

Technical Review Cover Sheet

Panel Details

Fiscal Year 2010 **CFDA/Subprogram** 84.351D **Schedule No** 1 **Tier No.** 1

Panel Name Panel - 5

Applicant Name New York City Department of Education -- Office of Arts and Special Projects, Teaching and Learning **PR/Award No** U351D100153

Questions

	Points Possible	Points Scored
1. Selection Criteria		
Need for Project	15	14
Significance	10	10
Project Design	25	25
Project Personnel	10	10
Management Plan	20	20
Project Evaluation	20	20
TOTAL	100	99

Technical Review Form

Applicant Name New York City Department of Education -- Office of Arts and Special Projects, Teaching and Learning **PR/Award No** U351D100153

Reviewer Name

Selection Criteria - Need for Project

Your comments and scores should address the following criteria:

- (a) The extent to which the proposed project will provide services or otherwise address the needs of students at risk of educational failure.**
1. **(b) The extent to which specific gaps or weaknesses in services, infrastructure, or opportunities have been identified and will be addressed by the proposed project, including the nature and magnitude of those gaps or weaknesses.**

Strengths-

Impact data was provided. (page 2)

Potential to scale up. (page 2)

Described the lack of assessment in the nation in the area of arts education. (page 5)

Identified the gap between an arts requirement and delivery through the annual arts in schools report. (page 6)

Weaknesses-

Only gave data on Title 1 eligibility and "Schools in Need of Improvement" • but did not state the risk of educational failure.

Question Status: Completed

Reviewer Score: 14

Selection Criteria - Significance

Your comments and scores should address the following criteria:

2. **(1) The likely utility of the products (such as information, materials, processes, or techniques) that will result from the proposed project, including the potential for their being used effectively in a variety of other settings.**

Strengths-

Described the 4 goals of the program. (page 8)

The treatment school will serve as a model site for low-performing arts

schools. (page 9)
Partnering with three other prominent arts organizations. (page 9)
5th grade benchmark arts assessments are rolled out city wide. (page 11)
Potential to take state-wide. (page 12)

Weaknesses-
None noted.

Question Status: Completed

Reviewer Score: 10

Selection Criteria - Quality of Project Design

Your comments and scores should address the following criteria:

- (1) The extent to which the design of the proposed project reflects up-to-date knowledge from research and effective practice.**
- (2) The extent to which the proposed project is part of a comprehensive effort to improve teaching and learning and support rigorous academic standards for students.**
- (3) The extent to which the proposed project is designed to build capacity and yield results that will extend beyond the period of Federal financial assistance.**

Strengths-

Provided Project Goals, Objectives, and Outcomes for the Arts Achieve project. (page 18)

Benchmarks are provided for quantifiable results to be measured. (in chart)

A narrative timeline described the work plan. (page 22)

Alignments between art benchmarks and the 21st Century learning skills are provided. (page 23 & appendix)

Wide access to information for school administrators, educators and parents. (page 24)

Scaffolding arts instruction in grades 3-5 to ensure students meet the standards by the end of 5th grade. (page 27)

Weaknesses-

None noted.

Question Status: Completed

Reviewer Score: 25

Selection Criteria - Quality of Project Personnel

- Your comments and scores should address the following criterion:**
4. **(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the personnel who will carry out the proposed project. In determining the quality of project personnel, the Secretary considers the extent to which the applicant encourages applications for employment from persons who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability.**
- (2) In addition, the Secretary considers the following factor: The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of key project personnel.**

Strengths-

Project staff is qualified and has direct experience in teaching and learning in the arts. (page 31)

Legislation is cited along with organizational information on under-represented community outreach. (page 33)

Weaknesses-

None noted.

Question Status: Completed

Reviewer Score: 10

Selection Criteria - Quality of the Management Plan

- Your comments and scores should address the following criteria:**
5. **(1) The adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project tasks.**

- (2) The extent to which the time commitments of the project director and Principal investigator and other key project personnel are appropriate and adequate to meet the objectives of the proposed project.**
- (3) The adequacy of procedures for ensuring feedback and continuous improvement in the operation of the proposed project.**

Strengths-

Steering committee was created to oversee the project management plan. (page 34)

Listed in-kind resources and contributors. (page 35)

There will be regular meetings to ensure feedback and planning are consistent. (page 40)

Weaknesses-

None noted.

Question Status: Completed

Reviewer Score: 20

Selection Criteria - Quality of the Project Evaluation

Your comments and scores should address the following criteria:

- (1) The extent to which the methods of evaluation are thorough, feasible, and appropriate to the goals, objectives, and outcomes of the proposed project.**
- 6. (2) The extent to which the methods of evaluation will provide performance feedback and permit periodic assessment of progress toward achieving intended outcomes.**

Strengths-

The evaluation consulting firm has been selected. (page 41)

Data sources and timeline for evaluation of project outcomes was provided and described in detail the evaluation process.

Uses a combination of tools for evaluation throughout.

Weaknesses-
No weaknesses

Question Status: Completed
Reviewer Score: 20

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Panel Name Panel - 5

Applicant Name New York City Department of Education -- Office of Arts and Special Projects, Teaching and Learning **PR/Award No** U351D100153

Questions

	Points Possible	Points Scored
1. Selection Criteria		
Need for Project	15	15
Significance	10	10
Project Design	25	25
Project Personnel	10	10
Management Plan	20	20
Project Evaluation	20	20
TOTAL	100	100

Technical Review Form

Applicant Name New York City Department of Education -- Office of Arts and Special Projects, Teaching and Learning **PR/Award No** U351D100153

Reviewer Name

Selection Criteria - Need for Project

Your comments and scores should address the following criteria:

(a) The extent to which the proposed project will provide services or otherwise address the needs of students at risk of educational failure.

1. **(b) The extent to which specific gaps or weaknesses in services, infrastructure, or opportunities have been identified and will be addressed by the proposed project, including the nature and magnitude of those gaps or weaknesses.**

Strengths: There is demonstrated need for the project in schools meeting established parameters for participation. Gaps and weaknesses are clearly identified.

No weaknesses.

Question Status: Completed

Reviewer Score: 15

Selection Criteria - Significance

Your comments and scores should address the following criteria:

- 2. (1) The likely utility of the products (such as information, materials, processes, or techniques) that will result from the proposed project, including the potential for their being used effectively in a variety of other settings.**

Strengths: They are certainly in a position to "roll out" the assessments across the city. They are working with strong arts education organizations as partners. The potential for changing the attitudinal culture for arts education is huge.

No weaknesses.

Question Status: Completed

Reviewer Score: 10

Selection Criteria - Quality of Project Design

Your comments and scores should address the following criteria:

- (1) The extent to which the design of the proposed project reflects up-to-date knowledge from research and effective practice.**
- (2) The extent to which the proposed project is part of a comprehensive effort to improve teaching and learning and support rigorous academic standards for students.**
- (3) The extent to which the proposed project is designed to build capacity and yield results that will extend beyond the period of Federal financial assistance.**

Strengths: the underlying premise of this project is researched based and strong (p. 15). Objectives and goals are identified and it is part of a comprehensive effort district-wide, yet individualized for specific schools. The potential for replicating and scaling up is strong.

No weaknesses.

Question Status: Completed

Reviewer Score: 25

Selection Criteria - Quality of Project Personnel

4. **Your comments and scores should address the following criterion:**(1) **The Secretary considers the quality of the personnel who will carry out the proposed project. In determining the quality of project personnel, the Secretary considers the extent to which the applicant encourages applications for employment from persons who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability.**
- (2) In addition, the Secretary considers the following factor: The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of key project personnel.**

Strengths: Diversity is addressed. The key project personnel are well-qualified.

No weaknesses.

Question Status: Completed

Reviewer Score: 10

Selection Criteria - Quality of the Management Plan

Your comments and scores should address the following criteria:

- (1) The adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project tasks.**
- 5. (2) The extent to which the time commitments of the project director and Principal investigator and other key project personnel are appropriate and adequate to meet the objectives of the proposed project.**
- (3) The adequacy of procedures for ensuring feedback and continuous improvement in the operation of the proposed project.**

Strengths: The management plan documents defined responsibilities, contributions and commitment from partners; addresses the adequacy of time and budget; and provides continuous feedback and improvement strategies.

No weaknesses.

Question Status: Completed

Reviewer Score: 20

Selection Criteria - Quality of the Project Evaluation

Your comments and scores should address the following criteria:

6. **(1) The extent to which the methods of evaluation are thorough, feasible, and appropriate to the goals, objectives, and outcomes of the proposed project.**
- (2) The extent to which the methods of evaluation will provide performance feedback and permit periodic assessment of progress toward achieving intended outcomes.**

Strengths: There are clearly defined summative and formative strategies including quantitative and qualitative methods; clear benchmarks and timelines.

No weaknesses.

Question Status: Completed

Reviewer Score: 20

ARTS IN EDUCATION MODEL DEVELOPMENT AND DISSEMINATION TECHNICAL REVIEW FORM

REVIEWER'S NAME (PRINT):



DATE:

SIGNATURE:

PR #: U351D10 0153

NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

<u>SELECTION CRITERIA</u>	<u>MAXIMUM PTS</u>	<u>ASSIGNED PTS</u>
1. Need for Project	15	<u>15</u>
2. Significance	10	<u>10</u>
3. Quality of Project Design	25	<u>25</u>
4. Quality of Project Personnel	10	<u>8</u>
5. Quality of the Management Plan	20	<u>18</u>
6. Quality of Project Evaluation	20	<u>20</u>
Subtotal	100	<u>96</u>
TOTAL		<u> </u>

General Comments:

U351D100153

(1) NEED FOR PROJECT (15 points)

Your comments and scores should address the following criteria:

(a) The extent to which the proposed project will provide services or otherwise address the needs of students at risk of educational failure.

(b) The extent to which specific gaps or weaknesses in services, infrastructure, or opportunities have been identified and will be addressed by the proposed project, including the nature and magnitude of those gaps or weaknesses.

Strengths:

This project establishes need in 247 NYC public schools of which 87% are Title I schools for arts intervention that insures students have access to rigorous arts program aligned with National, State, and local arts standards. Project will establish 5th grade benchmarks for arts assessments during year 1, the planning year. The potential exists for benchmarks when at scale to impact all of NYC's 603 elementary schools and 60,000 5th grade students. The project emphasizes accountability such that all schools will ensure student success as a result of research/data driven decision making.

Weaknesses: None

Weaknesses:

None

For Need the maximum score is 15 points. Use the following guidelines:

Score 15

U351D100153

(2) SIGNIFICANCE (10 points)

Your comments and scores should address the following criteria:

- (1) The likely utility of the products (such as information, materials, processes, or techniques) that will result from the proposed project,

1

including the potential for their being used effectively in a variety of other settings.

Strengths:

Developing benchmarks for arts assessments in a collaborative process with a representative group of stakeholders. That benchmarks will be pilot tested, analyzed for reliability and validity and refined is a strong point. Specific plans to identify and remedy gaps will be led by cultural partners who will work with schools through multiple year consultancies to build in-school and across school PLCs. The track record of OASP will be essential in disseminating project results. Fifth grade benchmarks will be rolled out across the city after the grant year. Project potential has potential to influence public policy in the arts, education, etc.

Weaknesses:

None

For Significance the maximum score is 10 points.

Score 10

U351D100153

(3) QUALITY OF PROJECT DESIGN (25 points)

Your comments and scores should address the following criteria:

- (1) The extent to which the design of the proposed project reflects up-to-date knowledge from research and effective practice.
- 1
(2) The extent to which the proposed project is part of a comprehensive effort to improve teaching and learning and support rigorous academic standards for students.
- (3) The extent to which the proposed project is designed to build capacity and yield results that will extend beyond the period of Federal financial assistance.

Strengths:

Project emphasizes 21st century learning skills of creativity, critical thinking, communication and collaboration. This project incorporates best practices using formative and summative assessments to inform instruction and positively impact student learning. PLCs are designed to ensure formative assessments are used appropriately in grades 3-5 classrooms. The project is part of a comprehensive approach to improve teaching and learning, and to support rigorous academic standards for students as explained in the tables beginning on page 17.

Weaknesses:

None

For the project design the maximum score is 25 points.

Score 25

U351D100153

4) Quality of project personnel (10 points)

Your comments and scores should address the following criterion:

¹
The Secretary considers the quality of the personnel who will carry out the proposed project. In determining the quality of project personnel, the Secretary considers the extent to which the applicant encourages applications for employment from persons who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability.

In addition, the Secretary considers the following factor:

The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of key project personnel.

Strengths:

The OASP Executive Director will serve as in-kind project director and the four OASP Arts Directors will also serve as key staff on this project. The project directors of the partner organizations will also be critical in staffing and implementing this project effectively. The resumes of the proposed personnel clearly indicate that they have the necessary skills and experience to successfully undertake this project. Throughout the proposal attention to ELL and special needs students was explicit.

Weaknesses:

Weaknesses: The project manager is not yet employed and there was not a specific position description for him/her in the proposal. The management plan did indicate that the Project Manager would spend 40 % of his/her time on this project. OASP's success in hiring or contracting with underrepresented groups in its past and current projects was not evident in the proposal, however, the proposal does state that the "NYC DOE's policies for non-discrimination in its hiring practices are articulated and safeguarded by its Office of Equal Opportunity." These policies are in accordance with federal and state laws

For project personnel the maximum score is 10 points.

Score 8

U351D100153

(4) QUALITY OF THE MANAGEMENT PLAN (20 points)

Your comments and scores should address the following criteria:

- (1) The adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the
1 proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project tasks.
- (2) The extent to which the time commitments of the project director and Principal investigator and other key project personnel are appropriate and adequate to meet the objectives of the proposed project.
- (3) The adequacy of procedures for ensuring feedback and continuous improvement in the operation of the proposed project.

Strengths:

Convening the Arts Achieve Steering Committee is a plus. In-kind contributions from DOE and OASP, cultural partners and evaluators help to strengthen the proposal. Timelines with activities and milestones were helpful in understanding implementation. Letters of support were among the strengths of the plan.

Weaknesses:

Weaknesses: The management plan seemed incomplete with no discussion of how the control versus the experimental schools would be managed.

For the management plan the maximum score is 20 points.

Score 18

U351D100153

PROJECT EVALUATION (20 points)

Your comments and scores should address the following criteria:

- (1) The extent to which the methods of evaluation are thorough, feasible, and appropriate to the goals, objectives, and outcomes of the proposed project.
- (2) The extent to which the methods of evaluation will provide performance feedback and permit periodic assessment of progress toward achieving intended outcomes.

Strengths:

Strengths: Metis Associates, an independent research and evaluation firm with more than 33 years of experience in providing technical assistance and professional support in program evaluation, policy analysis, program development, and computer system design activities, will be retained to conduct the evaluation for this project. Metis is already under contract to evaluate two AEMDD grants: AEMDD – Studio in a School and AEMDD – NYC Region One.

Weaknesses:

None

For Evaluation the maximum score is 20 points.

Score 20