

Executive Summary

On March 24, 2001, the School Board of Broward County was selected as a National Magna Awards 2001 winner for the Student Enrichment in the Arts Program (SEAS). Presented by the American School Board Journal, the Magna Awards recognize local school boards that are putting student achievement and community engagement at the center of their work. This is the second national award presented to the School Board of Broward County on behalf of the SEAS program. The School Board was the recipient of the ninth annual Kennedy Center Alliance for Arts Education Network and National School Board Association Award.

The School Board of Broward County program was awarded last year the “Arts Collaboration Award” at the 11th Annual Encore Awards. This award recognizes outstanding innovation and collaboration efforts that benefit the community through strategic partnerships with art and culture.

The School Board allocated \$2,029,291 to serve as the SET principal. The annual accrual of interest assists in funding cultural enrichment activities. Based on interest earning projections, grants, one-time donations, and departmental budget funds approximately \$151,550 is estimated to fund enrichment projects for the 2001-2002 school year. This funding will provide enrichment activities to over 100,000 students. Exhibit 1 contains the following information: companies recommended for funding, project title, project type, grade level targeted, a summary of the project, number of shows, location, estimated attendance of students to benefit, and artistic costs.

SET is the major funding source for the School Board’s partnership with The Broward Center for the Performing Arts (BCPA). The BCPA received a \$7.5 million PECO grant initiated by the School Board to fund the construction of The Broward Center for the Performing Arts complex. Through an inter-local agreement, the School Board has a forty-year, rent-free lease of the 550 seat Amaturo Theatre. Under the inter-local agreement, the School Board has exclusive use of the theatre during school year daytime hours. In addition, the school system’s partnership with BCPA allows usage of the world-class 2,500 seat AuRene Theatre. All students attend the performances free of charge, ensuring that the arts are accessible to all regardless of economic standing.

SET programming for this school year is targeted to support the following school system major system goals: “All students will achieve at their highest potential” and “All operations of the school systems will support and align with student achievement and needs.” This year’s season of productions are targeted to emphasize and support reading. The following are a few of the shows designed to promote reading through the arts:

SEASAME STREET LIVE – The most popular television show for young children encourages reading, math and other educational disciplines.

LITTLE MONSTER TALES - Fantasy Theatre Factory brings stories about monsters and other squiggly creature alive on stage. Stories by Robert Louis Stevenson and Sean O’Huigin are featured in this production.

THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE – This enchanting musical is based on C. S. Lewis adventure story about four children of war torn England, who accidentally enter the land of Narnia by climbing through a magic wardrobe.

THE UGLY DUCKLING – Bits ‘n Pieces Theatre’s adoption of Hans Christian Anderson’s classic tale “The Ugly Duckling” tells the story of Pinky, a perky pink Florida flamingo, hatched by proper Polar penguin parents.

HARLEM – The Kennedy Center production of Harlem is a story about a neighborhood in New York City and the people who have lived there. Harlem is performed through storytelling with music played by a four-piece jazz band. This story includes poetry from Walter Dean Myer's book Harlem.

PETER AND THE WOLF AND RED RIDING HOOD – These two classic children's folktales will come alive through dance and music by Momentum Dance Company.

BOXCAR CHILDREN – The Boxcar children is a musical based on the book which began Gertrude Chandler Warner's popular adventure series about four orphaned brothers and sisters living in America at the peak of the Great Depression.

WRITE A PLAY – Using high energy, interactive performances and workshop the Florida Studio Theatre provides students with exercises in critical and creative thinking. Full day residency programs will be targeted toward elementary schools.

In addition, programming designed to infuse the school system's Character Education program will be showcased through in-school residences (i.e. Ft. Lauderdale Children's Theatre, "A Bridge from Me to You") and at the AuRene Theatre by the Symphony of the Americas which looks at character through music.