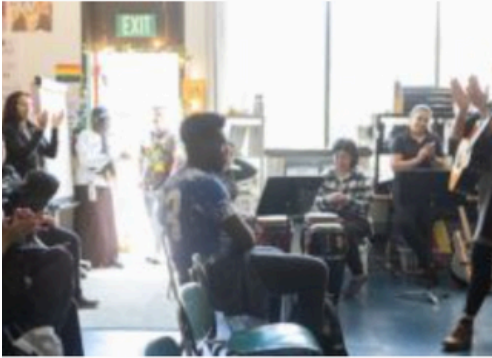




ARTS IN SCHOOLS

Annual Program Report
2023 - 2024



Prepared by
Nick Kanozik

OVERVIEW



ARTogether’s “Arts in Schools” program provides spaces where newcomer students feel safe to express themselves, have fun, and make friends. What began as a humble endeavor in 2019 with a music production class, has now blossomed into an arts education initiative encompassing visual art, dance, and music; we currently engage four schools in different capacities ages K-12.

The 2023/24 school year incorporated 5 larger youth art classes and 2 smaller workshops engaging 372 students for a total attendance of 2,021 across our programs. Most projects center around the two largest newcomer schools in the East Bay: Oakland International High School (OIHS) and Fremont High School in East Oakland, with additional growth this year in Contra Costa and students of expanded age ranges.

When students arrive in the U.S., they are thrown into a challenging environment that often lacks essential support. Art projects, songs, and dances rooted in the experiences of our students helps them to value themselves and their cultures, and sends a very strong message: Here we can share our cultures, we can grow, and we can celebrate our differences together. It is important to model multicultural ideas into any classroom. For newcomer classrooms especially, these are their first cues of self-acceptance and belonging in their new homes. Aligned with our partners, **ARTogether has one true message for newcomer youth regardless of the creative medium: we see you, we're here for you, and you belong here.**

398

Students engaged

2'021

Total attendance across all programs

→ ATTENDANCE NUMBERS

OVERVIEW OF PROGRAMS

across all schools in 2023/24 school year

	School	Artform	Age range	Demographics	Total Unique Students	Total Engagements
Project 1	Fremont High School: During School	Visual Art	14-18	100% Newcomer Students/ Central/South America	42	1,121
Project 2	Oakland International High School: Workshops	Dance	14-16	100% Newcomer Students Central/South American, East African, Afghan, Middle eastern	35	84
Project 3	Oakland International High School: Afterschool	Visual Art	14-18	100% Newcomers: Central/South American, East African, Afghan, Middle eastern	57	89
Project 4	Cesar Chavez Center / Head Start in Concord, CA	Dance	4-6	100% Newcomers: Central/South American	35	297
Project 5	Oakland International High School: Postsession	Music / Visual Art / Dance	14-17	100% Newcomers: Central/South American, East African, Afghan, Middle eastern	49	~250
Misc A	Fremont High School	Textile Art	14-17	100% Newcomers: Central/South American	65	65
Misc B	Edna Brewer	Music	11-13	Central/South American/White/Black/ Asian/Mixed	115	115
				TOTALS	398	2,021

→ PROJECT 1

Arts Awards Fremont High School



This year ARTogether's Scholarship Program **was proud to award 7 newcomer students from Fremont High School**, gifting them with professional art materials to explore, create, and show the world their imagination. These students were nominated by their teachers for having a passion for the arts, and many

have been drawing and painting for years without the resources to grow their talents. Our annual art award aims to lift up these students' passion for the arts, and we can't wait to see what they create. **Congrats to Kimberly, Jenner, Omar, Merlyn, Loita, and Hector for being nominated for this year's ARTogether Awards!**



→ PROJECT 1

Visual Art Support

Fremont High School During School FALL/SPRING 2023-2024

Our art teacher Olivia Eng provided in-school assistance for the primary art teacher at Fremont High School. The lead teacher benefited from our program’s support as we led student art projects and brought translation support to students, assisting in 2 art classes weekly from August through May.

Regular Events: Every Monday for Period 3 (10:15–11:00am) and Period 4 (11:00–11:45am)

Months	Attendance Per Class	Period Monthly Totals	Total Attendance
August (2 Weeks / 4 Classes)	Period 3 Period 4	37 Students 45 Students	82 Students
September (4 Weeks / 8 Classes)	Period 3 Period 4	72 Students 81 Students	153 Students
October (4 Weeks / 8 Classes)	Period 3 Period 4	68 Students 84 Students	154 Students
November (4 Weeks / 8 Classes)	Period 3 Period 4	67 Students 80 Students	147 Students
December (2 Weeks / 4 Classes)	Period 3 Period 4	30 Students 42 Students	72 Students
January (2 Weeks / 4 Classes)	Period 3 Period 4	31 Students 40 Students	71 Students
February (4 Weeks / 8 Classes)	Period 3 Period 4	69 Students 78 Students	147 Students
March (3 Weeks / 6 Classes)	Period 3 Period 4	50 Students 65 Students	115 Students
April (3 Weeks / 6 Classes)	Period 3 Period 4	56 Students 58 Students	114 Students
May (2 Weeks / 4 Classes)	Period 3 Period 4	33 Students 33 Students	66 Students
		TOTAL UNIQUE STUDENTS	42
		TOTAL ENGAGEMENTS	1,121

→ PROJECT 2

Dance Workshops OIHS

Oakland International High School During School FALL 2023

Olivia Eng was a guest for PE classes leading dance classes. There has historically been no dance instruction at Oakland International High School.



Months	Attendance Per Class	Total Attendance
September 2023 4 Classes 8:30am–12:30pm	Period 1: 9 Students Period 2: 7 Students Period 3: 11 Students Period 4: 8 Students	82 Students
October 2023 10/17/23 – 4 Classes 10/23/23 – 3 Classes	1) Period 1: 7 Students Period 2: 6 Students Period 3: 7 Students Period 4: 8 Students 2) Period 1: 10 Students Period 2: 5 Students Period 3: 6 Students	153 Students
	TOTAL UNIQUE STUDENTS	35
	TOTAL ENGAGEMENTS	84

→ PROJECT 3

Afterschool Makerspace OIHS

Spring 2024, we offered our Newcomer Afterschool Visual Art Makerspace. This student-centered project hosted 31 unique students at Oakland International High School.



Classes	Attendees
<p>15 Workshops</p>	<p>Maykel (10th grade), Noe (11th grade), Emilson (12th grade), Ruth (9th grade), Reyna (9th grade), Anahy (9th grade), Adriana, Amman, Emilson (12th grade), Maykel, Juan Carlos, Adriana, Noe, Daniele, Eyner, Amman, Daniela, Maryann (Staff), Norman (Staff), Alan, Kevin (10th grade), Magda (10th grade), Anahy (9th grade), Maykel (10th grade), Noe (11th grade), Gia A (11th grade), Iris (11th grade), Eyner (9th grade), Allan (10th grade), Celia, Nina, Jasmine, Jesus, Celia, Belen, Nina, Barasas, Zurisadai, Yahira, Abdul Hassan, Summer (9th grade), Herlinda, Yahia, Tasiv, Brunzun, Landerson, Joaquin, Zaser, Lucia, Soma (10th grade), Jennifer (12th grade), Jamina (12th grade), Alfredo (11th grade), Renaldo (9th grade), Irene (10th grade), Henry (11th grade), Hector (11th grade)</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">TOTAL UNIQUE STUDENTS</p> <p style="text-align: right;">57</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">TOTAL ENGAGEMENTS</p> <p style="text-align: right;">92</p>

→ PROJECT 4

Elementary Movement Classes

At the Cesar Chavez Center in Concord, CA, we offered nine one-hour sessions to excited youth aged 4-6 years old. Our energetic activities included the “Lions Class” at 9:15-45am and the “Bears Class” at 10-10:30am. This regular class brought fun morning activities to 35 unique young kids



TOTAL UNIQUE STUDENTS	35 Students
TOTAL ENGAGED	297

→ PROJECT 5

Post-Session at OIHS

In May 2024, ARTogether launched a new Post-Session Music Class at Oakland International High School, which was offered daily from 8:00am-3:30pm from May 5-22.

This year, we brought in 4 teaching artists to visit and perform for the students, as well as lead class lessons and activities. After just 2 days, we saw the artists set up in the school courtyard and perform for the whole school to enjoy.



ARTogether Support	Attendance
5/9/24, 1:00-5:00pm Guest Artists: Loey and Hash (Palestinian-American Performers)	12
5/16/24, 1:00-5:00pm Guest Artist: Diana Gameros	15
5/17/24, 12:00-4:00pm Guest Artist: Nick Kanozik	10
5/21/24, 12:00-4:00pm Guest Artists: Olivia Eng and Nick Kanozik	11
TOTAL ATTENDANCE for POST-SESSION WORKSHOPS	49
APPROX. STUDENTS ENGAGED in COURTYARD PERFORMANCE	~250

→ PROJECT A

Newcomer Advisories

- 1) Guest Workshops
- 2) T-Shirt Design for Newcomer Advisories



Classes	Attendance	Total
<p>December 12/18/23, 9:30-3:30pm 5 Classes for 6 Hours Each (Featured Guest Artist Teachers in Tandem with Michelle Casio's Classes)</p>	<p>Period 2: 16 Students Period 3: 14 Students Period 4: 17 Students Period 5: 8 Students Period 7: 10 Students</p>	<p>65 Students</p>
	<p>TOTAL UNIQUE STUDENTS</p>	<p>65</p>
	<p>TOTAL ENGAGED</p>	<p>65</p>

→ PROJECT B

Indigenous Music at Edna Brewer

- 1) Guest performance featuring México Atemporal, a musical group featuring an extraordinary fusion of indigenous instruments, pianoforte, and real-time electronic sound manipulation, showcasing the beauty of modern and ancient sounds.
- 2) Workshops, Demonstrations, and Performance at Edna Brewer Middle School
- 3) Composer and performer Christopher Garcia and Pablo Lorenzo.



Classes	Attendance	Total
September 8, 2023 11:15am-12:45pm (Featured 1 Free Evening Concert)	115 Students	115 Students
	TOTAL UNIQUE STUDENTS	115
	TOTAL ENGAGED	115

→ QUOTES

Testimonials

“I thank God that they allowed me to come here to play. My family is not here. I like music and I feel that music changes me ... and brings me happiness.” – *Carlos 9th grade*

“It is comforting to learn new things with the melodies. Music allows you to escape instead of joining a gang and other things.” – *Gia 11th grade*

“With difficult emotions and big challenges, everyone processes differently. Some resonate with verbalizing, some find inspiration and encouragement through movement, others through visual art. It is important to offer different tools and ways to express and communicate.” – *Olivia E., ARTogether Teaching Artist*

“Engaging with art making can be a way for students to stay connected to their own culture, traditions, and relationships through the way they explore artistic concepts.” – *Olivia E., ARTogether Teaching Artist*

“Art, whether it be music, dance, all of those things, brings all people together; the mission for Head Start and ARTogether is the same .. to make every family feel welcome ... to feel honored.” – *Jacqueline S.*





Fremont High School
4610 Foothill Blvd.
Oakland, CA 94601

June 13, 2024

RE: Letter of Support for ARTogether

My name is Annie Lu and I am the director for Fremont High School's Newcomer Education Support & Transition (NEST) program. Nick Kanozik from ARTogether has my full support to bring their Newcomer arts programming to Fremont High School for the upcoming 2024-2025 school year.

The NEST program at Fremont High School has enjoyed a wonderful partnership with ARTogether these past two years (2022-2024). We look forward to working with Nick and the ARTogether team in the upcoming year because of their generous support and strong commitment to improving and enriching the visual and performing arts (VAPA) experience for our Newcomer students. Through our partnership with Nick and ARTogether, we have been able to facilitate an after school music class and daytime classroom support for our Newcomer visual arts classes. ARTogether has also supported our students' individual passions by providing them with scholarships to buy arts supplies and receive one-on-one lessons and mentoring in the arts. Both Nick and ARTogether will receive active assistance from me and our Newcomer arts teachers to ensure the program's success.

It is critical that Nick and ARTogether have the funding they need to be able to continue supporting arts programming at Fremont High School.

If you have any questions, please feel free to get in touch via phone or email.

Sincerely,

Annie Lu
NEST Program Director // Fremont High School
510-882-3167 // annie.lu@ousd.org



OAKLAND INTERNATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

June 12, 2024

RE: Oakland International High School

Nick Kazonick and Leva Zand from ARTogether have my full support to bring their programming to Oakland International High School from September 2024 through May 2025.

We look forward to working with ARTogether in the coming year because we have seen how consistently their programming engages our students and provides valuable and enriching experiences. The current programming has included dance instruction in partnership with our PE teacher, visual art opportunities after school, and an upcoming music-based three week immersion experience for students..

ARTogether will have active assistance from the after school lead agency, Safe Passages, Community Schools Manager Madenh Hassan, as well as teacher facilitators to ensure the program's success.

Our school does not have an active PTA providing any funding for programming of this sort or otherwise.

If you have any questions, I can be reached directly at tom.felix@ousd.org or (510) 879-1353.

Sincerely,

Tom Felix
Principal

→ FUNDERS

Arts in School Program is made possible by the generous support of:

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