

Update - Winter 2009

Nike and CAE: "The Strength Inside"

This Fall, Nike, Inc. partnered with CAE's Career Development Program (CDP) to implement the Nike ACG Boots Community Billboard Project.

Designed to give youth a voice through visual art, the billboard project challenged high school students (in New York City, Philadelphia and Baltimore) to create a photo journal capturing a visual interpretation of personal strength. The result was hundreds of portrayals of strength and struggle.

Three of CDP's strongest partnership schools participated: Art & Design High School in Manhattan; Thomas Edison CTE High School in Queens; and John Dewey High School in Brooklyn. One image was selected from each school: Sarah Flores, Art and Design High School - billboard at 125th Street and Lenox Avenue; Cindy Bencosme, Thomas Edison CTE High School - billboard at the corner of Jamaica Avenue and Sutphin Boulevard; Kimone Napier, John Dewey High School - billboard at the corner of Flatbush and Washington Avenues.

Nike hosted a showcase at Art & Design High School on January 14th, to celebrate the work of all of the talented student photographers. New York State Assemblyman Jonathan Bing (District 73) and Councilman Domenic Recchia (District 47) Chair of the Cultural Affairs, Libraries & International Intergroup Relations committee and often called "The Culture Czar," congratulated the winners and spoke to the importance of protecting arts education in NYC public schools during these turbulent economic times. CAE board chair, Jill Braufman, and board member, Bruce Silverstein, owner of two photography galleries in the Chelsea Art District (<http://www.brucesilverstein.com/>), praised the students' work and noted that all the pieces -- in addition to the ones selected -- showed great inspiration, creativity and promise.

"Si Se Puede," Yes, We Can!

CAE Highlights Inequities in Delivery of Arts Education in El Diario La Prensa

The city's leading Spanish language daily newspaper El Diario La Prensa ran an opinion piece, penned by CAE's executive director on Thursday, February 5th. Entitled "Cerrando brechas educativas," or "Closing the education gap," the piece highlights the inequities that exist in the delivery of arts education, as well as the correlation between the lack of access to arts education and graduation rates. The piece is based on research conducted by CAE, using data provided by the Department of Education for the 2006 - 2007 school year.

Citing data that shows that students from poor families are less likely than their more advantaged peers to have learning opportunities in art, music, theatre and dance, Richard Kessler calls for greater accountability in the NYC public school system to insure that all of the city's students are receiving an arts education:

"As a first step to making sure that every child at every school receives a quality arts education, the Mayor and Chancellor should hold principals accountable for spending money targeted for arts education on arts education. Currently, money allocated to schools for arts education has no strings attached – principals can spend this money on almost anything. Can we close the arts education gap and help more kids graduate on time? Yes we can." ¡SI SE PUEDE!

Spanish: <http://www.impre.com/eldiariomy/opinion/2009/2/5/cerrando-brechas-educativas-107361-2.html>

English: <http://www.cae-nyc.org/pages/wp-content/uploads/2009/02/el-diario-opinion-english-version.pdf>

For more information contact Doug Israel, Director of Research and Policy, (212) 971-3300 ext. 304; doug@caenyc.org.

CAE Joins Fight to Restore Cuts to New York State Arts Budget

Earlier this month the Legislature approved Governor Paterson's proposed \$7 million cut to the state arts budget for 2008-2009 as part of the \$1.6 billion deficit reduction package. The cut to the New York State Council on the Arts (www.nysca.org), dedicated to preserving and expanding the rich and diverse cultural resources that are and will become the heritage of New York's citizens, represents MORE THAN 5% of the total cuts to all state agencies.

Among CAE allies calling for a restoration of the funds in next year's budget:

Alliance of New York State Arts Organization (www.allianceforarts.com); The New York City Arts Coalition (information@nycityartscoalition.org); National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (www.naras.org); The American Federation of Musicians (www.afm.org/about).

Contact your legislator today and urge them to restore the 2009-2010 NYSCA arts budget. [Click here to find out who your state legislator is and how to contact them.](#)

Parent Coalition Gains Critical Mass

CAE held its first Parent Coalition meeting on December 9, 2008, to mobilize a powerful group of informed parents to actively advocate for the arts education to which their children are entitled, rally around the issue and fight back. Six CAE parent allies facilitated the meeting to define the problem and outline steps that parents can take towards forging a solution.

The room was energized with parents from all over the city, representing a wide array of backgrounds, expressing the need for arts education in their child's life, as well as in the NYC public school system as a whole. They enthusiastically embraced the campaign to restore dedicated funding. Since that first meeting they have been actively recruiting other parents into the effort.

A crucial first step in mobilizing parents to become arts education advocates as a conduit for the collective voice of NYC public school parents, the parent coalition is generating a groundswell of support: close to a thousand new supporters have been added.

One of the coalition's first steps is organizing visits to City Council members to urge them to support City Council Resolution # 837. Introduced in 2007 by Councilmember Robert Jackson, Chair of the Education Committee (District 7), Resolution # 837 calls on the Department of Education to guarantee a minimum level of funding for arts education in schools, and call for a hearing. CAE, along with its allied coalitions, is working to

advance Resolution # 837 by garnering the endorsement of a majority of City Council members and bringing it to a public hearing.

The campaign is also reaching out to community and cultural organizations, requesting support for restoring dedicated funding for arts education in NYC public schools. By joining, each organization agrees to join CAE's fight publicly at events, and to disseminate information to their memberships and constituencies.

To date, organizations on board include: Alliance for Quality Education (www.ageny.org); Advocates for Children of New York State (www.casnyc.org); and the United Federation of Teachers (www.uft.org). New parties are joining this month.

Contact Kira Streets, Director of Public Engagement (kira@caenyc.org) to learn more about joining CAE's fight to ensure arts education for all of NYC's 1.1 million students.

CAE Celebrates Parents As Arts Partners

CAE is proud to announce 30 new schools in our 2008 – 2009 Parents As Arts Partners program (PAAP) – all first-time participants. A unique family arts program, PAAP engages parents in hands-on, interactive arts education activities with their children, including workshops with teaching artists and school arts teachers, as well as visits to cultural organizations.

Over the past ten years, CAE has partnered with New York City public schools from all five boroughs to support PAAP, created, in part, in response to research that demonstrates the positive impact of parental involvement on a child's success in school and the effectiveness of the arts as a means of cultivating that involvement.

Each PAAP program is distinct, and successfully builds community by addressing a school's individual needs, enabling participation and engaging parents who might otherwise struggle with barriers of language, culture or work commitments. In addition to providing quality arts experiences for students and their families, these collaborative programs channel direct support to NYC artists and cultural organizations.

PAAP investments enable parents, artists, teachers and students to work together to impact parental involvement in our City's schools both in and through the arts. Through PAAP, parents can participate in hands-on arts activities that connect to their child's school-day arts learning, while taking advantage of the rich arts and cultural resources that only New York City has to offer.

For more information on Parents As Arts Partners, contact Sarah Key, Associate Director, Teaching & Learning skeh@caenyc.org or call (212) 971-3300 ext. 334.

Career Development Program Alumni Council Gallery Opening

The Career Development Program Alumni Council (CDPAC) is committed to developing the next generation of creative professionals by providing ongoing support and resources to all CDP alumni. CDPAC hosted its inaugural exhibit on December 4th at the CAE Annex, featuring the unique work of 13 talented alumni (classes 2007 - 2003). Several pieces were sold via silent auction and each artist donated half of the proceeds to the alumni council. The next CDPAC exhibit will be held in the spring.

For more information about CDPAC, contact Dianna Guerin at dianna@cae-nyc.org or (212) 971-3300, ext. 323.

CDP Course Gains In-Service Approval

The Center for Arts Education's Career Development Program (CDP) is pleased to announce that its "Introduction to Career Development in the Arts" course for high school educators to be held in summer 2009 has been approved by the After School Professional Studies program, as a "P" in-service course.

The course encourages educators to create career development activities and lessons in their schools, and expand the walls of the classroom to include worksites as outside centers of learning. Through a series of professional development activities focused on exploring careers in the arts and related industries, educators are exposed to the many careers associated with the arts, allowing them to better assist students in exploring career options.

The Arts Academy and Teaching Artist Training Institute at PS 37R: School Arts Academy for Children with Severe Cognitive Disabilities

CAE partners with PS 37R, a special education school for students with diverse handicapping conditions, to facilitate arts education for their students, as well as professional development opportunities for their teachers and teaching artists. Through this collaboration, the school has formed an Arts Academy, which provides a dedicated strand of arts education instruction for special needs students, especially those with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

The Arts Academy, which continues to grow and evolve, has revealed arts education to be a dynamic medium for working with special needs populations. Recognizing that many teaching artists in the NYC public school system do not have special education training, CAE, in tandem with Marquis Studios, developed the conjunctive Teaching Artist Training Institute (TATI), now in its second year, to equip teaching artists with the tools to work with students with autism and multiple handicapping conditions.

Additional funding this year doubled the number of enthusiastic and caring teaching artists -- from a range of arts disciplines -- selected to participate. They will attend three observational classroom visits and two Saturday seminars. The first observation/orientation session at PS 37 R, was held on February 3rd.

The School Arts Support Initiative (SASI)

The School Arts Support Initiative was created to enrich the lives and improve education opportunities for students in underfunded, urban middle schools. SASI, developed in partnership with The New York Times Company Foundation and the New York City Department of Education (NYCDOE), and launched in 2007, works with New York City middle schools that have little or no arts education to effectively integrate standards-based arts programming into the core curriculum. CAE recently received a highly-competitive United States Department of Education Arts in Education Model Development and Dissemination Grant (AEMDD) to expand and intensify SASI.

Through the support of experienced arts partners and school-based leadership teams, SASI schools engage in an incremental developmental process to create a school-wide infrastructure for complete integration of quality arts curricula, enabling the schools to build firm foundations for sustainable arts programs that meet national and state standards. The central goal of the program is to facilitate the transformation of an "arts

poor" to an "arts rich" school community, using a replicable model that can be disseminated to urban schools nationwide.

In fall of 2008, each SASI team -- including principals, teachers and art liaisons -- came to CAE for the second SASI Network meeting, to review each school's SASI mission and vision.

The third Network meeting, held on Wednesday, November 3, 2008 at IS 259 K in Brooklyn (our model SASI school), included a tour of the school's arts classes, as well as a professional development session based on *Studio Thinking: The Real Benefits of Visual Arts Education* (Helfand, Winner, et al). Presentations by Principal Janice Geary and Assistant Principal Carrie Haberman on budgeting for the arts were included.

A SASI professional development workshop was held on February 9, 2009 with school arts liaisons and SASI coaches. This session will help school arts liaisons gain a deeper understanding of how to incorporate *Studio Thinking: The Real Benefits of Visual Arts Education* into their instructional plans, and encourage them to share their training with other faculty. The fourth SASI Network Meeting will be held on March 18, 2009.

Spring 2009 Career Development Program Kicks Off with Boot Camp

CAE's Career Development Program (CDP) builds bridges between the city's public high schools and its \$21 billion creative sector by providing valuable work experience in these industries. Now in its ninth year, CDP has provided New York City public high school students with career training and work-based experiences in the arts and creative industries.

Reaching youth who are often underserved by cultural and artistic institutions, the Career Development program offers students a full semester of workplace experience, career readiness training, exposure to arts-related careers and ongoing mentorship with top arts professionals through internships at arts organizations and businesses.

CDP welcomed more than forty high school student interns selected for the spring 2009 semester. Starting with a two-week intensive career training called Boot Camp, CDP's student interns learn about potential careers in the arts, as well as what to expect during life on the job. In preparation for the 13-week internship at arts-related businesses in New York City, tutorials were offered in résumé building and how to conduct career research.

Nicole Cokley, Human Resources Director of Bloomingdale's Direct and long-time CDP worksite mentor, explained the "dos and don'ts" of the interview process. Rachel Zaslow, facilitator at The Shakespeare Society, led a workshop on workplace safety and empowerment. Other spring session highlights included: a workshop with dancers from the Daniel Gwartzman Dance Company; a tour of the new Museum of Arts & Design in Manhattan; and a trip to see Broadway's latest production of "Guys and Dolls."

Learn more about CDP and how your organization can host an intern: <http://www.cae-nyc.org/pages/participating-schools-worksites/>.

Principals Institute

On December 10, 2008, CAE hosted its seventh day-long Principals Institute in less than a year, as a direct service initiative in partnership with the Integrated Curriculum's

Instruction Learning Support Organization of the NYC Department of Education and Dr. Eva Pataki. Through the Principals Institutes, CAE has worked with over 200 principals, imparting information and resources for building a framework that supports arts programming.

The focus of the December session, held in collaboration with Dr. Eva Pataki and the NYC DOE Integrated Curriculum and Instruction Learning Support Organization (ICI LSO), was on how to support the arts during budget cutbacks. Workshops included: fundraising and resource development; reflections on leading schools during budget cutbacks; an entrepreneurial approach to resource development, savvy scheduling; and budgeting for the arts.

Participating faculty included: Ed Sermier, recently retired Chief Administrative Officer of The Carnegie Corporation and Budget Director of the New York City Board of Education; Irv Hamilton, former New York City middle school principal; Ramon Gonzales, Principal MS223; and Lori Sherman, CAE Director of Development.

The Principals Institute addresses specific needs of school leaders and are an important accomplishment, by virtue of their exponential reach: they serve principals who, as the schools' main decision makers, have the capacity to institute powerful change in support of arts education.

Past attendees have reported that gains from the Institute have helped them increase resources allocated to the arts. It is estimated that 100 of the 200 attendees have implemented arts-positive changes – with regard to budgets, space allocation, materials, cultural partnerships and fundraising efforts.

Further success of the Institute programs is evidenced by the desire on the part of both the principals and the LSO NYC DOE to expand the program.

Berta Colon Joins CAE Board of Directors

Berta Colon, Deputy Director, Public Interest Projects, Inc. (PIP) has joined CAE's Board of Directors. PIP brings together and strengthens the work of philanthropic institutions, nonprofit groups and other public interest organizations sharing a vision of a society that ensures justice, dignity and opportunity for all people.

Berta's 13 years' experience in philanthropy has focused primarily on building and managing funding collaboratives. She joined PIP as the program officer for the Racial Justice Collaborative, the organization's first collaborative fund, and also managed the Fulfilling the Dream Fund. At the national Ms. Foundation for Women, she was program officer for the Woman's Economic Development Collaborative Fund, and also managed the Foundation's Economic Justice portfolio, Rapid Response Policy grants, and the Institute for Women's Economic EmPOWERment.

Prior to her work at the Ms. Foundation, Berta worked as a program associate at the Norman Foundation and at several nonprofit organizations, focusing primarily on women's issues and childcare. She holds an undergraduate degree from Barnard College and a master's in public administration from Columbia University.

Extremely knowledgeable about organizational development and fundraising, Berta has a child in a Bronx public school, and is a past board member of the New York Women's Foundation.

CAE Annex Space Available for Rent

The Center for Arts Education Annex, a versatile space conveniently located in midtown near Pennsylvania Station, is now available to rent for a variety of events -- conferences, focus groups, training, meetings, retreats, script readings, rehearsals, meditation groups, receptions, exhibitions, auditions, etc.

To learn more about renting the CAE Annex visit <http://www.cae-nyc.org/annex/index.html>.

You Can Make a Difference

At The Center for Arts Education we are working to ensure that students in New York City public schools not only have what they need and deserve, but the arts classes to which they are legally entitled. Help us help the children in our city's public schools.

Please visit our web-site at www.caenyc.org and give the gift of art - make a donation today.