

**Arts for Children and Youth in Philadelphia
Infrastructure & Leadership Subcommittee Meeting #1**

The Union League

April 15, 2008 3:00 – 5:00

Overview of Arts for Youth

- Broad, long term vision; timeframe is 5-10 years
- Purpose of current work is to produce strategic plan; this portion will take 9-12 months
- No leadership structure yet, but we identified tasks during the community meeting that could happen even in the absence of established leadership

Current Structure (shared Yellow Box Diagram)

- Ad hoc advisory group organized the community meeting; this group is being formalized as a steering committee
- Two co-Chairs will represent each subcommittee on the steering committee; one is an original member of the advisory group, the other will be elected by the subcommittee today *QUESTION: Who was on the advisory group? Peggy Amsterdam, Shelly Yanoff, Jim Undercofler, Kumani Gant, Marian Godfrey, Greg Rowe, Shawn Mooring, Dennis Creedon, Cassandra Jones, Jo-Anna Moore, Natalye Paquin*
- Steering committee would be responsible for releasing RFP, acting as the voice of the initiative, providing final decision making authority
- Role of OMG to facilitate, distribute notes and resources, synthesize between subcommittees

Leadership Tasks

- What role will they play, what qualities do they need, etc. Any others?
- Need to establish principles for leadership

Principles

- Diverse representation: race, ethnicity, organization, community leaders, students, geographic diversity, types of educators: a broad spectrum of points of view are represented
- Oversight and accountability
- Equity and access, with regard to children and youth as well as organizations
- Flexibility and opportunism- make optimal use of policy windows and other opportunities
- Collaboration

Roles and responsibilities for future leadership

- Communications, messaging, engage diverse stakeholders

- Skills include ability to use data, political savvy, familiarity with in school and out of school time
- Take data from assessment and set realistic objectives for the next 3-5-10 years
- Frame roles and responsibilities that could be responded to by a coalition or one organization
- Develop criteria for participation for schools in addition to arts providers, also the educators of educators (PROGRAMS SUBCOMMITTEE)
- Engage SRC, DOE, other district, city, state policymakers
- Identify resources- bring in corporate and political leadership; small businesses and individuals can also be big contributors
- Set priorities and boundaries
- Set milestones, identify mechanisms for tracking progress, report progress and failures in a transparent way
- Distribute resources in a clear way
- Identify, assess, and attend to professional development needs across in school and out of school time
- Do ongoing needs assessments and establish levels of quality
- Ensure sustainability of the model

Structure

- Think about leadership in the broader sense, rather than one person or organization—we may be building a new one
- Consortium versus nonprofit organization- these are different skills. Is the leader managing a partnership or an organization?
- RFP should motivate organizations to partner so that they cover all capacities
- Coalitions can remain as coalitions or become organizations over time
- Structure should be flexible until other details emerge from subcommittees
- A coalition also has to include staffing
- Big Thought started out of Arts Partners which was a coalition model
- Coalition could build on strong programs that are already in existence
- Vision could not be reached by one organization alone
- What leadership models do other cities use? This is a good question to do more systematic search. We should look at models that currently exist. Ex. Empire State Partnership
- Other communities have United Arts Funds- you can combine all types of funding in this type of structure

Vision

- Changing the current system so that all children have equitable access to high quality arts experiences that include discipline based and integrated in and out of school time
- Likely we could focus on Philadelphia first: group agreed that it is important to define the geographic scope we are talking about
- Including the broader Humanities?

- Interdisciplinary- we don't want to limit the access of the great cultural wealth of the city, others outside strictest definition of the arts should feel part of the movement
- We need to ID success in three years, five years, ten years: I would find it helpful to react to someone else taking a stab at it
- One idea is to create a program for artists to teach in a community setting where they could get certified and promote professionalization of the after school field
- Step 1 is we put the art policy together, Step 2 is getting the teachers, Step 3 is figuring out what we do with these new teachers

Next Steps, Homework, Co-Chair

- Do research about what leadership models exist- look at other broad education models not just arts education, then email to OMG (meg@omgcenter.org) by May 12th.
- There will be finalization of the vision at the steering committee that will be presented during the May meeting
- OMG will provide leadership model options and do a summary presentation
- It would also be helpful to know what leadership capacities we have here in Philly. Who might those coalition representatives be? What leadership exists now? Subcommittee members should think about this for next time.
- It would be helpful to have a short presentation from the school district to give a current state of the union address of arts education in Philadelphia schools- Margaret Chin will prepare this
- Co-Chair from advisory group: Jim Undercofler
- Co-Chair elected by subcommittee: Allen Edmunds
- Next meeting: Tuesday May 20th

Attendees

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| • Marciene Mattleman | • Carol Fixman |
| • Amelia Schmertz | • Doug Bohr |
| • Kumani Gantt | • Phillip Horn |
| • Dierdre Woody | • Pearl Schaeffer |
| • Jim Undercofler | • Louis Scaglione |
| • Helen Davis Picher | • Jan Norman |
| • Courtenay Wilson | • Margaret Chin |
| • Allen Edmunds | • Beverly Harper |
| • Phil Juscka | • Vicki Sand |
| • Happy Fernandez | • Martin Cohen |
| • Margie Salvante | • Diane Dalto |
| • Glen Knapp | |