



Morpho menulaus | Nr. 2149

BUTTERFLY EFFECT.

(with reference to chaos theory)
the phenomenon whereby a
minute localized change in a
complex system can have large
effects elsewhere.

ORIGIN 1980s: from the notion
that a butterfly fluttering in
Rio de Janeiro could change the
weather in Chicago.

**ARTS CORPS
ANNUAL REPORT
2009-2010**



THIS YEAR:

OUR IMPACT DOESN'T STOP WHEN CLASSES END.

Program partners, teaching artists and students all cite an increase in students' practice of key creative habits: imagining possibilities; reflection; courage & risk-taking; critical thinking; and persistence & discipline.

Read our newest evaluation report at www.artscorps.org/evaluation

See our core members — teaching artists, program partners, board, staff and more — at www.artscorps.org/roster

2,149	youth in
grades K-12 experienced powerful learning through the arts with 35 teaching artists in Arts Corps' in-school residencies, after-school classes and workshops	

2 out of 3	partner
sites served a population in which the majority of students qualify for free and reduced price lunch	

91%	of students
said that because of their Arts Corps class, they learned how to express their ideas and feelings through art	

25,943	hours
of powerful arts learning by students	

72%	of our classes
were offered to middle and high school students and 28% were offered to elementary students	

10%	of middle
and high school students indicated that the Arts Corps class was their first arts class ever	

186	classes,
workshops, and special projects were offered at 35 Seattle area schools and after-school programs in myriad art forms, including dance, music, visual arts, poetry/spoken word, and theatre	

This year, we spread our wings.
Felt the winds of change.
And rode a wave of creativity.

DEAR EVERYBODY:

DO YOU KNOW THE IMPACT YOU'RE MAKING? YOU'RE UNLOCKING THE CREATIVE POTENTIAL OF THOUSANDS.

Creativity is central to our mission. Everything we do fosters creative habits of mind, such as imagination, critical thinking, persistence and risk-taking.



Research shows us that supporting one young person's participation in a year of Arts Corps classes has a tremendous long-term impact on their growth and possibilities. Our students have become teachers, social justice leaders, professional musicians, and college students pursuing medical degrees. A recent study found that young people who scored high on 1972 divergent thinking tests

(researcher E. Paul Torrence's assessment of creative thinking) were significantly more likely to have a lifetime of creative achievement as entrepreneurs, inventors, and leaders. Having reached over 10,000 students in our first decade, imagine the



collective impact, the butterfly effect, from those many initial investments.

YOU'RE PART OF A MOVEMENT: AN UPRISING OF CREATIVITY ON A NATIONAL SCALE.

This year, we've propelled creativity further than we ever have before. We have entered into national partnerships to help

lead the way toward a national 'Artist Corps' as called for by President Obama and Congress.

To launch this movement, last year we piloted a prototype for artists in service called MusicianCorps, a program created by Music National Service and

run in Seattle by Arts Corps. It combined the strengths of Arts Corps and other model arts education programs with the best practices in the national service movement.

In Seattle, we hired and placed four outstanding musicians into full-time service. We reached hundreds of students last year and helped transform communities.

This endeavor laid the groundwork for a publicly funded artist service corps. We'll be working with our national partners to assess and refine the model, and to build momen-



tum for its implementation nationally. In Seattle, we're taking this concept and running with it—building a framework for a local artists-in-service program.

We know that the work we are doing at this moment is crucial and we are approaching this work boldly, but with great care and reflection. It is the first beat of a pair of mighty wings.

YOU ARE BREAKING DOWN BROKEN SYSTEMS AND LAYING THE FOUNDATION FOR A MORE JUST WORLD.

You are bringing the arts to those who otherwise would not

We believe that arts education can counteract the current opportunity gaps in education and provide a platform for all young people to develop the freedom to imagine and the courage to be true to themselves.

This is our underlying purpose. This is the wind that propels us all.





Vivian Phillips

Board President



Elizabeth Whitford

Executive Director



I am like a flower
in a garden
with a lot of other kinds of flowers,
and they're all beautiful.
Sometimes I'm scared
of the windstorm.
When it comes I try
to go back down again,
go back under the ground
where the wind can't break you,
snap you apart.
Some kids are like a windstorm,
and when they come
sometimes I become a windstorm too,
but I don't want to.
I want to be the flower
that most wants to grow tall
and bloom, and bring poetry
and different colors to the world
and make people feel happy.

LeAngelique, age 9

Deep inside my heart
I have kindness
like violet red, warm safeness.
I have the power to read somebody's mind,
but I wouldn't do it against them,
I would just love.
Deep inside my heart I have courage,
violet black, strong and gentle.
My family is in there,
sometimes like violent games,
but other times sweet like honey.
I believe in my Tribe.
They are good people and
they help people, help save the world.
They dance and pray and I fight for them.
I fight bad people.
I fight them with my heart as a shield
with love and courage and braveness,
deep inside my soul.

Devin, age 10

POETRY FROM YOUTH IN ARTS CORPS'
WRITES OF PASSAGES CLASS AT RUTH DYKEMAN
CHILDREN'S CENTER WITH TEACHING ARTIST
VICKY EDMONDS.

CREATIVITY IS	power.
Arts Corps was founded on the principle that all young people, not just those with resources, should have access to creative learning opportunities. Art for all children. In all circumstances. Because art engages. It empowers. It illuminates.	

“The most important thing I learned in my Arts Corps class was that nothing should hold you back.”
—Arts Corps student

CREATIVITY IS	endangered.
Despite research that indicates that arts learning is one of the most potent tools to develop creative habits of mind, including critical thinking, persistence, and reflection, schools have been forced to cut or eliminate the arts altogether in recent years.	

“Creativity has always been prized in American society, but it’s never really been understood. While our creativity scores decline unchecked, the current national strategy for creativity consists of little more than praying for a Greek muse to drop by our houses. The problems we face now, and in the future, simply demand that we do more than just hope for inspiration to strike.”
—Po Bronson & Ashley Merryman
The Creativity Crisis, Newsweek, July 10, 2010

CREATIVITY IS	transformative.
“The arts can help students become tenacious, team-oriented problem solvers who are confident and able to think creatively. These qualities can be especially important in improving learning among students from economically disadvantaged circumstances.” —Secretary of Education Arne Duncan Letter to School and Education Community Leaders, 2009	

“We delight in the beauty of the butterfly, but rarely admit the changes it has gone through to achieve that beauty.”
—Maya Angelou



“There is no [arts learning] organization doing better work, doing more things in exemplary ways, and making a huge difference in the lives of their participating learners than Arts Corps.”
—Eric Booth, author/teaching artist/speaker

“I was pushed in a very motivational way. I went from being super shy to being really outgoing. I also developed really strong leadership skills, and the skill to inspire and motivate others. I went from being just another student to a teacher and that was probably the biggest, most life changing transformation, because I still use that to this day.”
—Arts Corps graduate

“Amos was a catalyst of positive change for some of the most challenging youth. His teaching and presence with these youth changed the school culture and re-oriented the school towards art and creativity.”
—Dian Fundisha-Bey, Lead Teacher,
Southwest Interagency Academy

ARTS CORPS CONTRIBUTORS

JULY 1, 2009 — JUNE 30, 2010

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Laird Norton Family Foundation
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Every gift, another gust of wind.
Can you feel it? This change in the air?
It is soft, yet powerful.
And it is blowing, soaring, moving.
Strong and far and high.

Bill Feinberg & Ariana Keese
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Frances Wheeler-Berta
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Bridget Wilhelm
Anita Wilkie
Jane Wingfield
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FINANCIAL SUMMARY

JULY 2009 - JUNE 2010

Arts Corps rose to the challenge that was the last year—the economy was an obstacle, but not a barrier. We found creative ways to fulfill our mission. We ran lean but strong, never stopping. Always creating. Moving forward.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION	Nr. 07/2009 –06/2010
Current assets (cash)	\$65,204
Accounts receivable	\$91,874
Fixed assets (equipment)	\$19,597
Depreciation	(\$16,274)
Total assets	\$160,401
Less liabilities	(\$6,961)
Net assets	\$153,440
Net assets at beginning of the year	\$181,748
Net assets at the end of the year	\$153,440
Change in net assets	(\$28,308)

INCOME & EXPENSES BY PERCENTAGE	Nr. 07/2009 –06/2010
Income	\$748,645
Class fees	25%
Corporations	11%
Foundations	20%
Public agencies	5%
Individuals	36%
In-kind	3%
Expenditures	\$776,953
Fundraising	19%
General admin	6%
In-kind	3%
Programming	72%



Photo © Scott Wellsandt





Creativity is transformative.
Let's change the world together.

ARTS CORPS
4408 DELRIDGE WAY SW, SUITE 110
SEATTLE, WA 98106

206.722.5440
WWW.ARTSCORPS.ORG



Morpho menelaus | Nr. 2325

BUTTERFLY EFFECT.

(with reference to chaos theory)
the phenomenon whereby a
minute localized change in a
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