



**Commission for Arts and Culture**  
City of San Diego

# **Programs Benefiting At-Risk Youth**

**March 14, 2012**

# Arts and Culture Goals

- Serve the citizens of San Diego
- Enhance quality of life and neighborhood identity
- Provide programs for youth and underserved communities
- Increase TOT through cultural tourism
- Attract visitors and businesses
- Create jobs
- Put San Diego in the national spotlight



# Outreach and Access

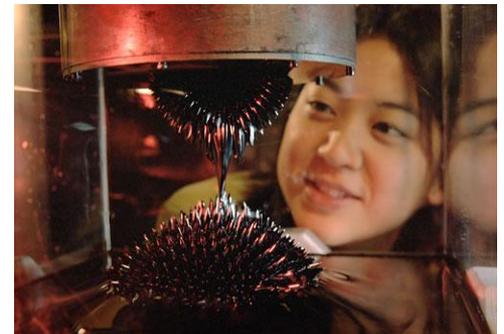
- Outreach programs benefit 612,000 people last year
- Number of times schools and community groups reached - 5,270



# Ensuring Community Access



- Free Museum Days
- Free Theater Admissions
- Free Festivals
- In School Activities
- Community Partnerships
- Youth Summer Camps
- Bilingual Publications



# Community Based Programs

- After-School Programs
- Senior Centers and Retirement Homes
- Libraries
- Community Centers
- Parks
- Churches
- Military Bases



# Serving Schools, Students and Teachers

- Targeted Programs for At-Risk Youth
- Guest Artists
- Assemblies
- Classroom Docents
- Teacher Training
- Artist-in-Residence



# EVEOKE DANCE THEATRE





# InterACTion Program



# Playwrights Project



## *Telling Stories*

### **Giving Voice to Foster Youth**

- Writing workshops for youth
- One-on-one story collection
- Community performances

## **PARTNERSHIPS**

- County Office of Health & Human Services
- SD Co. Commission for Children, Youth & Families
- SD Unified Dept. of Counseling & Guidance
- Foster Youth agencies

## **PROGRAM BENEFITS**

- Serves an at-risk population
- Builds self confidence
- Helps youth realize they are valued
- Encourages communication, creativity, critical thinking, and collaboration ~ 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills
- Develops community pride

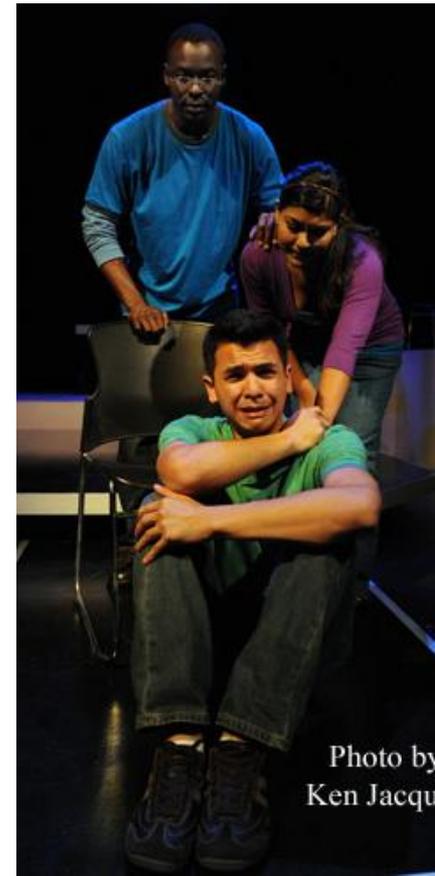


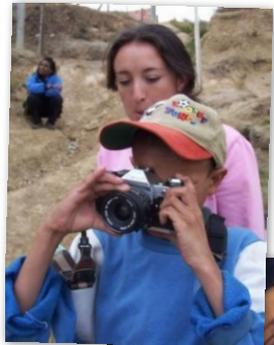
Photo by  
Ken Jacqu

**Art programs are not only vital for “after-school hours” activity but as a platform for young people to critically analyze how they can be active participants in shaping community values and creating positive change.**

### **Safety Survey**

AjA students at Monroe Clark Middle School completed a survey on safety and 82 percent believe themselves to be capable of creating change by using art.

*"We take pictures that have big messages and big meaning. People can get ideas and new opinions from our photos," said an AjA student.*



## Mapping Our School

AjA students at Monroe Clark Middle School created a map of their school using photographs they have taken during AjA's photography-based workshop on Safety. Each week students re-visit the map and place markers on locations at school where bullying has occurred or has the potential to occur. This information will help school officials create a safer school environment.



# An Equation for Productive Citizenship Driven by Youth Participation in the Arts

- Art-in-Communities
  - Arts Strengthen Bonds Between People and Increase Understanding and Tolerance
  - Arts Strengthen Economies and are Important in Revitalizing Neighborhoods
  - Benefit Individual Growth and Quality of Life for Individuals, Families & Communities



# An Equation for Productive Citizenship Driven by Participation in the Arts

- Arts Education
  - Academic Outcomes
    - Improves school attendance
    - Increases academic achievement
  - Workforce Preparation Outcomes
    - Develops 21st century skills
    - Provides competitive edge





Thank You  
[VibrantCultureVibrantCity.com](http://VibrantCultureVibrantCity.com)

