Arts and Humanities For Every Student

Through the Arts and Humanities for Every Student (AHFES) programs, the DC Collaborative offers opportunities for all students in the DC public education system to take full advantage of the vast cultural resources available throughout the greater DC region. Students attend high-quality arts and humanities events as an integral part of their education. Whether at cultural institutions or in-school, these stimulating programs entertain and inform students, while providing them with concrete, engaging learning experiences that bring standards and curriculum to life. Participating organizations supply teachers with preparatory materials, adding further incentive to integrate the arts into their daily lessons. This program continues to grow each year.

Professional Development Workshops

The DC Collaborative, in partnership with its members, offers Professional Development Workshops to DC public and public charter school teachers, which focus on dance, visual arts, humanities, theater and music and how best to integrate these disciplines into their teaching practices. In addition to Professional Development Workshops hosted by our cultural institution and practitioner members, the DC Collaborative has hosted Professional Development Institutes which consisted of day-long sessions focused on arts integration teaching techniques and cultural empathy/awareness. To see a full listing of upcoming Professional Development events, visit DCCollaborative.org/PDRegistration.

Committed to its vision of equitable access to the arts and humanities as an integral part of education for all students, the DC Arts and Humanities Education Collaborative (DC Collaborative) offers programming to thousands of students and teachers in every ward in the city. In partnership with DC region cultural institutions, this programming is offered at no cost or low costs to schools in the DC public education system (traditional and charter).

OUR MISSION

The DC Collaborative, in partnership with our members, advances equitable access to learning opportunities in the arts and humanities for all.

MAJOR FUNDERS

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Participating in Arts and Humanities for Every Student Programs

Become a School Partner
Any DC public or public charter school is eligible to participate in AHFES. Schools must attend the annual Orientation held in August each year and return a School Partnership Agreement signed by the principal and a designated Key Communicator. Visit the AHFES Online Catalogue at DCCollaborative.org/AHFES for more information.

Register for AHFES Programs
Three times a year, the DC Collaborative hosts a lottery for AHFES programs being offered in the upcoming semester. Participating schools submit requests for these programs through the online catalogue during a planned, one-week period. After each lottery cycle ends, the DC Collaborative assigns these trips by distributing the opportunities equitably among all schools who submitted requests.

Program Highlights
Last year, more than 800 field trips were offered to upwards of 50,000 students, PreK-12 through the Arts and Humanities for Every Student program. Students visited the esteemed collection of modern art at The Kreeger Museum, saw Alvin Ailey at the Kennedy Center, studied architecture and design at the National Building Museum, attended performances at the newest Smithsonian, National Museum of African American History and Culture, and listened to the Washington Bach Consort perform timeless classics. Most programs are accompanied by curricular materials, which enable teachers to extend the field trip experience into the classroom. A full listing of programs can be found at DCCollaborative.org/AHFES.

AHFES and Professional Development
Participating Organizations
More than 50 cultural institutions and Teaching Artists offer arts and humanities education programs through AHFES. Each program is vetted through the DC Collaborative’s Programming Committee made up of teachers, principals and cultural institutions for the artistic merit and connectivity to the curriculum.

Adventure Theatre-MTC
AFI Silver Theatre
Arena Stage
Atlas Performing Arts Center
Avalon Theatre
Avalon theatre and THEARC
Capitol City Symphony
Choral Arts Society
Dance Institute of Washington
DAR Museum
DC Fire and EMS Museum
DC Jazz Festival
Discovery Theater
DRANREF Foundation
Environmental Film Festival in the Nation’s Capital
Freer | Sackler Galleries, Smithsonian Institution
Gado Hispanic Theatre
Gandhi Memorial Center
George Washington University Museum and Textile Museum
George Washington’s Mount Vernon
Imagination Stage
In Series
Joy of Motion
The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts
Karen O. Brown
Kreeger Museum
Lenore Blank Keiner Library of Congress
The Musicianship
National Building Museum
National Gallery of Art
National Geographic Society
National Hand Dance Association
National Museum of African American History and Culture, Smithsonian Institution
National Museum of African Art, Smithsonian Institution
National Museum of African History, Smithsonian Institution
National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution
National Museum of the American Indian, Smithsonian Institution
National Museum of Women in the Arts, Smithsonian Institution
Opera NOVA
Perisphere Theatre
Phillips Collection
President Lincoln’s Cottage
Pullitzer Center on Crisis Reporting
Puppet Co.
Smithsonian Anacostia Community Museum
Solas Nua
Step Afrikal
THEARC
Washington Bach Consort
The Washington Ballet
Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts
Words, Beats and Life
Young Playwrights’ Theater

Princess and the Pauper by Imagination Stage

Cinema Classroom Program at Avalon Theatre

Film Screening and Lecture at AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center