



2016 PICASSO PROJECT GRANTEES

Alexander McClure Elementary School // “Hope Reading Garden”

McClure students will work with CosaCosa artists to design and create a 1500 sq. ft. mosaic mural in the school yard. During the course of this project, students will make audio recordings of themselves reading popular children’s books. These recordings, placed inside of artistic bird houses installed in the mosaic, can be heard and enjoyed at the push of a button.

Paul L. Dunbar School // “We Promise”

Students at Paul L Dunbar Promise Academy will enhance their literacy skills through writing, illustrating, and animating original videos exploring the idea of “promise” in their school’s pledge which students recite each day. Students will explore themes of making promises, keeping promises or being full of promise with support from guest speakers and writing buddies.

Eugenia Maria de Hostos Charter School // “Dancing Classrooms”

Dancing Classrooms at Hostos, will use positive reinforcement to encourage teamwork, cooperation and peer respect while enhancing bilingual curriculum through Latin dance. Students will learn a variety of Latin dances from a dynamic dancer/teaching artist and will perform a recital for the entire school.

Edwin Fidler Academics Plus // “Emerging Artist Youth Café: Voices for Change”

This project will collectively channel student voices for social change while applying self-expression through hip hop dance, Brazilian percussion, original spoken word poetry and Latin dance. Students will learn from professional artists as they develop their own expressions through these various art forms.

George W. Childs Elementary // “Mufaro’s Beautiful Daughters”

Fourth grade students will work with Enchantment Theatre Company teaching artists, to learn performance skills and create a theater piece based on Mufaro’s Beautiful Daughters. The piece will be performed for their peers, families and community at the school.

Henry H. Houston School // “A Day in My Life: 2016/2026”

**Supported by funding from Patty and Stephen Segal*

Teachers will partner with musicians to combine writing and music-making to engage the entire school community in creating a CD of original songs. These songs will address daily issues that students face both in school and in their community. Through songs students will envision their future as well as the future of Houston Elementary.

James Russell Lowell Elementary // “Lowell Magic Garden: United We Stand”

This project engages students in discussion of racial conflicts, bullying and violence through individual storytelling and the creation of a story quilt. Students will create their own stories, discover possible solutions to their conflicts and connect with their peers to expand the ideas of empathy and compassion.

Murrell Dobbins CTE High School // “The Sounds of Dobbins”

Students will write and record original poetry, music, and sounds collected from the hallways of Dobbins. The culmination of the project will be the formation of an inaugural Poetry Slam team at Dobbins,

Pan American Academy Charter // “Cacti and Pearls”

This project seeks to address conflict resolution through storytelling and theatre. Students will investigate how these art forms can be tools for social change and will share these lessons in a performance for their school and community.

Parkway Northwest High School // “Arts, Peace & Social Justice”

South African artist Sharon Katz will work with ninth grade students to explore South African history and create peace and social justice themed writing, artworks and songs to be displayed and performed at their school.

Philadelphia Juvenile Justice Services Center // “Video News Magazine”

The PJJSC Video News Magazine will improve school climate by engaging students in creating informational videos about a wide variety of topics. Students will improve their skills in collaboration and public speaking, as well as learn technical skills such as video and music editing.

South Philadelphia High School // “South Philadelphia High School Musical Theatre”

This project will help to reestablish a music program in a school that has been without one for several years. Students will work with musicians from the Curtis Institute and perform the musical, “Dream Girls”. Students will be advocates for arts education as they become involved in the cultivation, sustainability and future direction of the arts in their school and community.

Wissahickon Charter School Awbury // “Awbury Ecosystems Mural”

This project will create an enriching learning environment while establishing a sense of collaboration and partnership among students, the school and neighboring institutions. Students will visit the Awbury Arboretum to participate in environmental education classes. Following this visit they will design and paint an ecosystem mural at their school.