



The Rhodes School

Project Name: Magnet Schools Assistance Program

Project Director: Michelle Bonton

Telephone: (281) 224-5873

E-mail: michellel.bonton@rhodesschool.org

Number of Schools Served: 1

Number of Students Served: 850

Year 1 Funding: \$1,321,003

The Rhodes School is located within the boundaries of the North Forest Independent School District (NFISD) and serves the Texas school districts of North Forest, Humble, Galena Park, Sheldon, and Channelview. NFISD is situated in the northeast section of Houston, in Harris County. One hundred percent of NFISD students are eligible to participate in the Free and Reduced Price School Meals Program. Seventy percent of NFISD students are Black, 29 percent are Hispanic, and 1 percent is White.

The purpose of The Rhodes School magnet program is to expand educational choice and to provide increased opportunities for students from different racial/ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds to interact. As an open-enrollment, charter elementary school serving 350 students—with the capacity to serve 600—The Rhodes School was formed to provide an educationally sound, arts- and literacy-rich curriculum that will help students improve their academic skills and foster a passion for learning. This goal will be accomplished by using Magnet Schools Assistance Program funds to create a fine arts magnet charter school that offers art, dance, drama, and classical music as part of the core curriculum. The Rhodes School is unique in that it utilizes federal, state, and private resources to implement the program and to establish partnerships with other arts organizations.