



VOL. 3|JANUARY 2021

Backstage

A Monthly Newsletter from EBRPSS Department of Fine Arts

1105 Lee Drive, Building D Baton Rouge, LA 70808

www.ebrfinearts.com

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'Science will get us out of this, but the Arts will get us through this'



FINE ARTS



Overview:

- All-Parish Honor Choir
- LSU MOA Photographs of the New South
- Holiday Greeting Card Design Winners
- MMAM's Choral Department Receives Grant Funding
- Northeast High Virtual Band Concert
- January Tech Bites
- Grant Opportunities
- Celebrations
- Funding
- Arts News Spotlight - Arts Education Policy Trends in 2021

EBRPSS Department of Fine Arts' "Backstage" is our EBR School Community monthly email newsletter celebrating all things Fine Arts in the District. During such an unprecedented time in our global community, Backstage is our attempt to stay connected, informed and united as we push forward during this academic year. We welcome celebrations, and newsworthy events for each issue, and encourage you to send information that you would like highlighted. Each issue includes current and past national news articles highlighting education in the Arts. Thank you for your tireless efforts as Arts Educators. Enjoy this issue!

Return of the EBRPSS All- Parish Honor Choir!!!



After a hiatus of several years, the EBRPSS high school Choir directors have re-formed the All-Parish High School Honor Choir. Due to COVID, the ensemble was formed by director nomination, and unfortunately will not be able to put on a concert, but hope to be back on stage performing in-person for the 2021 - 2022 school year. Congratulations to all students who were named to this lofty group!!

SCHOOL YEAR 2020 - 2021 EBRPSS ALL PARISH HIGH SCHOOL HONOR CHOIR

Sopranos

Mary Basco – Liberty HS
Jada Braxton – Woodlawn HS
DeStani Brown – Broadmoor HS
Eleanor Carter – Woodlawn HS
Tyrich Cox – Glen Oaks HS
Dallis Davis – McKinley HS
Joy Hale – McKinley HS
Dayja Hall – Broadmoor HS
Treneja Jupiter – Broadmoor HS
Emyly Leatherman – McKinley HS
Ta'Myra Lee – Istrouma HS
Kaylee Mancuso – Baton Rouge HS
Trinity Mitchell – Liberty HS
Takiyah Penn – Tara HS
Annabella Pineda-Ramirez – Baton Rouge HS
Jade Poche – Liberty HS
Joia Raymond – Tara HS
Mya Smith – McKinley HS
Rane'sya Sterling-Tucker – McKinley HS
Katelyn Vincent – Liberty HS
Bethany Whitley – Glen Oaks HS
Brittany Wright – Glen Oaks HS

Altos

Tia Carney – Tara HS
Adrienne East – Woodlawn HS
LaKira Foster – Tara HS
Camille Gildersleeve – Baton Rouge HS
Chrislynn Hills – Broadmoor HS
Amyri Johnson – Istrouma HS
Sarah Kring – Woodlawn HS
Jasha Triplett – Istrouma HS
Eryn-Taylor Sutton – Liberty HS
TyQuinnia Watson – Glen Oaks HS
Brianna Williams – Liberty HS
Mckenzie Williams – Glen Oaks HS
Shania Williams – McKinley HS

Tenors

Dalphy Bouie – Istrouma HS
Marshaun Bridgewater – Istrouma HS
Calos Dangerfield – Glen Oaks HS
Cameron Lindsay – Woodlawn HS
Carlos Mack, Jr. – Istrouma HS
Braedon Mbala – McKinley HS
Daniel Moore – Broadmoor HS
Braylen Perkins – Istrouma HS
Elijah Phifer – Baton Rouge HS
Joseph Phillips – Tara HS
Jacoby Price – Glen Oaks HS
Jason Spears – Istrouma HS
Joshua Tregre – Baton Rouge HS
Devin Trim – Woodlawn HS

Basses

Dehavius Raby, Jr. – Broadmoor HS
Aaron Dimmick – Baton Rouge HS
Samuel Favors – Tara HS
Daytin Thomas – Baton Rouge HS



Northeast Jr/Sr HS Virtual Winter Concert.

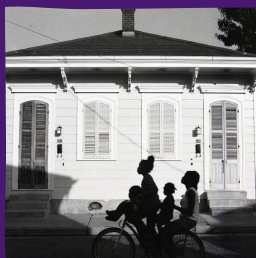


Northeast Junior and Senior HS Virtual Winter Concert was a success and broadcast live on YouTube on December 17, 2020. The successful virtual Holiday presentations during the weeks preceding the break are a prime example of the resilience and creativity of our EBRPSS arts educators. The show must go on -- always. We continue to be extremely proud of our educators and students during this time and commend all of them for their commitment to artistic excellence in every endeavor. Job well done!



Wildwood Elementary Receives Art Supplies

Marthalee Marron would like to thank the generous donors who enabled art students at Wildwood Elementary to receive their own individual bags of art supplies. Ms. Marron and students are extremely grateful. Generous donations were made by several individuals and businesses. Supplies included individual pencil bags, paints, brushes, markers, drawing pencils, colored pencils and gel pens.



KEVIN KLEIN "FOUR ON A BIKE"

LSU MOA Photographs of the New South

Opening October 22 at the LSU Museum of Art is Southbound: Photographs of and about the New South, featuring fifty-six photographers' visions of the South over the first decades of the twenty-first century. Accordingly, it offers a composite image of the region. The photographs echo stories told about the South as a bastion of tradition, as a region remade through Americanization and globalization, and as a land full of surprising realities. The project's purpose is to investigate the senses of place in the South that congeal, however fleetingly, in the spaces between the photographers' looking, their images, and our own preexisting ideas about the region.



JANUARY TECH BITE



UNLOCK CREATIVE THINKING FOR ALL STUDENTS IN ANY SUBJECT



Seesaw

Seesaw creates a powerful learning loop between students, teachers, and families

The Learning Loop



How Seesaw Works

STUDENTS SHOW LEARNING

Students use built-in annotation tools to capture what they know in Seesaw's digital portfolio



TEACHERS GAIN INSIGHTS



Teachers deeply understand student thinking and progress — enabling them to teach better



FAMILIES CONNECT

Families gain a window into their student's learning and engage with school happenings



Students explore a variety of powerful and intuitive tools (like draw+record, collage, video, and more!) to show what they know in the way that works best for them.

GAIN INSIGHTS TO MEET YOUR STUDENTS WHERE THEY ARE

Understand strengths and areas for growth in real-time so you can differentiate instruction to meet the needs of all your students

ENGAGE FAMILIES IN CONVERSATION CENTERED ON STUDENT LEARNING

Connect families to see student work and celebrate progress. Up to ten family members can stay in the loop using the Parent and Family app (iOS, Android) or on web

Support for face to face and remote learning environments. Click the link below for more information on how to integrate Seesaw into your curriculum today!

[CLICK HERE](#)

Ms. Foundation for Women Grant Opportunity

The Ms. Foundation works to bring attention to the challenges facing women, especially women of color and low-income women who are living in poverty, working paycheck to paycheck or both. They advocate for national and statewide policy change that will address these challenges, and support more than 100 organizations throughout the country that are working for change on a grassroots level.

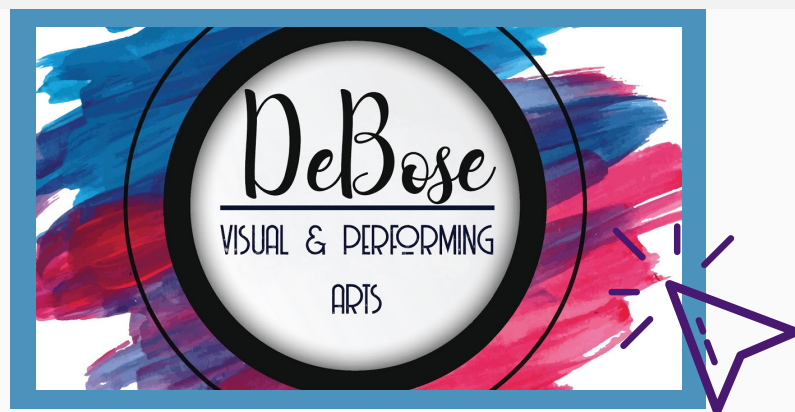
The Ms. Foundation is launching a multi-year programmatic strategy to strengthen the financial sustainability and leadership development capacity of organizations led by women and girls of color in the U.S. South. Their initial grantmaking of \$1,000,000 will support WGOC-led groups in the U.S. South across the spectrum of organizing and supporting our communities.

The Ms. Foundation for Women welcomes requests for general operating support from groups working in the United States, Puerto Rico and U.S. territories. Organizations are invited to apply for up to \$50,000 per year for up to two years. For More information on the Ms. South Grant and other open Grant Opportunities from The Ms. Foundation for women, visit the website at www.forwomen.org.



Do you, or someone you know, or an organization that you know of, have an acoustic piano - upright, baby grand, grand - that is no longer needed and looking to do something with it? Why not donate it to the EBRPSS so the next generation of students can play it? Contact Glenn Scheuermann at gscheuermann@ebschools.org for more information on how a piano can be donated. **PUT THAT PIANO BACK TO WORK!!**

Don't Forget to Apply for Debose 2021!!



Celebrations

Each year, the EBRPSS Fine Arts Department holds a parish-wide Holiday Greeting Card Design Contest. One elementary, one middle, and one high school entry are selected for the district's annual holiday greeting cards mailed to district stakeholders and supporters. This year's winners are:

FIRST PLACE

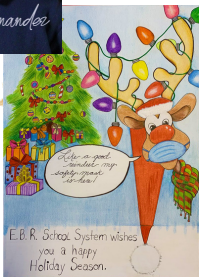
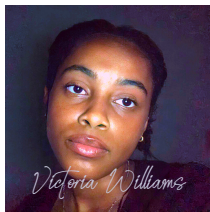
Dev Iyer, 5th Grade
Buchanan Elementary School
Art teacher: Kelly Haskew



Alexandra Hernandez, 7th Grade
Park Forest Middle School
Art teacher: Salma Hasan



Victoria Williams, 11th Grade
Baton Rouge Magnet High School
Art teacher: Cetin Ates



Louisiana School Boards Association Art Exhibition Winners

Each year, the Louisiana School Boards Association holds an art exhibition and contest at its annual conference. The contest begins locally in the 69 Louisiana school districts where one winner is selected from elementary, middle, and high school students. The first place district winners are exhibited at the annual conference. This year, the exhibit will be virtual. To view our District Winners Click Here:

[CLICK HERE](#)

Funding

McKinley Middle Magnet's Choral Department received a \$2,000 grant from the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival Foundation. The award will be used for costuming, props, and technology support to produce the Spring virtual or face to face production entitled Movie Night at McKinley. The students will be singing solos, duet, trios, and a few big group numbers from popular movies in the theatre. Location dates and times are TBA. The EBRPSS Fine Arts Department also received a grant from the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival in the amount of \$800 for instrument repairs. Many thanks to the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival Foundation for their support of the arts in Baton Rouge!!

SECOND PLACE

Dhruv Adusumilli, 5th Grade
Buchanan Elementary School
Art teacher: Kelly Haskew



Devione Anton Webb, 7th Grade
Park Forest Middle School
Art teacher: Salma Hasan

Camille Piner, 9th Grade
Baton Rouge Magnet High School
Art teacher: Cetin Ates

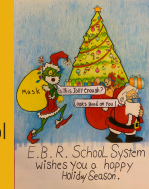


THIRD PLACE

Scott Isbell, 5th grade
Parkview Elementary School
Art teacher: Kelly Haskew



Ceryi Lozano-Aguilar, 8th grade
Park Forest Middle School
Art teacher: Salma Hasan



Margaret Bagot, 10th grade
Baton Rouge Magnet High School
Art teacher: Cetin Ates



HONORABLE MENTION

Milanda Liu, 4th grade
Parkview Elementary School
Art teacher: Kelly Haskew



Cadyn Bui, 8th grade
Sherwood Middle Academic Magnet School
Art teacher: Mary Trigg



June Peterson, 8th grade
McKinley Middle Art teacher: Cetin Ates

Latavia Tircuit, 9th grade
Scotlandville Magnet High School
Art teacher: Amy Griffin



Donors Choose.org
Teachers ask. You choose.



A Donors Choose project written by the EBRPSS Fine Arts Department has been fully funded for the purchase of forty eight instrument bell covers for student use. Instrument bell covers fit over the end of a band instrument, acting as a 'mask' for the instrument, and allowing the student to play the instrument indoors. The project, totaling \$600, was funded by several donors, including the Dow Corporation. Many thanks to the donors and Donors Choose!!

ARTS NEWS SPOTLIGHT

Arts Education Policy Trends to Look for in 2021

This post comes from the Arts Education Partnership, a national coalition of over 100 education, arts, business, culture, government and philanthropy organizations at Education Commission of the States.



*By: Jamie Kasper and Mary Dell'Erba
December 18, 2020*

The 2020 AEP Virtual Gathering may feel like it happened years ago, but it's only been three months! At this year's gathering we reflected on the past 25 years and looked ahead to the next 25. We also considered drivers of change in arts education policy and practice as we continue to navigate uncertainty and unrest. As this year ends, we are reflecting on the great ideas shared at the event and looking forward to the work that will lead arts education policy and practice into 2021.

Racial Equity and Justice:

In 2020, conversations about the COVID-19 pandemic's disproportionate impact on communities of color, as well as sustained public attention on police violence and systemic racism, spotlighted equity work in policy. Quanice Floyd, Amir Whitaker, and Jeff Poulin's session presented ideas about who arts education is for, who serves as a gatekeeper in arts education spaces, and how human rights issues are reflected — or not — in arts education. Janel George's keynote provided a reminder of how far we've come in federal education policy and how far we still need to go in both policy and implementation. She reminded us that we are still striving for an education system where children thrive. James Haywood Rolling Jr. and Mario Rossero spoke about why racial injustice has moved into the greater public consciousness as we navigate the pandemic. Rolling also shared some of the work he has done to support anti-racist arts education practices. We anticipate these conversations will drive policy change well beyond 2020.

Uniting and Healing Through the Arts:

With the shift to remote learning and the resulting isolation for both children and adults, the role of the arts in uniting and healing are anticipated to remain top of mind for districts and states. Heleya de Barros, Olisa Enrico and James Miles presented a session on strategies for improving pedagogy and connecting with learners. Ashley Hare, Paula Ortega and Micky Johnson built on these strategies and highlighted three concepts that must be present to promote creative youth development: racial equity and social justice, youth voices and collective action.



In his keynote presentation, Paul Siefken shared the work of Fred Rogers Productions, focusing on modeling attitudes of curiosity and kindness. He emphasized that families, teachers, and community members are all educators and listening first is how they can best support children's emotional well-being.

Through a panel discussion, Susan MacLaury, Gina Lyles, Andre Robert Lee, and Hasan Davis spoke to the importance of sharing power with students, schools, and communities to build greater collaboration and creative approaches to education. Reflecting on the film *Virtually Free*, Lee and Lyles described the importance of building trust between youth and artists, manifested through the process of creating a virtual reality jail cell including youth voices and artwork to foster empathy during police training in Richmond, Virginia. These themes of honoring young people's experiences, listening to communities, and trust-building will remain central to arts education and policy throughout 2021.

Funding Opportunities:

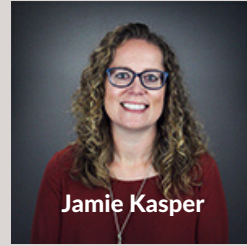
Mary Luehrsen, Jim Palmarini, and Lynn Tuttle presented a session on Title IV-A, a federal block funding grant for a well-rounded education, safe and healthy students, and educational technology. Prior to widespread shutdowns and the financial downturn, school districts spent at least \$6.7 million in Title IV-A funds to support arts education during the 2019-20 school year. The shift to online and hybrid learning prompted school districts to shift funding to educational technology, and the presenters reminded us that school districts can continue to tap into Title IV-A funds to support safe remote, hybrid and in-person arts instruction.

Karla Estela Rivera, Jason Helfer and Jonathan VanderBrug shared a case study on the Illinois state arts ESSA indicator. The indicator serves as a statement that Illinois prioritizes arts education, and presenters shared that they see it as an opportunity for advocacy as funding tightens and school districts make decisions about spending limited funds.

SPOTLIGHT CONTINUED

While we can't predict what the next year — or 25 years — will bring in arts education, we do know that AEP's partner and affiliate organizations will lead the way in making progress. In 2021, AEP will continue to build leadership capacity and share the collective expertise of our partners on racial equity and justice, uniting and healing through the arts, and funding opportunities for arts education.

Author Profile



Director at Arts Education Partnership | jkasper@ecs.org As director of the Arts Education Partnership, Jamie works with over 100 partner organizations to support arts learning across the United States. Prior to joining Education Commission of the States, Jamie worked for Arts Education Collaborative in Pittsburgh and was previously the state arts curriculum advisor at the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Jamie is also an active musician who spends time on the weekends rehearsing or performing with various groups.



Roxi Victorian

Editor, EBRPSS Fine Arts Newsletter
Dance Director

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www.mckinleymiddlemagnet.com

life is a dance floor. love is the rhythm...