first official employee. ▼

2001

2007

2011

“Art is your personal diary where you may color your thoughts and emotions on a page.” *6th Grade Student Story School*



“Give the children an opportunity to make a garden. Let them grow what they will. It matters less that they grow good plants than that they try for themselves.”

Liberty Hyde Bailey

“Just wanted you to know how terrific the 53rd Street site looks with its developing gardens and colorful fencing. Great job! Thanks for helping to add beauty and getting neighbors together.”

*Mark Avery
53rd Street Community Garden Gardener*





A really good picture looks
as if it's happened at once.
It's an immediate image.

Helen Frankenthaler

*2008 Arts @ Large partners with the Wisconsin Board
for People with Developmental Disabilities to deepen
our commitment to arts equity for ALL students.*

2001

2008

2011

“Art is a picture straight from the heart. When I use my camera, I can help you see through my eyes and mind.” 6th Grade Student Story School

Arts @ Large has a lasting and compounding impact in schools where its partnership extends beyond a single school year. MPS Climate Survey data reveal significant differences where Arts @ Large has served for three years.

- ◆ **9% average growth in teacher agreement that their school has fewer discipline problems this year compared to last (compared to only 2% in the two-year schools);**
- ◆ **7% average growth in student agreement that their school has fewer behavior problems this year than last year (compared to only 3% in two-year schools);**
- ◆ **3% average growth in student agreement that they look forward to going to school (compared to a 1% decline in two-year schools); validated by a 3.5% average increase in parent agreement with the same statement.**



- ◆ **3% average growth in student agreement that students and adults at their school respect each other, further validated by a 2.3% increase in parent agreement with the same statement;**
- ◆ **Schools where Arts @ Large has served for two years AND three years both experienced an 11% increase in parent agreement that their child’s school has fewer discipline problems this year compared to last.**



In every community, there
is work to be done. In
every heart, there is the
power to do it.
Marianne Williamson

*2009 More than 120 artist educators partner
with Arts @ Large to serve MPS.* ▼

2001

2009

2011

“We have treasured the opportunity to work with the A@L team & with community artists. Not only did the children gain lifetime experiences, but the staff became more involved in their own community and the rich art experiences that are available here in Milwaukee.”
Teacher Hrysanthi Kinis

In Fiscal Year 2011 (June 1, 2010 – July 31, 2011)...

**Arts @ Large provided unique, creative education for:
11,743 K-12 students,
109 artist educators,
and 881 teachers and after school providers**

In 2010/11 Arts @ Large provided nearly \$57,000 of art, music and multimedia supplies for students. Our partnership with Milwaukee Public Schools helped provide an additional \$62,000 of in-kind support for supplies.

Arts @ Large infused nearly \$332,000 into the local arts community economy by providing 110 artist residencies for students with 109 artist educators (40 of which were people of color).

Arts @ Large held 17 professional development opportunities for teachers and artists and 7 community events in FY11.

More than \$35,000 was used for transportation and admission fees for students, teachers and after school providers in experiential, creative field trips, events and festivals. Our partnership with Milwaukee Public Schools gave hundreds more students and teachers opportunities in the amount of \$27,000 for bus transportation and \$12,000 in admission fees totaling, \$39,000 of in-kind support.

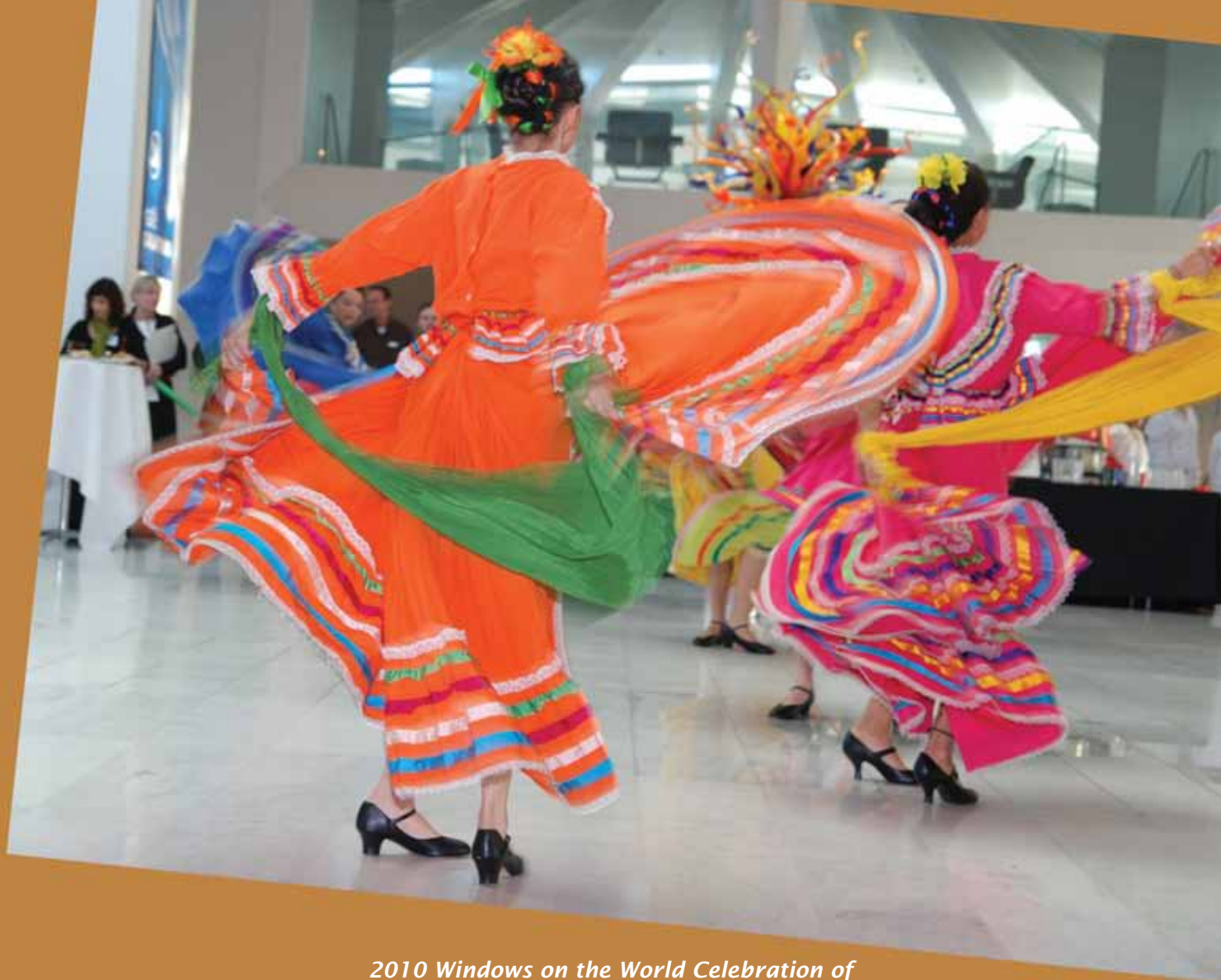


100% of teachers and principals surveyed “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that Arts @ Large enhanced academic learning and aided their school in achieving their curriculum and climate goals.¹

1 Arts @ Large End of Year Survey with Principals and Team Leads, 2011

2 (Source: Emotional Intelligence Study of Arts Education Programs in Milwaukee: 2010-2011, sponsored by Northwestern Mutual Foundation; Research and Analysis conducted by Mary Reinders of Reinders Research, Inc., August 2011)

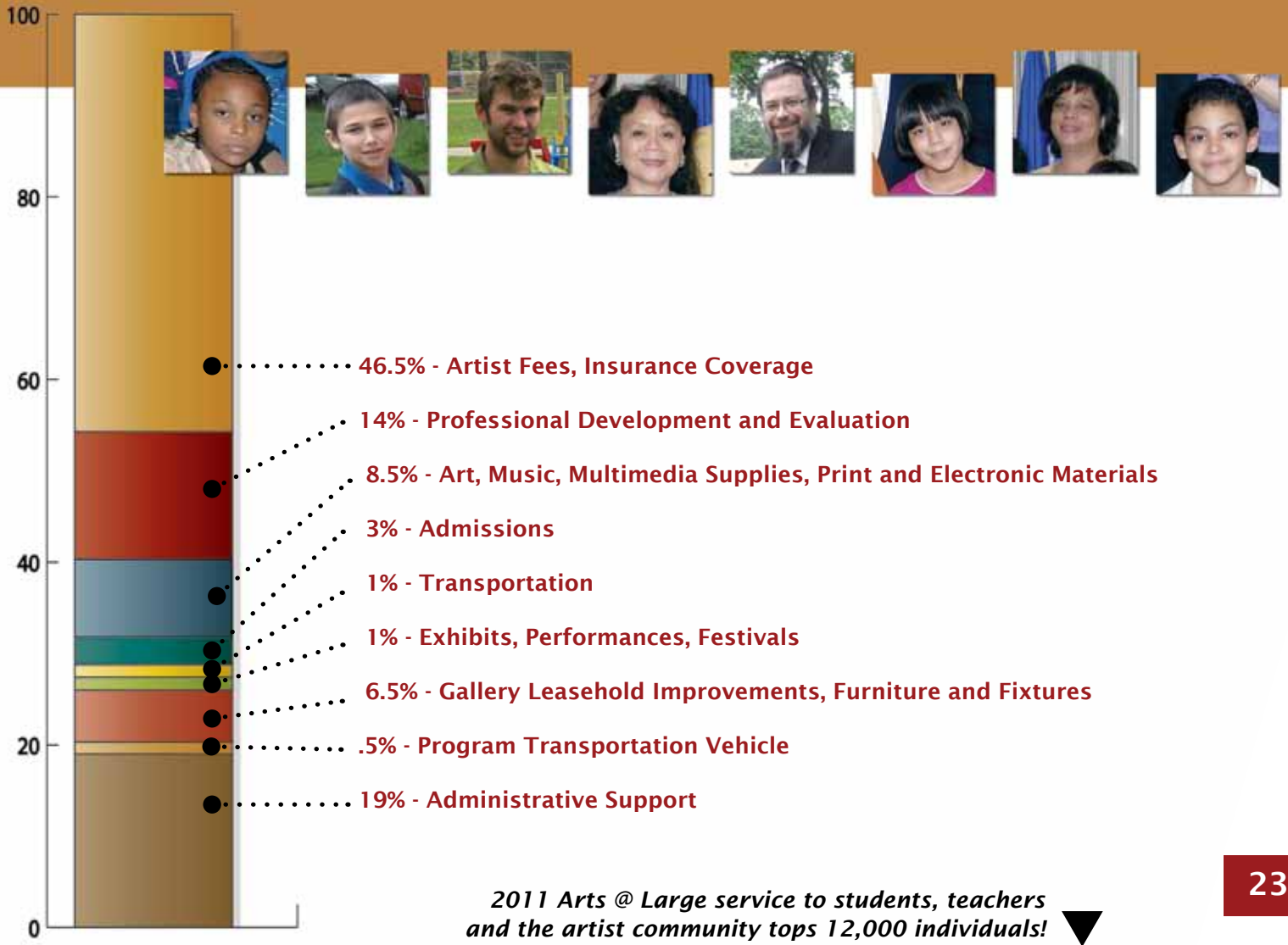
3 Arts @ Large, (Final) End of Year Survey with Artist Educators, 2011)



*2010 Windows on the World Celebration of
Arts @ Large 10th Anniversary* ▼

2001

2010 2011



2011 Arts @ Large service to students, teachers and the artist community tops 12,000 individuals!



908 S. 5th Street

Milwaukee, WI 53204

414.763.7379

www.artsatlargeinc.org

