



Palm Beach County Arts and Cultural Education Snapshot

The cultural sector's contribution to the
School District of Palm Beach County
and other learning locations.

2016 - 2018

September 2019

Introduction

As late as the 1960s and 1970s, the value of the arts and its integral play within American culture were a given. Its evidence was not only visible on the concert stage but locally within private and public events and halls and within the home as a common form of expression. The use of the arts within education came without much argument. According to a study by the RAND Corporation, by the early 1990s, “the social and political pressures that culminated in what became known as the ‘culture wars’ put pressure on arts advocates to articulate the public value of the arts.” The intrinsic value of arts education was less promoted during this time and usurped by arguments about more measurable benefits such as economic impact.

The advantage of arts education is still perceived by many as subjective. Within the state of Florida, students who don’t pass the FCAT in reading or math, or who are identified as a low-performing tester in reading or math are required to take intensive remedial courses in place of an arts class. In high school, arts courses count as electives. In Florida, students struggling academically have fewer chances to take arts classes. To counteract declines in arts education, nonprofit arts and cultural organizations in Palm Beach County stretch their budgets to ensure students received arts and cultural experiences.

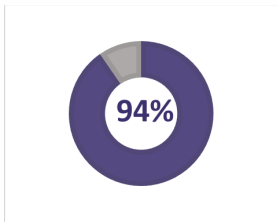
In 2017, the Cultural Council of Palm Beach County (the Council) commissioned a study to assess contributions made by the county’s nonprofit arts and cultural organizations, (referred to herein as cultural organizations), to the School District of Palm Beach County (District) and other Palm Beach County schools. This study tracked contributions made during the 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 school years. The programs and services inventoried through both studies documented education received by students outside the District budget. Never before has there been a comprehensive inventory of this kind in Palm Beach County.

Cultural organizations provided data about the types of cultural education provided both during and outside of the school day to students and teachers in the District and other learning locations, as well as instructional time, budgets, and staffing dedicated to cultural education.

This two-year study is a record of education delivered by 55 nonprofit cultural organizations that provided cultural education in 94% of District schools and more than 300 other learning locations in Palm Beach County. Alone, those cultural organizations contributed \$22.7 million in cultural education programming to District schools-- an average of more than \$250,000 per organization. This survey sample represents approximately 65% of all Palm Beach County cultural organizations providing education services within the county.

Key Findings

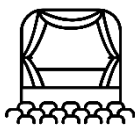
For the 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 school years, 55 nonprofit cultural organizations in Palm Beach County:



Provided education in **94%** of District schools and more than 300 other learning locations in Palm Beach County.



Contributed **\$22.7 million** in cultural education programming to District schools at an average of **\$250,000** per organization.



Provided more than **760,000** cultural education experiences through more than **82,000** instructional hours to students in District schools.



Offered more than **1,000** different cultural experiences in **20** disciplines to District schools.



Provided more than **28,000** professional development experiences to District teachers in arts and culture.



Tracked close to **100,000** volunteer hours to deliver cultural education programs to District schools.

Participating Organizations

1. Adopt A Family of the Palm Beaches
2. Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens
3. April is for Authors Foundation
4. Armory Art Center
5. Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge
6. Ballet Palm Beach
7. Boca Ballet Theatre
8. Boca Raton Children's Museum
9. Boca Raton Historical Society and Museum
10. Boca Raton Museum of Art
11. Center for Creative Education
12. Centre for the Arts at Mizner Park
13. Chamber Music Society of Palm Beach
14. Core Ensemble
15. Cultural Council of Palm Beach County
16. Dance Theater of Florida
17. Delray Beach Arts
18. Faith's Place Center for Arts Education
19. Florida Intergenerational Orchestra
20. Guatemalan-Maya Center
21. Harid Conservatory
22. Henry Morrison Flagler Museum
23. Historical Society of Palm Beach County
24. Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse and Museum
25. Kravis Center for the Performing Arts
26. Lake Worth Playhouse
27. Lighthouse ArtCenter
28. Loggerhead Marinelife Center
29. Maltz Jupiter Theatre
30. Milagro Center
31. Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens
32. Mounts Botanical Garden
33. Norton Museum of Art
34. Old School Square
35. Palm Beach Atlantic University Dance
36. Palm Beach Dramaworks
37. Palm Beach Museum of Natural History
38. Palm Beach Opera
39. Palm Beach Photographic Centre
40. Palm Beach Poetry Festival
41. Palm Beach State College
42. Palm Beach Symphony
43. Palm Beach Zoo
44. Philippine American Society
45. Preservation Foundation of Palm Beach
46. Resource Depot
47. River Center
48. Sandoway Discovery Center
49. Solid Waste Authority
50. South Florida Science Center and Aquarium
51. Spady Cultural Heritage Museum
52. Taras Oceanographic Foundation
53. The Symphonia
54. VSA Florida
55. Yesteryear Village