

OCDSB Advisory Committee on the Arts

The ACA promotes the arts as a **vital** component of learning for **all** OCDSB students.

Sixteen things parents can do to help support good arts programs

Champion the arts

1. learn more about arts programs in your school
2. be an advocate for good arts programs
3. elect an arts representative to school council
4. ask your principal if the arts can be in the School Improvement Plan

Enrich arts programs

5. ask teachers how you can help
6. form an art committee with parents and teachers
7. fundraise for materials, field trips, artist-in-residence
8. explore joint funding opportunities, grants, partnerships
9. donate a gently used instrument, costume, or unused art materials
10. take your child to a performance, exhibition or studio tour

Celebrate the arts

11. attend school performances and art exhibitions
12. help organize a student art exhibition or performance
13. invite a politician or friend to a student show
14. nominate a teacher or student for an arts award
15. write an article that celebrates student artists
16. use your school website to celebrate student artists

Arts materials parents can support financially

1. Drama and dance:
 - CDs
2. Music:
 - Piano or electric keyboard
 - class set of recorders with *Best in Class* books
 - hand-drum
 - ukuleles (see www.ukulelejames.com)
3. Visual arts:
 - Drying rack on wheels
 - paint cart (see teachers' art binders)
 - Leader picture frames (see teachers' art binders)
 - framed prints of art masterpieces (see *Principal* magazine)
4. Media equipment:
 - portable sound system
 - digital or video camera
 - software
 - lighting

ACA Resources

ACA Chair: Katherine Stauble, kstauble@sympatico.ca

ACA web page :

- www.ocdsb.ca/au_bot_ACA-committee.asp
- go to ocdsb.ca and click on About Us, then Board of Trustees, then Committees
- Coming soon: our own web site

Arts in the Community directory of workshops, performances, funding opportunities:

- www.ocdsb.ca/sc_art_ottawa.asp
- go to ocdsb.ca and click on Students Corner, then Arts
- recent additions not in directory:
 - "Young at Art," City of Ottawa student art exhibition: www.ottawa.ca
 - Tournesol Dance school, Hannah Beatch, www.dandeliondancecompany.ca, 613-729-5197
 - REEL Canada, Canadian film festival in schools: www.reelcanada.com
 - Director's Cut in-class digital filmmaking, www.thedirectorscut.ca, 1-877-747-2964.
 - Martha Hodgson & Heather Ballantyne, visual artists, 613-729-7634

OCDSB Arts Recognition Awards for teachers, administrators, volunteers:

- www.ocdsb.ca/sc_art_recog_awards.asp
- go to ocdsb.ca and click on Students Corner, then Arts

MASC Arts Awards for Grade 6-8 students : www.masconline.ca

Other resources:

- NAC education: www.artsalive.ca
- National Gallery education: www.cybermuse.gallery.ca
- Coalition for Music Education: www.weallneedmusic.ca
- Funding for arts materials in schools: www.scoollifefund.ca
- More funding: your local Scotiabank
- *Principal* magazine, articles about arts education, including how to create a gallery: www.naesp.org/Principal2009J-F.aspx

A Checklist for Organizing an Arts Event

#1 What do we want to do?

- Arts activity for single classroom or for entire school
- Guest artist workshop for single classroom or for entire school
- Arts event in or out of school (concert, video, play, performance, exhibition)
- Integration of arts activities with other school activities

Notes/ ideas

3 things you need to ask

When should this happen? _____

How long should it last? _____

Who needs to be involved? _____

#2 What do we need in order to get started?

- Consent and cooperation of involved parties (eg. Principal, teachers, council)
- Parent helpers
- Money, fees, donations
- Workspace, performance space, display space
- Liaisons, connections, networks of people and technology

Notes/ ideas

2 things you need to ask

Who can help us? _____

Who should we consult? (check out www.ocdsb.ca/sc_art_ottawa.asp) _____

#3 Planning

- Make a list of who is involved, their roles, contact info
- Draw up a description or outline of the event
- Work out a timeline for implementation of each part
- Advertise, and record or document the event
- Thank those involved and get feedback

Notes/ ideas

#4 Hints for Success

- Are you maintaining good communication among all involved?
- Are the needs of the staff, students, and artists being served?
- Did you promote your great arts event before, during, and after?
- ☺ Did you give yourself a pat on the back for all your hard work?

How Parents Can Help Bring Artists to Schools

A. What you need

1. The enthusiasm of the principal and teachers. Speak to these people first.
2. At least one parent dedicated to helping and at least one teacher-liaison.
3. Money (although some free programs are available).
4. Space in the school. In some cases, a gym or some other vacant room is required.
5. *Arts in the Community* directory (www.ocdsb.ca/sc_art_ottawa.asp) or other artist listing.

B. Planning

1. Offer to *help* teachers.
2. Discuss your ideas with the principal, teachers and school council.
3. Offer to be an arts representative on school council, and to form a committee.
4. Discuss proposed budget with school council. Plan extra fundraising, if necessary.
5. Consult *Arts in the Community* directory or other arts resource.
6. Consider applying for a grant or other free program. See *Arts in the Community* directory, or ask your local high school about volunteer arts students.
7. Contact artists. Ask them about: availability, cost of workshop and supplies, who will purchase supplies, taxes, length of workshop, number of students, venue needs.
8. Discuss ideas and options with teachers.
9. Book artists.
10. Confirm details in writing.

C. Helpful hints

Before:

1. Communicate effectively with teachers, artists, parents, administration, office staff, and custodians.
2. Understand that it is teachers who must make the decisions for their programs.
3. Make the program hassle-free for teachers.
4. Be aware of deadlines for booking artists.

During:

1. Offer to help set up and clean up.
2. Take photos and videos of activities.

After:

1. Get feedback from teachers and students and share it with artists. Use very brief, user-friendly questionnaires.
2. Report on activities in newsletter articles, visual displays, and at school council meetings.
3. Write thank-you notes to artists, and invite students to do so.

*Remember, you are there to **help!***

the value of arts education



