

Young Audiences Arts Integrated Professional Development Project

Abstract

The Jefferson Parish Public School System, in partnership with Young Audiences National and Young Audiences of Louisiana, respectfully requests funding from the U.S. Department of Education's Professional Development for Arts Educators Dissemination Grant Program (PDAE) for the expansion of YA's i3 award winning Arts for Learning model (A4L). A4L is an innovative, research-based literacy program that blends the creativity and discipline of the arts with learning science, to raise student achievement in literacy, mathematics and the arts, while nurturing the development of essential learning and life skills. To date, A4L has been implemented in 140 schools across seven states and has consistently proven to significantly raise student achievement scores in literacy and mathematics, including students below proficiency and English language learners.

The *Young Audiences Arts Integrated Professional Development* model builds on a foundation of success by developing and disseminating a rigorous arts integrated professional development program for second – fourth grade teachers in four of Jefferson Parish's persistently lowest achieving Title 1 **schools (Absolute Priority)**. AIPD will provide educators with tools, strategies and instructional methods to create original arts integrated lessons aligned with Common Core State Standards and National Core Arts Standards. Leveraged learning that uses the arts as a catalyst will deepen student interest and engagement, nurture understanding through experiential lessons, and make learning memorable. This model will also incorporate a comprehensive, online digital learning platform and tablet technology to increase teacher effectiveness and enhance student learning through the arts (*Competitive Preference Priority*).