



P.S.8

ENRICHMENT

PROGRAMS

An aerial view of a miniature town built on a wooden surface. The town features various buildings, streets, and green spaces, all hand-painted in vibrant colors like green, blue, and orange. The buildings are made of cardboard and other materials, giving it a textured, artistic appearance. A dotted white line runs across the scene, possibly representing a path or a decorative element.

ENRICHMENT MATTERS

P.S.8 cares about the arts because the difference between a good education and a great education is enrichment. P.S.8's enrichment programs in the art, music, dance and drama broaden and deepen our children's learning process. Visual and dramatic artists, musicians and dancers expose children to a variety of creative practices through residency programs. Projects are developed in collaboration with teachers to ensure that activities are suitable for each grade level and tailored to complement subjects and themes in the curriculum. All the dramatic arts programs culminate in live performances for the P.S. 8 community.

Enrichment improves young students' academic skills and their imaginative capacities. Arts instruction offers children opportunities for multi-sensory engagement with learning, which is especially important in early education. Abstract ideas come alive for children through dramatic play. Exposure to music strengthens spatial and temporal reasoning and pattern recognition skills that are at the root of mathematics. Arts and crafts classes stimulate children's ability to visualize their thoughts, describe physical phenomena, and grasp symbolic language. These abilities are key to reading, writing, math and science.

Enrichment puts children in touch with our society's ways of making meaning out of the physical world and human experience. Enrichment fosters creative thinking and innovative problem solving. Enrichment is key to educating the whole child.

WHEN CHILDREN ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT SOMETHING, THEY BECOME INVESTED IN IT AND WANT TO LEARN MORE DEEPLY ABOUT IT. WHAT WE DO AT P.S. 8 IS NURTURE THAT PASSION AND INSTRUCT CHILDREN HOW TO APPLY IT IN A WAY THAT IS TANGIBLE AND FOSTERS ACADEMIC SUCCESS. ”

– PRINCIPAL SETH PHILLIPS



ARTS PARTNERS

BRIC's education program introduces pre-kindergarten students to contemporary art through "The Great Masters" residency. Students learn about different artists by experimenting with their media and techniques. Projects include wire sculpture, collage, splatter and drip painting. The end of each academic year culminates in an exhibition of student artwork at BRIC's Gallery.

Studio in a School's program is for students in kindergarten and first grade. Children learn to work effectively with art materials and techniques and reflect on their creative process.

The Guggenheim Museum's Learning Through Art Program cultivates visual literacy in grades three and four. Students create drawings, sculptures, photographs and movement pieces that interpret questions related to social studies topics such as life in Colonial America.





DRAMATIC ARTS PARTNERS

The **Marquis Studios** provides residencies for kindergarten and grades two and five. Circus Arts students study the role of the circus in different cultures. They also learn juggling, feather balancing, tumbling, comedy, improvisation and mime. Puppetry instruction incorporates sculpture, painting, and collage.

The internationally acclaimed **Mark Morris Dance Group** provides a Music, Dance and Literacy residency for first graders. Dancers work with students to interpret musical elements taken from actual company productions.

National Dance Institute classes challenge students to transform history lessons into dramatic scenes. For example, after students learned about Greek mythology, they worked with NDI teaching artists to tell the stories of Pandora's Box, the Trojan horse, and Perseus through movement, singing and clapping.



MUSIC PARTNERS

New-Trad Octet specializes in bringing America's musical heritage to life. Their residency is integrated into the fifth grade social studies curriculum. Students learn how classic American musical forms such as jazz and ragtime are expressive of our country's cultural hybridity. Teaching musicians combine live performance with dramatic play and classroom presentations on music history.

Bargemusic presents chamber music in a floating barge at the foot of the Brooklyn Bridge. The organization's musicians visit P.S. 8 to introduce students in all grades to classical music and familiarize them with a range of instruments as part of this extension of the school's music curriculum.

NATURAL SCIENCE PARTNER

The Brooklyn Bridge Park Conservancy offers students a series of hands-on programs in which students explore natural ecology in the park and the East River.

PLEASE SUPPORT P.S.8'S ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS!

Sadly, government regulations do not require that schools receive public funds for enrichment; this is why the P.S.8 PTA must fundraise to support these crucial programs for our children.

Donations are accepted throughout the year on the P.S.8 website www.ps8pta.org. They are also accepted by check or money order to the P.T.A. of P.S.8.

PS8 PTA

Helping Parents Help
Our School

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