

Organization Name

Bellewood School

Arts Group OR Individual Artists

Commonwealth Theatre Center (formerly Walden Theatre/Blue Apple Players)

Population Served Description

This residency will serve the entire population of Bellewood School. All students are in kindergarten to 5th grade. Each of the students in the program will receive 60 -120 minutes in drama instruction weekly from the Commonwealth Theatre each week. The residency would be programming directly implemented in a non-traditional venue to an audience of students with disabilities. Currently of our school population of 32 students, 29 students or 90% of our population has an Individual Education Plan or 504 Plan to help them with their education due to a disability. Our school is a title-one school and most students' families prior to enrollment at our school would be considered low income. Twenty-four of our 32 students or 75% are "committed to the custody of the state" and are no longer under the care of their families. Students are from all over the state, are a mixture of urban, suburban, and rural backgrounds. There are students of all races. Currently within our population of 32 students, there are 5 students that are identified as African American, 2 students identified as Hispanic/Latino, and 1 student identified as two or more races.

Project Title

Resiliency

Project Description

Our project, Resiliency, will continue a collaboration between the Commonwealth Theatre Center and Bellewood School to carry out a unique theater residency, with three consistent teaching artists, tailored to Bellewood's unique student population.

The program would be delivered over the course of weeks in 60 minute residency sessions to an audience of around 40 elementary participants, divided into 2 drama classes. It would also include hours of planning. This planning time would allow the artists' time to research best-practices, consult with teachers and youth care workers, collect pre- and post- assessments on how to gauge the impact of the program. This would be a continuation and expansion of an innovative new program, using theatre training and the arts to allow our elementary students to have access to both dramatic theatrical play and social skill instruction.

The goal of this collaboration will be to use the proven power of theatre to open up a candid conversation in a safe space about A.C.E.'s (Adverse Childhood Experiences) and their effect on a person's overall physical health and then use theatre techniques to foster and encourage resiliency skills as a means to promote a healthy future for some of our city's most vulnerable youth.

Number of Students Participating

90

Attachment A

Arts for Kosair Kids® 2019–2020

Primary Contact First Name

Aletia

Primary Contact Last Name

Robey

Primary Contact Email

aletia@commonwealththeatre.org

Grade(s) Participating in this Program

K - 5

Social Emotional Outcomes

Social Emotional Outcomes include:

- Self-Esteem/Self-Confidence
- Cooperation with others
- Self-Discipline/Self-Control
- Self-Expression/Emotional-Expression
- Self-Determination

Students will develop an understanding of resilience, ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences), and how they can overcome trauma through a variety of strategies in their own lives.

Students will develop self-esteem and self-confidence through dramatic play.

Students will use teamwork and cooperation to develop the positive social skills needed to work on small scenes and games within the context of theatre class.

Students will learn how to identify and express their thoughts and emotions by using the actors tools.

Physical Well-Being Outcomes

Physical Well-Being Outcomes include:

- Spatial Awareness
- Coordination
- Motor Skills: Gross, Fine
- Learning to Use the Body in Different Ways

Students will be able to navigate space- between themselves and others, in order to interact during dramatic play activities with healthy boundaries.

Students will learn to use their actor's tools: voice, body, courage, and imagination, in order to participate in drama class.

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Attachment A

Arts for Kosair Kids® 2019–2020

Academic Performance Outcomes

Academic Performance Outcomes include:

- Literacy and Language
- Creativity
- Problem Solving
- Critical Thinking
- Collaboration
- Focus/Concentration

Students will participate in writing monologue, scenes, and/or other creative writing activities in order to bring their own words to their "stage".

Students will interpret the words of others- (for example, Maya Angelou's And Still I Rise)- and create small performances collaboratively with others.

Project Timeline Description

Timeline may be tentative, by month or by quarter. Include schedule and student performances if known.

November/December 2019- Community Building/Introduction

January- March 2020- Resiliency Residency

April-May 2020- Exploring History through Resiliency and Performance- culminating in a performance at Graduation at the end of May 2020

Program Cost

15000