



DC Arts and Humanities Education Collaborative Arts and Humanities for Every Student: Value Statement

Collaborative Effect. The DC Collaborative works with its member cultural institutions to provide experiences at no costs or low costs to schools. This is possible because of our internal fundraising and the pool of resources that our members contribute collectively, many of whom donate tickets or provide a steeply discounted rate. In addition, some members provide support to reimburse transportation completely. The Collaborative also receives a discounted rate from transportation companies because of the volume of business given to bus vendors, supporting transportation for 20,000-30,000 students per year. In addition, to assist with offsetting costs, we also utilize public transportation whenever possible. We are able to get these experiences at such a good value, due to the volume of work that we do and contributions of our members who believe in this work. This is part of our **“Collaborative Effect.”**

Programmatic Value. The Collaborative's average cost is approximately \$20 per student when factoring transportation and steeply discounted ticket costs. This means you are receiving a direct cost value of **\$1,000** every time your school takes a field-trip with 50 students. For a school with an enrollment of 350 students that is approximately **\$7,000** in direct costs.* The Collaborative, along with its members, work very hard to fundraise and provide these experiences at no cost (or minimal costs) to schools because **collectively we believe that every student regardless of socio-economic status and location in the city should have access to high-quality arts and humanities experiences as an integral part of their education.**

**Please note that the \$20 per student rate is a minimal cost that the DC Collaborative covers on average, not the full value of the experience. This figure does not factor in all costs (including administrative and production costs) that the DC Collaborative and our members incur in making each experience possible.*

Educational Value of a Field-Trip

Groundbreaking Evidence of Impact from the team at Crystal Bridges Art Museum and University of Arkansas regarding the Educational Value of a Field-trip came out in 2013.

The scientific study of a sample size of 10,000 students demonstrated that students who received the school tour were more likely to:

- Recall school visit themes
- Demonstrate stronger critical thinking skills
- Display higher tolerance
- Exhibit greater historical empathy
- Develop a taste for art museums and cultural institutions
- Benefits are generally significantly larger for disadvantaged students (minority, low-income, or rural schools)

Helpful Links and Resources:

- "Art Makes You Smart," The New York Times, Sunday, Nov. 24, 2013. [More Info Here](#)
- "The Educational Value of Field Trips," Education Next, Winter 2014. [More Info Here](#)
- "Learning to Think Critically: A Visual Art Experiment," Educational Researcher, Winter 2014. [More Info Here](#)
- "What Good Are Field Trips?" American Public Radioworks podcast [More Info Here](#)