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ARTS EVERY DAY AWARDS \$10,000 TO BALTIMORE CITY SCHOOLS FOR COMMUNITY ART

March 10, 2020, Arts Every Day (AED) awards \$10,000 to two Baltimore City Public Schools to implement large scale arts installations and collaborations that will have a long- term impact on their students and surrounding communities. This year’s projects include a community mural with City Neighbors Hamilton in collaboration with artist LaToya Peoples and an outdoor wayfinding project with Edgecombe Circle Elementary and Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary School in collaboration with artist Whitney Grace Frazier.

Arts Every Day is proud to be a driving force in building and sustaining a Baltimore City public school system that embraces creativity, art, and culture as a fundamental requirement for a quality education. Impact Fund is an extension of this work, giving students, teachers, community members, and local artists the opportunity to come together to create impactful works, leave behind legacies, and strengthen relationships for all involved.

Each project will host at least one community day or dedication ceremony that is open to the public where schools, artists, local partners and neighboring communities will come together to share the work and celebrate everyone involved. Community Days will take place before June, 2020.

The project is a community art project for MLK and Edgecombe students to work together. This project, themed “Hope in the Heights,” will provide MLK students with an opportunity to define their hopes and dreams for their new school experience. During design workshops, students will use literacy skills including metaphors, similes, compound words, portmanteaus, and descriptive writing to be incorporated in their designs.

– Principal McClain, Edgecombe Circle Elementary

The Arts Every Day Impact Fund is the only grant exclusively for Baltimore City Public Schools with the intention of supporting large scale, permanently installed projects that connect individual schools to local artists or organizations and their surrounding community. These projects serve as a source of pride and foster an appreciation for the arts and its influence on communities. Since the start of the program in 2014, this initiative has grown to a competitive funding opportunity open to all Baltimore City Public Schools. Thanks to the generous support of M&T Bank Charitable Foundation, the Department of Housing and Community Development Tax Credit program, and the growing support of our foundation, corporation and individual donors, the Impact Fund will support two inspiring projects for the year 2020.

Impact Fund Projects for School Year 2020

City Neighbors Hamilton: *City Neighbors Hamilton Community Mural*

Awarded \$5,000

City Neighbors Hamilton is grounded in the belief that students, staff and the community are “Known, Loved and Inspired.” In collaboration with students in grades K-8, the visual arts teacher will work with students and an expert mural artist, LaToya Peoples, to design and implement this project. With a mural project, students will be asked to think deeply about their school and community and create something that will capture the true essence of CNH. This mural project will also help students connect with the school and develop a deeper connection to the school community. The mural’s theme is “What does it mean to be known, loved and inspired?”. All grades will explore this guiding question in order to develop imagery that will be used to design the mural.

The school’s learning goal this year is focused on informational reading and writing. Students in K-3 will work on articulating small moment stories in both written and drawn from connected with the theme. Fourth and fifth-graders will examine components of social studies that contribute to feeling known, loved and inspired in a community. Middle school students will explore utopias and dystopias to gain an understanding of how the creation and design of a society impact on the people living in it.

Edgcombe Circle Elementary: *Wayfinding Project: Edgcombe Circle & MLK*

Awarded \$5,000

At the end of the 2019-2020 school year, Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School will close. The elementary school students at MLK will transition to Edgcombe Circle as their new school home. As expected, the closing of this school is a source of sadness. To ease the pain of the transition, this project will assist with merging the two communities but will also commemorate MLK Elementary in Edgcombe Circle forever. A professional teaching artist, Whitney Frazier, will facilitate art workshops with preK– 5th grade students in both schools to design an art project that will be installed at Edgcombe and along a walking path that leads MLK students to their new school. This project, themed “Hope in the Heights,” will provide MLK students with an opportunity to define their hopes and dreams for their new school experience through visual imagery and design.

About Arts Every Day

Arts Every Day strengthens learning by making arts education and cultural experiences an integral part of classroom instruction for all students in Baltimore City Public Schools. Serving as a catalyst for creative learning, Arts Every Day builds and sustains long-term partnerships with schools, artists, and cultural institutions while working to connect and empower teachers as leaders within their school communities.

A 501(c) 3 founded in 2006 as one in only eight organizations originally funded by the Ford Foundation, AED works to ensure all Baltimore City Public Schools students have access to the arts every day through arts education, arts programming, and arts-integrated instruction. Arts Every Day works toward this goal through the forging of partnerships with schools and the arts and cultural community over the long-term to inspire lasting change.