ARTS PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT (EXPANSION, REVISION, AND REFINEMENT)

A PLAN OF ACTION

BOOKER T. WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL FOR THE PERFORMING AND VISUAL ARTS

2501 FLORA STREET
DALLAS, TEXAS 75201
While the graduates of BTWHSPVA have historically graduated from high school and have had success as artists in post-secondary environments as well as in the work force, in reviewing the school and graduate data, the following needs have been identified:

- Expansion of college and career awareness of careers both in the arts and related to the arts with a focus on creativity, problem solving, and critical thinking
- Increased rigor in arts courses starting in the freshman year with a focus on college preparatory curricula and innovative arts courses
- Opportunities for students to participate in relevant learning experiences in the arts through mentorships, internships, and/or apprenticeships
- To expand the annual Showcase event to include college and career readiness strands for students in grades 9 and 10 with an emphasis on the arts
- To ensure all juniors and seniors participate actively in the performance and exhibition opportunities within the school and in the community
- To expose students and staff to contemporary as well as classical works of art and to ensure all students have the opportunity to have a solid foundation in the classics while also obtaining marketable arts skills
- To provide support for students to identify and apply for summer enrichment and other programs that will enhance arts skill levels and artistic knowledge and understanding
- To maximize the use of technology as a viable tool in the creation of visual, musical, theatrical and movement based art

The Arts Program Review and Development Strand is Part II of the BTWHPSV A Strategic Plan.

The goal of Booker T. Washington HSPVA and the Dallas ISD is to “graduate and educate students ready for college and the work force.” Furthermore, the faculty and staff of BTWHSPVA has committed to ensuring that all graduates are prepared for the rigors of a college education and are equipped with the academic, artistic, and social emotional skills to succeed in life beyond high school.
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

1. Goal: To provide support for students in understanding the college arts application process, timelines and entrance requirements by ensuring that 95% of seniors participate in and complete the GT Mentorship class, participate in the annual Showcase event, and attend at least three meetings or workshops on the college arts application process during their junior and senior year to learn the requirements for auditions, portfolio preparation and presentation and arts school entrance.

2. Goal: To increase rigor in arts courses starting in the freshman year with a focus on college preparatory curricula and to ensure at least 95% of students complete cluster foundational course requirements.

3. Goal: To increase rigor in arts courses starting in the freshman year with a focus on college preparatory curricula by ensuring at least 95% of students participate in at least two innovative arts courses prior to graduation.

4. Goal: To create opportunities for students to participate in relevant learning experiences in the arts through mentorships, internships, and/or apprenticeships by ensuring 100% graduates have participated in one of the three “ships” by the end of their senior year within the next five years.

5. Goal: To expand the annual Showcase event to include college and career readiness strands for students in grades 9 and 10 by providing speakers and other relevant learning topics to 100% of the 9th and 10th grade classes by the end of the 2012 school year with a focus on both arts careers and arts “related” careers that utilize creative thinking and problem solving.

6. Goal: To ensure 100% of the students participate in at least one school and one community based performance each year.

7. Goal: To ensure 95% of students and staff view classical and contemporary exhibitions and performances in all arts areas each year.

8. Goal: To ensure 95% of students view, perform or exhibit at least one contemporary work annually.

9. Goal: To provide support for students to identify and apply for summer enrichment and other programs designed to enhance arts skills levels as well as artistic knowledge and understanding.

10. Goal: To ensure 95% of students and staff participate as a performer, artist or spectator in at least one collaborative show annually.

11. Goal: To ensure 95% of students and staff receive training and support in the use of technology as a tool to create, exhibit, and perform in the various art forms.
STRATEGIES AND PLAN OF ACTION

1. **Goal:** To provide support for students in understanding the college arts application process, timelines and entrance requirements by ensuring that 95% of seniors participate in and complete the GT Mentorship class, participate in the annual Showcase event, and attend at least three meetings or workshops on the college arts application process during their junior and senior year to learn the requirements for auditions, portfolio preparation and presentation and arts school entrance.

**Strategies:**
- Require all students take the GT mentorship in their junior year as part of the required arts curriculum (Counselors, Coordinators)
- Require all juniors to participate in master classes during the Showcase event (Coordinators)
- Require all juniors to attend at least three workshops or classes on how to prepare for an arts based audition or portfolio review. (Coordinators)
- Require all juniors and seniors to attend maintain a calendar/listing of college preparatory deadlines and requirements.
- Partner with SMU and the staff of the Meadows School of the Arts to increase dialogue and to expand opportunities for students and staff to understand higher education.
- Partner with the ATT Performing Arts Center and arts District partners to provide relevant and timely experiences for staff and students on contemporary as well as classical works of art at no cost to staff or students.
- Partner with institutions of higher education to create dual credit courses in the arts to allow students to earn high school and college credit free of charge prior to graduation.

2. **Goal:** To increase rigor in arts courses starting in the freshman year with a focus on college preparatory curricula and to ensure at least 95% of students complete cluster foundational course requirements.

- Review all schedules to ensure that 95% of BTW students are enrolled in a minimum of three cluster classes each year
- Participate in curricular audits in the arts to ensure curricula being used is aligned with state and national standards.
- Administrators will monitor instruction to ensure rigor is occurring in the classroom by conducting daily walk throughs.
- Pursue the addition of dual credit courses in the arts through partnerships with DCCCD, SMU, UNT and local colleges and universities.
- Participate in needs assessments and curriculum audits as a part of the ACC PASS Arts Program Accreditation process.
3. Goal: To increase rigor in arts courses starting in the freshman year with a focus on college preparatory curricula by ensuring at least 95% of students participate in at least two innovative arts courses prior to graduation.

- Work collaboratively with arts partners and arts organizations to develop innovative cutting edge courses and learning opportunities that challenge students to create new and innovative art.
- Develop and implement innovative courses with an emphasis on students using state of the art equipment, materials, and facilities.
- Expand course offerings to allow students to take at least one foundational course in cluster areas outside their own to foster creativity and the integration of abilities. These foundational courses include: Beginning Acting, Beginning Design, Vocal Technique and Dance I.
- Create and implement a creativity course or courses utilizing technology as a part of the required course sequence for all students.

4. Goal: To create opportunities for students to participate in relevant learning experiences in the arts through mentorships, internships, and/or apprenticeships by ensuring 100% graduates have participated in one of the three “ships” by the end of their senior year within the next five years.

- Work with the alumni associations and counselors to solicit and secure speakers for the annual Showcase event with an emphasis on the BTW experience and college success in 9th and 10th grade.
- Plan and implement a college panel of experts to work with parents and students on how to prepare for college in 9th and 10th grade.
- Plan and implement an arts internship program in concert with the Advisory Board and Arts partners.
- Plan and implement an arts internship program in concert with the Advisory Board and Arts Partners that include paid summer internships for all students entering their senior year.
- Plan and implement academic internship programs in concert with the Advisory Board and businesses throughout the community which incorporates creativity, problem solving, collaboration, and academic skills.
- Plan and implement a mentorship program in concert with the Advisory Board and Arts partners that allows students to mentor, teach and work with elementary and middle school aged students in summer camps, weekend classes, and after school programs focused on the arts.

5. Goal: To expand the annual Showcase event to include college and career readiness strands for students in grades 9 and 10 by providing speakers and other relevant learning topics to 100% of the 9th and 10th grade classes by the end of the 2012 school year with a focus on both arts careers and arts “related” careers that utilize creative thinking and problem solving.
➢ Hold annual meetings about Showcase with students and their parents to discuss the requirements and expectations for Showcase by cluster
➢ Recruit advisory board members and others to conduct workshops and class discussions on the arts and arts careers, and how to use the arts in traditional and non-traditional careers.
➢ Provide individual support to students in the preparation of the portfolio and auditions.
➢ Increase participation in the Texas Young Masters program by 3% annually.
➢ Create and expand communication links with students using technology as a means to inform, encourage, and guide students using the blogging, the web, Twitter, Facebook and other technological resources.

6. **Goal:** To ensure 100% of the students participate in at least one school and one community based performance each year.
   ➢ Expand community outreach and service by offering free weekend, after school and summer camps and workshops to DISD students.
   ➢ Ensure all students perform as a part of outreach camps, classes and activities.
   ➢ Teach students to create and maintain a database of performances and experiences starting in the 9th grade.

7. **Goal:** To ensure 95% of students and staff view classical and contemporary exhibitions and performances in all arts areas each year.
   ➢ Solicit the assistance of the Advisory Board to identify and facilitate partnerships with arts district organizations to provide free tours, performance tickets, and master classes.
   ➢ To work with the Advisory Board to fund multi faceted enrichment opportunities to allow students and staff to visit premier arts venues, exhibits and performances throughout the US.
   ➢ Use technology to create virtual tours of museums and video feeds of the great performers throughout the world as a learning tool and resource for staff and students to use.
   ➢ Create a database and library of current works of art as a part of the arts curriculum.
   ➢ Utilize video streaming, web cams, distance learning and other technology tools to create opportunities for students to interact with contemporary artists virtually throughout the world.

8. **Goal:** To ensure 95% of students view, perform or exhibit at least one contemporary work annually.
   ➢ Create systems that expose students and staff to cutting edge and contemporary works of art and performances annually.
   ➢ Monitor and assess the works of the students to ensure each student has the opportunity to create and see contemporary works as well as classical works.
9. Goal: To provide support for students to identify and apply for summer enrichment and other programs designed to enhance arts skills levels as well as artistic knowledge and understanding.
   - Partner with the Advisory Board to ensure every student has at least one summer enrichment experience in high school at no cost to the student or parent.
   - Partner with the Advisory Board to ensure every student has at least one enrichment experience in high school at no cost to the student or parent that allows the student to expand, enhance, or improve his or her technical, creative, and artistic skills.

10. Goal: To ensure 95% of students and staff participate as a performer, artist or spectator in at least one collaborative show annually.
   - Plan and implement a collaborative show each year that involves students from all four clusters.
   - Produce a collaborative show annually and showcase it within the school and throughout the community.

11. Goal: To ensure 95% of students and staff receive training and support in the use of technology as a tool to create, exhibit, and perform in the various art forms.
   - Conduct a comprehensive needs assessment of current staff and student technology understanding and knowledge.
   - Use current educational research in the arts to examine and discuss the uses of technology as an accepted art form in the arts community. (book studies, guest lectures, field trips, site visits, review of educational and artistic research)
   - Provide ongoing professional development for staff and students on the uses of technology.
   - Consider the creation of an artistic technology design strand/cluster which would include animation, film making, graphic design, game design and the development of other marketable skills to enhance career opportunities.
   - Partner with the Advisory Board to contract with technology experts as a support mechanism for students and staff in the use of advanced technological tools.
   - Partner with the Advisory Board to actively seek grants or other financial means to identify and hire a teacher technologist who would work with teachers and students to grow and develop advanced artistic technological skills.
EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT

- Data analysis, surveys of parents and students, alumni database and feedback

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\text{The success of the arts programming plan will ensure that 100\% of BTWHSPVA students graduate with exemplary artistic, creative, collaborative and problem solving skills.}
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This plan will be reviewed and updated annually by the BTW Principal’s Council and Campus Instructional Leadership team.

STAKEHOLDERS AND PARTNERS

The arts programming plan will be implemented and monitored by the campus leadership team with the help and support of the Advisory Board, the Site Based Decision Making Team and the Parent Teacher Student Association.