



DEDICATED ARTS INSTRUCTION CENTERS
in DANCE + DRAMA + MUSIC + VISUAL ARTS
for D.C. PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS

..... **FACT SHEET**

MISSION By providing arts exposure, instruction, and appreciation across the disciplines to school-age students the Fillmore Arts Center develops children’s 21st century skill set. Fillmore’s classes, workshops, and summer programs allow students to be critical thinkers who draw connections, make decisions, and solve problems within creative contexts both inside the classroom and beyond.

METHOD The Fillmore Arts Center serves the community by providing quality arts instruction to thousands of D.C. public school students annually. Fillmore participants are drawn from multiple public elementary schools attended by children from every ward in the city. The two locations, Fillmore West, located in Hardy Middle School, and Fillmore East, in Raymond Elementary School, are dedicated centers with customized facilities and professional educators trained to deliver instruction in specific arts disciplines. Students from the local feeder schools for each location are able to explore an array of arts activities, including dance, theater, music, and multiple visual arts media.

In addition to serving D.C. public school students, Fillmore offers after-school workshops and summer camps to school age children throughout the area. These programs offer Fillmore’s same quality arts instruction at reasonable tuition rates. Typically, several scholarships are available annually for needy students in order to assure the diversity of our program participants.

OUTPUT Fillmore’s program is sequentially structured in accordance with the National and District of Columbia Standards for Arts Education. Research shows that quality arts education enhances both the cognitive skills needed for learning academic content and the cooperative/social skills needed for healthy personal development. Connecting with the work of Howard Gardner’s “multiple intelligences” theory Fillmore educates every child, since the arts often engage children who do poorly in traditional settings.
Indeed the arts make us smarter.

HISTORY The Fillmore Arts Center was founded in 1974 by parents, teachers and administrators in partnership with the District of Columbia’s Public School system. The school is staffed by professional educators and practicing artists who are keenly able to instruct, demonstrate, and nurture students on their creative journey.

AWARDS For over three decades, the award-winning Fillmore Arts Center has cultivated the creative aspirations of tens of thousands of D.C. public school children. Fillmore has become a landmark in the Washington, D.C. community for excellence in arts education and has been lauded as such. Honors over the years have including receiving the D.C. Mayor’s Art Award, being chosen as a “School of Excellence” by the International Network of Performing and Visual Arts Schools, selection as a “Commended School of the Arts” by the U.S. Department of Education, and inclusion as one of the country’s ten best arts education schools by the Rockefeller Brothers Fund.