

# Executive Summary

2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR



## 2018-19 Snapshot

- 1st - 5th grade students in Dallas, Polk and Warren Counties participated in almost **30,000** community-based or in-class arts and cultural experiences with **15** nonprofit organizations.
- **26** schools and school districts received Connecting Kids and Culture funding.
- Connecting Kids and Culture provided **\$3.25** per student to provide for arts, culture or heritage experiences.

WITH THANKS TO:



Presented by **WELLS FARGO**

PROGRAM

## Overview

Courtesy of funding provided by the Principal Charity Classic®, Bravo Greater Des Moines and the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines jointly administer Connecting Kids and Culture. The program provides financial support for 1st-5th grade students to attend arts, culture and heritage field and in-class experiences in Dallas, Polk and Warren counties.

PROGRAM

## Need

In the mid-2000s, school budgets and curriculum requirements meant fewer students were participating in field experiences and in-class presentations. Arts and culture organizations also noticed the decline of school trips to their events and facilities. As research shows, early exposure to the arts enhances student learning, develops critical thinking skills and prepares students for advanced learning and the future job market.

PROGRAM

## Impact

Seeing the overwhelming need by schools and the declining student attendance at Central Iowa arts and cultural organizations, Bravo Greater Des Moines and the Community of Foundation of Greater Des Moines partnered to create Connecting Kids & Culture. Granting funds directly to schools allows administrators and teachers the ability to select the arts and cultural experiences that will enhance in-classroom learning. Arts and culture organizations also benefit from the increase in students participating in their programs and facilities. **Schools and districts report that 2/3 of field experiences would not occur without Connecting Kids & Culture funding.**



**Participating Schools and Districts**

Ankeny School District  
Bondurant-Farrar School District  
Carlisle School District  
Christ the King School  
Dallas Center-Grimes School District  
Des Moines Christian School  
Des Moines Independent School District  
Grand View Christian School  
Holy Family School  
Holy Trinity Catholic School  
Indianola School District  
Johnston School District  
Joshua Christian Academy  
North Polk School District  
Norwalk School District  
Sacred Heart School  
Saydel School District  
Southeast Polk School District

St. Anthony School  
St. Augustin School  
St. Francis of Assisi School  
St. Joseph's Catholic School  
St. Pius X Catholic School  
Urbandale School District  
Waukee School District  
West Des Moines School District

**Participating Arts & Cultural Organizations and Experiences**

Ankeny Art Center  
Ankeny Historical Society  
Ballet Des Moines  
Blank Park Zoo  
Clive Historical Society  
CultureALL  
Des Moines Art Center

Des Moines Community Playhouse  
Des Moines Metro Opera  
Des Moines Performing Arts  
Des Moines Symphony & Academy  
Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden  
Hoyt Sherman Place  
Iowa Architectural Foundation  
Iowa Dance Theatre  
Iowa Gold Star Museum  
Iowa Hall of Pride  
Iowa State Capitol  
Living History Farms  
Polk County Heritage Gallery  
Salisbury House & Gardens  
Science Center of Iowa  
State Historical Museum  
Urbandale Historical Society  
West Des Moines Historical Society  
World Food Prize Hall of Laureates



A COLLABORATION OF THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF GREATER DES MOINES AND BRAVO GREATER DES MOINES