

Out-of-School Arts and Cultural Programming in Boston

Boston Mayor's Office of Arts and Cultural Development
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This data comes from research carried out by the Office of Cultural Affairs¹ (OCA) of the City of Boston, with support for research provided by the Barr Foundation.

In the fall of 2002, a survey was sent to Boston-based non-profit arts and cultural organizations, with the goal of creating a database cataloging arts and cultural education opportunities in out-of-school time. Through extensive follow up efforts during the winter and spring of 2002-2003, surveys were returned from 223 organizations (complete list in the Appendix).

Data was gathered looking at arts and cultural programming that offered direct services through single exposure, unit, competency or mastery levels, as well as indirect services such as professional training and resources, equipment and supplies. Research in the area of arts education has shown that sequential instruction is the most effective way to impact children (Heath, 1998). As a result, the data reported here is focused on those programs that offer direct unit, competency or mastery classes. While single exposure arts and cultural activities are important program components that should be made available to children, they are not the focus of this summary. In addition, this study does not include privately owned arts organizations, many of which provide an important array of classes to children in a number of Boston communities.

A Snapshot of these Findings

For the school year 2002-2003, arts and cultural providers reported the following information about out-of-school programming:

158 organizations offered over 250 different programs during out-of-school hours, providing direct, sequential arts and cultural programs for children ages 5-19

Organizations included:

¹ The Office of Cultural Affairs became part of a newly created agency, the Boston Mayor's Office of Arts and Cultural Development, in the spring of 2004.

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-78 cultural organizations, ranging from large institutions such as the Museum of Fine Arts and the Museum of Science to smaller organizations such as Spontaneous Celebrations and City Stage Company

-73 community/school-based out-of-school time organizations that include an arts or cultural component in their programming, and a number of these organizations (e.g. YMCA, Boys and Girls Clubs, Community Centers, Libraries) represent multiple sites

-24 organizations with an explicit cultural focus in providing after-school programming to children and youth (such as KidsArts! and Zumix)

-20 cultural organizations that offer exclusively independent programming (classes), many on a fee-for-service basis

These programs can be broken down into the following categories by arts and cultural disciplines:

**Boston Neighborhood Non-Profit Programs Providing
Direct Unit, Competency or Mastery Arts & Cultural Programs by Discipline**

	Choral Music	Dance	Film/ Video	History	Instrumental Music	Interpretive Science	Literary Arts	Theatre	Visual Arts ²
Allston/Brighton	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	7	3
Back Bay/Beacon Hill	1	6	1	0	2	0	0	8	5
Central (includes Chinatown)	6	3	0	0	0	7	6	8	9
Charlestown	0	1	0	1	0	2	1	5	3
Dorchester	12	12	4	0	9	4	3	22	29
East Boston	0	1	0	0	2	0	1	0	1
Fenway/Mission Hill	3	1	2	0	14	2	4	12	17
Hyde Park	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	10
Jamaica Plain	3	4	0	0	2	1	2	6	1
Mattapan	0	3	0	0	0	3	2	0	0
Roslindale	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Roxbury	6	7	3	2	1	8	1	12	15
South Boston	1	6	0	1	0	2	1	5	10
South End	1	13	0	1	3	0	0	11	3
West Roxbury	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	34	64	10	5	34	29	24	98	108

² The category “Visual Arts” includes Architecture, Crafts, Media Arts and Traditional Arts.

These programs can be broken down into the following categories by ages served:

**Boston Neighborhood Non-Profit Programs Providing
Direct Unit, Competency or Mastery Arts & Cultural Programs by Ages Served**

Neighborhood	Number of Programs Serving Ages 5-9	Number of Programs Serving Ages 10-14	Number of Programs Serving Ages 15-19
Allston/Brighton	7	8	7
Back Bay/Beacon Hill	13	18	14
Central (includes Chinatown)	14	19	23
Charlestown	6	11	13
Dorchester	63	78	44
East Boston	2	4	3
Fenway/Mission Hill	16	27	35
Hyde Park	3	2	1
Jamaica Plain	25	26	8
Mattapan	3	6	1
Roslindale	7	8	6
Roxbury	22	48	25
South Boston	10	16	16
South End	17	20	14
West Roxbury	0	0	0
Total	208	291	210

The following table presents data that shows several Boston neighborhoods, including East Boston, Hyde Park, Mattapan and West Roxbury, to have a disproportionately low number of programs compared to the proportion of the city's children who reside in those neighborhoods.

**Percentage of Non-Profit Programs Providing
Direct Unit, Competency or Mastery
Arts & Cultural Services located in Boston Neighborhoods
(Compared with Percentage of Children by Neighborhood Residency)**

Neighborhood	Percentage of Programs	Percentage of Children Living in Neighborhood
Allston/Brighton	5%	7%
Back Bay/Beacon Hill	6%	1%
Central (includes Chinatown)	9%	2%
Charlestown	4%	2%
Dorchester	22%	20%
East Boston	1%	7%
Fenway/Mission Hill	17%	9%
Hyde Park	2%	6%
Jamaica Plain	7%	5%
Mattapan	3%	9%
Roslindale	1%	6%
Roxbury	11%	14%
South Boston	4%	4%
South End	8%	3%
West Roxbury	0%	4%

As a result of this study, several questions remain for further studying. These include:

1. How many children participate annually in out-of-school time arts and cultural programs?
2. What is the racial, ethnic and gender make-up of the children who participate in these programs?
3. How does the supply of out-of-school time arts and cultural programs relate to the demand for these services?
4. How does the quality of these programs differ?
5. How can out-of-school time arts and cultural programs work most effectively with children, when a large number of children attend schools in different neighborhoods than the one they live in?

The Boston Mayor's Office of Arts and Cultural Development will continue to pursue these and other research questions, as it works in Boston neighborhoods to expand and coordinate arts and cultural program opportunities in out-of-school time.

Appendix: List of Participating Organizations

In the fall of 2002, the Office of Cultural Affairs¹ sent a survey to Boston-based non-profit arts and cultural organizations with the goal of creating a database cataloging arts and cultural education opportunities in out-of-school time. Through extensive follow up efforts during the winter and spring of 2002-2003, surveys were returned from the following 223 organizations:

Boston Non-Profit Arts & Cultural Organizations OCA Out-of-School Time Survey Respondents

96 Inc.	ABCD Dorchester Neighborhood Service Center
Abstraction Made Elementary (AME)	American Concert Ballet
Archdale Community Center	Art Institute of Boston at Lesley University
Art of Black Dance & Music	Artists for Humanity
Arts in Progress	Back Pocket Dancers
Berklee College of Music	Bird Street Community Center
Blackstone Community Center	Blue Hill Boys & Girls Club
Boston Arts Academy	Boston Ballet, Inc.
Boston Center for the Arts	Boston Children's Services Magnet Program at Blackstone Community Center
Boston Children's Services/ McKay School	Boston Children's Theatre
Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center (BCNC)	Boston City Lights Performing Arts School
Boston Cyberarts, Inc.	Boston Excels/ Ellis
Boston Film/Video Foundation	Boston Institute for Arts Therapy
Boston Lyric Opera	Boston Musica Viva
Boston Nature Center – Massachusetts Audubon Society	Boston Photo Collaborative
Boston Public Library – Adams Street Branch	Boston Public Library – Allston Branch
Boston Public Library – Brighton Branch	Boston Public Library – Central Library in Copley Square
Boston Public Library – Charlestown Branch	Boston Public Library – Codman Square Branch
Boston Public Library – Connolly Branch	Boston Public Library – Dudley Branch
Boston Public Library – East Boston Branch	Boston Public Library – Egleston Square Branch

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Boston Public Library – Faneuil Branch	Boston Public Library – Fields Corner Branch
Boston Public Library – Grove Hall Branch	Boston Public Library – Hyde Park Branch
Boston Public Library – Jamaica Plain Branch	Boston Public Library – Lower Mills Branch
Boston Public Library – Mattapan Branch	Boston Public Library – North End Branch
Boston Public Library – Orient Heights Branch	Boston Public Library – Parker Hill Branch
Boston Public Library – Roslindale Branch	Boston Public Library – South Boston Branch
Boston Public Library – South End Branch	Boston Public Library – Uphams Corner Branch
Boston Public Library – Washington Village Branch	Boston Public Library – West End Branch
Boston Public Library – West Roxbury Branch	Boston Renaissance Charter Public School
Boston Society of Architects/ Learning By Design in Massachusetts	Boston Symphony Orchestra
Boys and Girls Club of Boston	Celebrity Series of Boston
Centastage	Charlestown Working Theater
City Stage Co.	Codman Square Health Center
Codman Square Library	Codman Square NDC
Colonel Daniel Marr Boys and Girls Club	Commonwealth Shakespeare Company
Community Music Center of Boston	Computer Clubhouse
Cooperative Artists Institute	Dance Collective
Dorchester Community Center for the Visual Arts (Dot Art)	Dorchester House Multi-Service Center
Dreams of Freedom	East Boston YMCA
Edwards Middle School	Emerson Stage
Emmanuel Music, Inc.	English/ Jamaica Plain Community College
Federated Dorchester Neighborhood Houses, Inc.	First Night, Inc.
First Night: ABCD Dorchester Neighborhood Service Center	First Night: All Saints Church/ Youth pro Musica
First Night: Archdale Community Center	First Night: BNN Multimedia Center
First Night: Boston Arts Academy	First Night: Boston Children’s Museum
First Night: Boston Chinese Cultural Association	First Night: Boston Landmarks Orchestra
First Night: Boston Natural Areas Network	First Night: Boston Park and Rec Park Arts Program
First Night: Bunker Hill Community College	First Night: Celebrity Series of Boston
First Night: Charlestown Community Center	First Night: Chittick Elementary School

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First Night: Dorchester Dot Art (Codman Square Library)	First Night: Dorchester Dot Art (Codman Square Tech. Center)
First Night: Dorchester Dot Art (Daniel Marr Boys and Girls Club)	First Night: Dorchester Dot Art (Jubilee House)
First Night: Dorchester Dot Art (Main Office)	First Night: Dorchester Dot Art (St.Mark's Church)
First Night: East Boston YMCA	First Night: East Boston ZUMIX
First Night: Edwards Middle School	First Night: Gallivan Community Center
First Night: Hawthorne Youth & Community Center	First Night: Hyde Park HS
First Night: ICA/ Settlements/ Harriet Tubman House	First Night: Lewis Middle School
First Night: MA Families for Kids	First Night: Nazarro Community Center
First Night: New England Aquarium	First Night: New England Conservatory
First Night: Partners for Youth with Disabilities	First Night: Renaissance Charter School
First Night: South Boston Neighborhood House	First Night: Strand Theater
First Night: Symphony Hall	First Night: Walter Denney Youth Center
First Night: Wang YMCA of Chinatown	First Night: Wheatley Middle School
First Night: Wheelock Family Theater	Freedom Trail Foundation
Freelance Players, Inc.	Gallivan Community Center
Greater Boston Youth Symphony Orchestras	Grub Street Writers, Inc.
Handel & Haydn Society	Harbor Point Youth Center
Hawthorne Youth and Community Center, Inc.	History-Making Productions, Inc.
Huntington Theatre Company	Hyde Park Community Center
Hyde Square Task Force, Inc.	Impulse Dance Company
Inquilinos Boricuas en Accion (IBA)	Institute of Contemporary Art
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum	Jackson/ Mann Community Center
Jamaica Plain Multicultural After School Program	Jamaica Plain School of Dance
James St. Clair Court	Jeannette Neill Dance Studio
Jewish Storytelling Coalition	La Pinata: Latin American Cultural Families Network
Lena Park CDC	Little House After School Program
Log School Settlement House	Lyric Stage Company of Boston
M. Harriet McCormack Center for the Arts: The Strand Theater	Making Time Visible
Manning After-School Program	Mason Elementary School
Massachusetts College of Art	Mattahunt Community Center
Medicine Wheel Productions Inc.	MGH Charlestown Youth Care

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Mobius, Inc.	Most Precious Blood School
Mural Crew	Museum of Afro American History
Museum of Fine Arts	Museum of Science
Museum of the National Center of Afro-American Artists	Museum of Transportation
MYTOWN	New England Aquarium
New England Conservatory	New England SCORES
Ohrenberger Community Center	Old South Meeting House
Paige Academy	PALS Children Chorus
Paraclete Center	Partners for Youth with Disabilities
Paul Revere House	Peanut Butter & Jelly Dance Co.
Perkins Community Center	Prevention Now After School/ Hennigan Community Center
Primary Source	Prometheus Dance
Puppet Showplace Theatre, Inc.	Quincy-Geneva Housing Corporation
Red Oak After School Program	Riverside Theatre Works
Roxbury Tenants of Harvard	Snappy Dance Theatre
Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities	South Boston Neighborhood House Arts Academy
Spontaneous Celebrations, Inc.	St. Patrick Church Community Organization
The Children's Museum	The Grip
The Neighborhood House Charter School	The Publick Theatre
The Theater Offensive	Topf Center for Dance Education
Transcultural Exchange	Travelers at the Music's Edge
Troubadour, Inc.	Underground Railway Theater
United South End Settlements	UrbanArts Institute at Massachusetts College of Art
USS Constitution Museum Foundation, Inc.	VSA Arts of Massachusetts
Wang Center for the Performing Arts, Inc.	Washington Irving School Alliance for Inclusion and Prevention
Wesley Child Care Center	West End House Boys and Girls Club
West Roxbury Community Center	Wheelock Family Theatre
Winthrop Elementary School/ Bird St.	Women Express, Inc./ Teen Voices
YMCA of Greater Boston	Young Achievers Extended Day Program
Young Audiences of Massachusetts	Youth pro Musica
Youth Voice Collaborative	Zoo New England
ZUMIX, Inc.	