CHICAGO IS A WORLD-CLASS ARTS CITY

Our students deserve world-class arts education

No student’s education is complete without the arts.

Yet, even in a city full of great teachers, world-class artists and arts institutions, some public school students don’t have access to even the most basic arts instruction.

That’s why, over the past three decades, countless educational, cultural, and philanthropic leaders have worked tirelessly to get arts instruction back into Chicago’s classrooms.

Our teachers and principals agree that the arts are critical to cognitive development, fostering creative thinking, promoting innovation, and instilling self-confidence.

But no one can go it alone.

After years of budget cuts and increased focus on testing, those countless leaders joined with community arts partners to seek ways to coordinate and improve access to the arts in the classroom—and they decided their plan was going to take Ingenuity.
ARTS EDUCATION HELPS STUDENTS THRIVE

Chicago students deserve these advantages
Renewed commitments from city and school leadership have given arts programming in Chicago new life, but these key stakeholders need strategic support to do it effectively.

*They are 4x more likely to be recognized for academic achievement*

*They have lower rates of misconduct*

*They have 3x higher attendance rates*

*They are 5x less likely to drop out*

*It takes collaboration. It takes dedication. And it takes Ingenuity*
THE EPICENTER OF ARTS EDUCATION

Connecting Chicago’s students to a quality arts education

Ingenuity serves as Chicago’s hub for arts education information, advocacy, strategy, and partnerships. We work closely with Chicago Public Schools, Chicago’s arts and cultural community, parents, students, and more to ensure every CPS student receives a quality, well-rounded education that includes the arts.

CPS: A SNAPSHOT

664* SCHOOLS

396,000* STUDENTS

803 COMMUNITY ARTS PARTNERS

7,211** ARTS PROGRAMS

*Data reflects 2014-15 school year
**Includes multiple programs within a single school by one partner
Ingenuity operates holistically to bring arts education to every CPS student.
We use data to inform and fuel strategies that expand arts programming across the District.

Ingenuity is the home of arts instruction data-tracking systems for Chicago Public Schools. We combine data collected from CPS, the Illinois State Board of Education, and community partners to provide the most accurate picture available of arts education opportunities for CPS students.

**Informing the Creative Schools Certification**

The data we collect influences strategies for expanding arts programming across the District. This vital information is also used by stakeholders via the **artlook™** Suite of online services: **artlook Schools**, **artlook Partners**, and **artlook Map**.

The **artlook** Schools site collects data on arts programming from each CPS school. This data is used to assign each school one of five categories along the Creative Schools Certification continuum:

- **Excelling**
- **Strong**
- **Developing**
- **Emerging**
- **Incomplete Data**

This system allows schools to:

+ Make strategic decisions about arts programming
+ Identify the resources they need to grow arts instruction
+ Connect to professional development opportunities for principals and teachers
+ Become eligible for the Creative Schools Fund
+ Advance the District’s goal of offering a high-quality arts education to every CPS student
PUTTING ARTS EDUCATION ON THE MAP

Our data makes arts programs and resources easy to track

Ingenuity’s artlook Map is an interactive site where schools, teachers, arts organizations, parents, and the community can search every Chicago public school and neighborhood for:

+ Certified arts instructors on staff
+ Community arts partnerships
+ Arts disciplines offered

Ingenuity shares the most accurate and current data available for use by community partners and schools. By mapping existing arts programs, our partners and stakeholders can better:

+ Coordinate the distribution of arts resources and services
+ Identify gaps in arts education and needs in schools
+ Track and share results to increase the availability of arts programming
+ Advocate for equitable access to arts education in schools and neighborhoods

94 % OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS HAVE at least 1 ARTS INSTRUCTOR
STRATEGIC COLLABORATION IS THE HEART OF OUR WORK

Everyone comes together and plays a part

Ingenuity collaborates with community leaders to reach our mutual goal of bringing arts education to every CPS student, mainly via two initiatives:

**Ingenuity Institutes**
*Professional learning for arts and cultural providers*

Ingenuity Institutes allow certified arts teachers and partners to learn directly from District and industry experts about how to bring their craft to an educational setting, and how to ensure that their programs align with the CPS Arts Education Plan, the Common Core State Standards, and Core Arts Standards.

**Ingenuity Institutes focus on:**
+ Working successfully with Chicago Public Schools
+ Understanding the impact of educational programs through data
+ Exploring best curricular practices with CPS instructors and external partners
+ Using Ingenuity’s Creative Schools data to identify schools’ needs
+ Improving shared learning, leadership, and knowledge for arts education administrators and teaching artists

**Ingenuity Advisory Panels**
*Guidance from the sector*

To guide our efforts and drive change in our schools, Ingenuity calls upon leaders in:
+ Arts and culture
+ Education
+ Youth development
+ Data
+ Policy
+ Higher education
+ City planning

The result is the Creative Schools Initiative—incentives and accountability strategies to help both schools and community arts partners provide arts to not just some, but all students.
ADVOCATING FOR ARTS EDUCATION

Changing minds takes Ingenuity

Ingenuity’s focus on long-term planning has helped to unite our sector behind the goal of providing an arts education to every CPS student. Despite the tough backdrop of both our state and city finances, Ingenuity’s relentless advocacy efforts were able to guide Chicago toward the development of the very first CPS Arts Education Plan.

The Chicago Board of Education approved the Plan in November of 2012. It has since resulted in major policy changes including:

- Making the arts a core academic subject
- Recommending 120 minutes of dedicated weekly arts instruction in Elementary Schools
- Expanding high school graduation requirements in the arts
- Putting the arts on each of the CPS schools’ annual progress reports alongside other core subjects, and adding it to each school principal’s evaluation

Ingenuity is now focusing its advocacy work on ensuring the CPS Arts Education Plan is implemented and backed by long-term funding strategies.
CREATING A MORE VIBRANT FUTURE

Historic cuts to arts budgets have left CPS students at an educational disadvantage. Since our inception in 2011, we have been working in partnership with top city and school officials as well as Chicago’s arts and cultural community to help reverse the tide. We believe our collective action will provide Chicago’s youth with vital, ongoing exposure to the arts.

THE STATE OF ARTS EDUCATION IN CHICAGO

1980 - 2006
With increased focus on testing, funding diverted to core subjects and less time to teach it, arts instruction diminishes across the District

2006
The CPS Department of Arts Education is created with funding from local foundations

2010
The Chicago Arts Learning Initiative (CALI) convenes representatives from 200+ arts and cultural, and education stakeholder groups who issue a call for more arts in schools

2012
The Chicago Cultural Plan is created

2013
Creative Schools Initiative begins

2014
Ingenuity and CPS craft the first ever CPS Arts Education Plan

2014
Be Creative: The Campaign for Creative Schools launches
GET INVOLVED

Educate. Donate. Participate.

2015  You can support our efforts by being an advocate for the arts in a number of ways. Join one of our Advisory Panels, attend an Ingenuity Institute, work or volunteer at your local school, or simply make a donation. Whatever support you can provide, Chicago will benefit from it.
INGENUITY WORKS TO ENSURE THE ARTS ARE Brought TO EVERY STUDENT, IN EVERY GRADE, IN EVERY CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOL.