



ARTS EMPOWERED MINDS INITIATIVE





Young
Audiences
Arts for
Learning

The Problem:

Anne Arundel County Public Schools is an award-winning system and is seen as a leader in arts education and arts integration.

Yet, as with many school communities, we see unequal student access to arts and arts-integrated learning opportunities across the County, and in Northern Anne Arundel County.

Arts-integrated learning has been a lever for boosting student achievement, parent involvement, and teacher retention at Bates Middle School in Annapolis and nationally, yet not all students have access to high performing schools like Bates.

Our Vision:

Through the collaboration of a diverse array of concerned people and organizations we will put into place these three essential elements in twelve public schools (beginning with five pilot schools) in the area:

- Sustainable partnerships with teaching artists and arts organizations that inspire children and use the creative process to make meaningful real world connections to the curriculum
- Increased access to out-of-school time arts programs
- Professional development for teachers in arts integration to boost student engagement



As a result, we believe that school achievement, parent involvement, and teacher retention will significantly increase.



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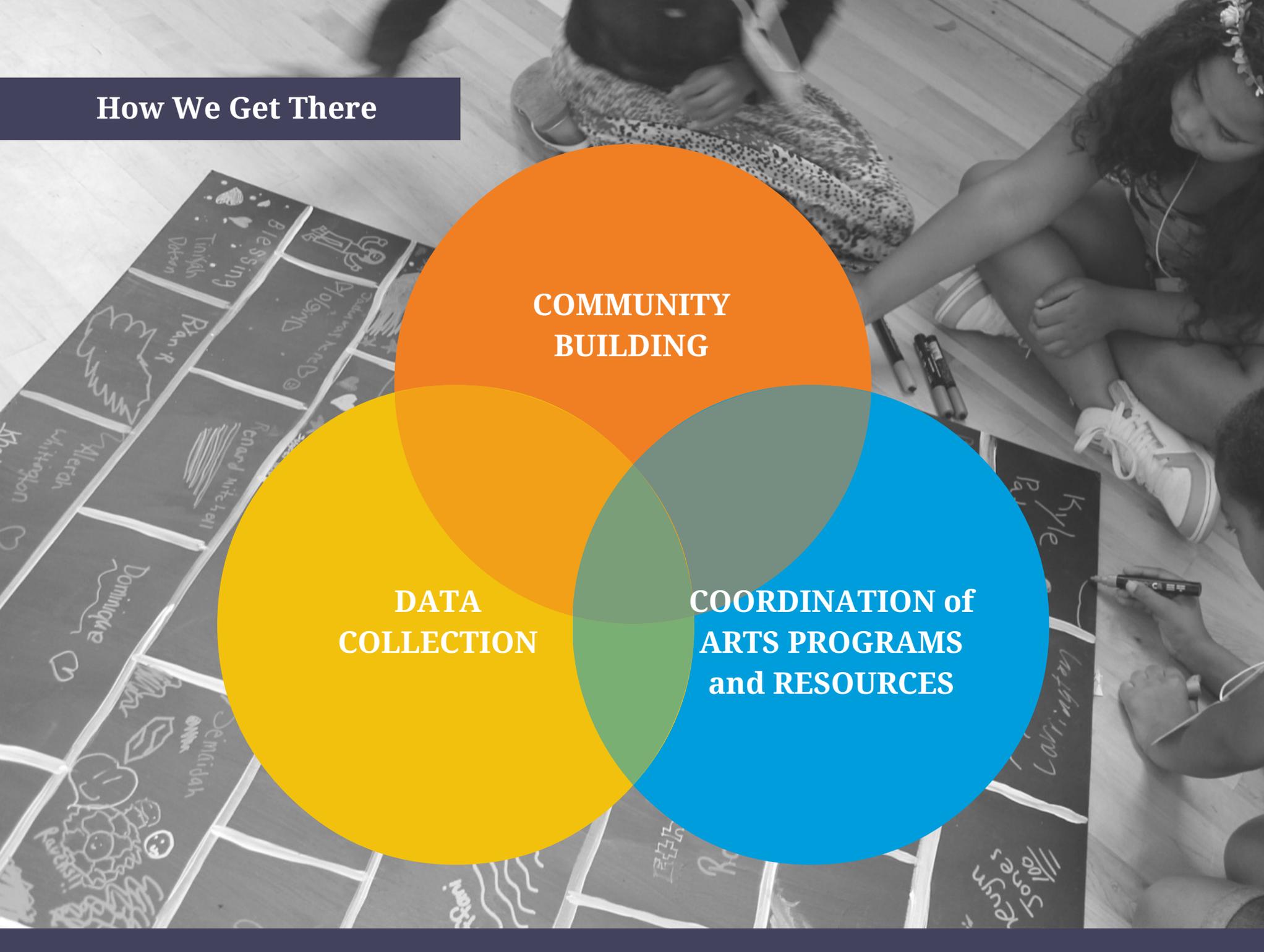
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How We Get There

**COMMUNITY
BUILDING**

**DATA
COLLECTION**

**COORDINATION of
ARTS PROGRAMS
and RESOURCES**



Understanding the needs and resources of targeted schools and current baseline of access to the arts and arts integration as well school performance measures.

- Inventory of fine arts teachers, AI coordinators and cultural opportunities and AI teaching available to students
- Collect current baseline of student achievement, parent involvement, and teacher retention data
- Hold focus groups, conduct surveys and interviews to understand needs and desires of each school

Building Community around this initiative and encouraging school participation.

- Create advisory committee
- Host community convening around opportunity
- Hold one-on-one meetings with school leaders
- Participate in school events (i.e. back to school nights, PTA, SIT meetings)
- Create educator advisory – with one rep from each school – to participate in planning
- Hold community conversations with stakeholders including artists, arts organizations, educators, students, business and philanthropic communities, and community organizations

Increasing arts and arts integration resources and programming.

- Hold summer teacher PD (21st Century Institute +) with field testing (Imagination Vacation)
- Target teachers to participate in TAI as teacher partners
- Partner with AA County Arts Council to encourage schools to apply for grants
- Partner with MSAC to encourage schools to apply for grants
- Fall: UMBC students to conduct action research



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Confirmed Partners

- Young Audiences of Maryland - Managing Partner
- Anne Arundel County Public Schools
- Arts Education in Maryland Schools Alliance
- University of Maryland, Baltimore County
- Arts Council of Anne Arundel County

Pilot Program School Partners

- Brooklyn Park Middle
- Belle Grove Elementary
- Brooklyn Park Elementary
- Park Elementary
- Ferndale Early Education Center



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Timeline

JANUARY - JUNE 2016

- Collect baseline data:
 - » Student access to arts opportunities and arts-integrated learning
 - » Academic achievement and school engagement
 - » Attendance
 - » Parent engagement

JANUARY - DECEMBER 2016

- Conduct needs assessment:
 - » Parent forums
 - » Student groups
 - » Community members
- Clarify needs in arts learning, as well as other academic and social challenges.
- Convene partners monthly to review data/needs assessments, establish vision, performance measures, and coordinate activities.

SUMMER 2016

- Develop program initiatives and activities based on needs assessment.
- Plan for program kick-off in the new 2016-2017 school year.
- Convene community to share needs and plans.

FALL 2016

- Kick off the program at five pilot schools.
- Work with community members and organizations to inform the community.

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