The first choice of New York City public school principals and educators for over 40 years, ArtsConnection’s arts education programs inject creativity and imagination into classrooms daily, delivering skills that support youngsters as successful, engaged learners and laying the groundwork for future academic and life achievement.

With a mission to address the educational challenges of the 21st century, ArtsConnection’s research-based arts programs create socially just learning environments. Our programs support literacy, communication, creativity, collaboration, and critical thinking. ArtsConnection’s partnerships include and strengthen the diverse voices of NYC’s children and youth, cultivating their arts and academic skills for success in a changing world. ArtsConnection ensures that students have equal access to depth and breadth of arts learning, and our award-winning instruction in music, dance, theater, media, and visual arts has been provided to millions of students across the five boroughs.

Currently, ArtsConnection serves 180 schools and 45,000 students annually with programs during and after the school day—residencies, performances, and arts access for students, professional development for their teachers, and family events that contribute to stronger school communities. In addition, we have invested in research to capture the impact of learning through our programs, enriching both our own services and the field at large.
GUEST HOST
NICOLLE WALLACE

WELCOME
DEBRA HAROUNIAN PELTZ
Board Chairman, ArtsConnection
STEVEN TENNEN
Executive Director, ArtsConnection

PRESENTATION OF
THE 2019 JANKLOW AWARDS
THERESA MSHAR
Principal, JHS 185Q
BRIAN MCCORMICK
ArtsConnection Teaching Artist

PRESENTED BY
LINDA LEROY JANKLOW
Founding Board Chairman

STUDENT SPEAKER
TENGKU HANA SHAFIKAH
Graduate of ArtsConnection’s Teen Programs

VIDEO PRESENTATION

SPECIAL TRIBUTE
ART2ART: DEAR EVAN HANSEN
ACCEPTED BY
STACEY MINDICH
Tony Award-Winning Lead Producer

FEATURED PERFORMANCE
THE BROADWAY CAST OF DEAR EVAN HANSEN

DINNER
DESSERT
Isabel Lau, 10th Grade
High School of Art and Design
Title: Northern Lights
Teacher: Richard Weinstein
On behalf of the ArtsConnection community—our Board of Directors, program and teaching artist staffs, and our school and cultural partners—a very special thank you for investing in our work and celebrating our unique partnership with *Dear Evan Hansen* this evening. As we begin our fifth decade of services to NYC public schools, your support for our efforts ensures that we are able to provide pathways to opportunity through the arts for our city’s students, in- and-out-of-school time. Our programs cultivate a creative, committed, and inspiring culture of administrators, teachers, and students, as well as interested and engaged parents and communities.

As the new Chairman of the Board, I am proud to be working with the ArtsConnection team to foster equity of access to vibrant, engaging experiences for our 21st-century learners—experiences which embrace multiple entry points to learning and result in demonstrable impact: art-making skills; expanded literacy in both language and technology; elevated student voice; and heightened understanding of how to collaborate, think critically, and embrace leadership. These crucial learning opportunities that our quality arts education services provide are a necessity, not a privilege, for all children. Thank you for joining me in making ArtsConnection’s comprehensive arts learning a part of everyday student experiences in our schools and in the lives of young people.

Warmly,

Debra Harounian Peltz
Nicolle Wallace is a journalist, author, and the host of Deadline: White House, airing weeknights at 4 p.m. ET on MSNBC. The program provides in-depth reporting and dynamic discussions on the political stories driving the news cycle, as Wallace brings viewers the latest political developments of the day, in addition to interviews with leading newsmakers and influential politicians.

Before joining MSNBC full-time, Wallace had a storied career both on-air and in government. She is a former co-host of ABC’s The View, and prior to her role hosting MSNBC’s Deadline: White House, Wallace served as a frequent contributor to the network. Wallace also served as an NBC political analyst across NBC Nightly News, TODAY Show and more, providing in-depth reporting and commentary in segments and series including “In Trump We Trust.” She is a former White House Communications Chief under George W. Bush, and served as a senior advisor for John McCain’s 2008 presidential campaign.

In addition to this work, Wallace is the bestselling author of three political novels: Eighteen Acres, It’s Classified, and Madam President.

Wallace is a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley and Northwestern University’s Medill School of Journalism.
From the Tony Award-winning musical Dear Evan Hansen
Music and lyrics by Benj Pasek and Justin Paul
Performed by the Broadway cast of Dear Evan Hansen

The winner of six 2017 Tony Awards, including Best Musical, Dear Evan Hansen features a book by Tony Award-winner Steven Levenson, a score by Academy Award, and Tony & Grammy Award-winning composers Benj Pasek & Justin Paul, and direction by 4-time Tony Award nominee Michael Greif. Declared “One of the most remarkable shows in musical theater history” by the Washington Post’s Peter Marks, Dear Evan Hansen opened on Broadway at the Music Box Theatre to rave reviews on December 4, 2016, where it’s broken all box office records and has struck a chord with critics and audiences alike.

The first national tour is currently underway with performances scheduled across America, and the first international production is now playing at Toronto’s Royal Alexandra Theatre, with a second international production opening in London this fall. The Broadway production recently celebrated its two-year anniversary with a special donation to the Smithsonian, where the show’s iconic blue polo and arm cast will now be part of the permanent collection of the National Museum of American History in Washington, DC.

The Grammy Award-winning Original Broadway Cast Recording of Dear Evan Hansen, produced by Atlantic Records, was released in February 2017, making an extraordinary debut on the Billboard 200 and entering the chart at #8—the highest charting debut position for an original cast album since 1961—and went on to win the 2018 Grammy Award for Best Musical Theatre Album. A new deluxe version of the cast recording, including six bonus tracks and a pop cover from Katy Perry of “Waving through a Window”, is now available digitally.

For more information, visit dearevanhansen.com
The innovative partnership between *Dear Evan Hansen* and ArtsConnection, now in its third year, presents an exceptional opportunity for NYC public school visual arts students to explore their artistic voice and make connections across art forms.

Students engage with fellow teen artists from across the city in interactive workshops led by ArtsConnection teaching artists and members of the *Dear Evan Hansen* company.

They attend a performance of the musical and talk after with members of the cast and creative team.
Three hundred students have participated; more will take part this spring and in the years to come. Art2Art: Dear Evan Hansen has created an environment for students’ ideas to flourish, with confidence in their responses, open to other’s perspectives, and with a belief in their creative potential.

These opportunities inspire their creation of artworks that are heartfelt personal responses to the themes of the show. Their efforts and art are celebrated in an exhibition of their works at the Music Box Theatre and at a party in their honor with the Dear Evan Hansen company at Sardi’s.

Tengku Hana S., 2017

Alen P., 2017  Sammi H., 2018  Lance P., 2018
The Janklow Awards are given each year by ArtsConnection’s Founding Chairman, Linda LeRoy Janklow, to recognize outstanding educators who have distinguished themselves through their support of the arts and their work with young people.

This year, we are proud to honor Principal Theresa Mshar and ArtsConnection Teaching Artist Brian McCormick for their commitment to enriching the education and lives of children in the New York City school system.
Brian McCormick is a part-time Assistant Professor at The New School, teaching graduate courses in media studies, and an adjunct lecturer at CUNY Lehman College, teaching theater. He is contributing editor at Gay City News, and has written for The New York Times, The Advocate, Dance Magazine, Dance Studio Life, and BAMbill. Brian’s work with NYC youth began as a volunteer, coordinating a weekly writing workshop with homeless teens at Streetwork Project, for which he received a Mayor’s Volunteer Service Award. He also ran a creative writing workshop for Youth Enrichment Services at The Center in the early 90’s. Since 2003, he has taught for ArtsConnection’s Teen Reviewers and Critics (TRaC) program. He also leads the afterschool program at Baryshnikov Arts Center, which he developed at the invitation of the Executive Director. Brian has been a guest teacher at numerous schools and museums; served on the New York Dance and Performance Awards (Bessies) committee from 2002-2012; and currently is a member of the board of directors of Pentacle/Dance Works, Inc.

Theresa Mshar
Principal, JHS 185Q

Theresa Mshar has dedicated over twenty-six years to the New York City public school system as a teacher, dean, assistant principal, and principal. Since 2012, Ms. Mshar has served as the principal of Edward Bleeker JHS 185 in Flushing, Queens. As a parent, a teacher, and an administrator, Theresa believes that every student can be successful, and she has strived to achieve JHS 185’s school vision of Success for All. Theresa holds an undergraduate degree, an M.S. in Education, and a Professional Certificate in Educational Leadership. She is currently a Cahn Fellow at Teachers College, working on increasing equity and access to all students. Theresa has served as the NYC School District 25 representative on the Council of School Supervisors & Administrators Executive Board for the past three years.
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ArtsConnection’s programs support the littlest learners, pre-k through grade 2, including those with special needs and English learners. First and foremost, programs provide instruction that is playful, in art forms intriguing to young children, including puppetry, creative movement and drama, and storytelling and theater. Through the arts, children have access to numerous entry points for engagement: kinesthetic, including development of gross and fine motor skills, and aural, as they listen to stories. They develop their imaginations and the language necessary to re-tell stories and create their own, ask questions, express ideas, describe what they see, and talk about their artistic choices. They also cooperate in small groups, develop trust within the group and build their own confidence—social-emotional learning that is a key component of early education. Through multiple years of research on our early learners’ programming, independent evaluation has shown that the arts yield tremendous growth in language and reading comprehension and provide the basis for future academic achievement.

“My favorite part is watching the students have fun while learning. BRIDGES offers an opportunity for students to have fun and do things that are developmentally appropriate while also targeting the learning standards, and reading and exploring the text.”

— 2nd Grade English as a New Language Teacher
Full of energy and curiosity, 3-5th grade students explore increasingly complex ideas, situations, and relationships through the arts. They delight in understanding processes and acquiring technical proficiency in playing musical instruments, handling art materials, executing dance steps, and creating and acting out stories themselves on stage or through bringing a puppet to life. Our teaching artists support their developing cognitive, physical, social, and personal skills essential to their growth as learners: students master multi-step processes, begin to understand cause and effect, make individual artistic choices, and work out productive ways to interact in cooperative groups. Because they are increasingly able to reflect on their own art-making and support each other’s contributions, students learn to apply critiques to refine their work. Our programs provide challenging and exciting arts experiences celebrating these new developmental abilities—from creating and performing with large-scale parade puppets, to ensemble work as part of a steel-pan orchestra, to the exciting conclusion of a Claymation program as youngsters present a film festival of their original stories and characters for their school community.

“I was able to take a step back and watch my class create stories in theater by having rich discussions that included feedback and constructive criticism. I was able to bring this back to the classroom where students became more responsible for their learning process.”

— 5th Grade Teacher
Learning to work and think like artists draws middle school students into active learning at a time in their education and lives that is often complex to negotiate. ArtsConnection has proven expertise in developing arts programming that champions early adolescents’ belief in themselves, provides comfortable transitions for them to move from individual to group work, and allows students to take positive artistic risks to try something new in a safe space. We engage these students by providing experiences both exciting and relevant to them—encouraging their ownership as an ensemble in producing fully-staged musical theatre productions; putting iPad technology in English learners’ hands for their own assessment of art making and their collaborative processes in small groups; or giving them the tools to create individual artworks such as graphic novels, to gain not only the technical skills of drawing, sequence, composition, and scale, but also learning how to use drawing as a tool for communication. ArtsConnection supports middle-schoolers’ need to feel that the work they undertake is meaningful and has value to them as they work to define their personal identity.

“Dance pushed me to show people I have feelings too and I am not just a blank page.”
— 8th Grade Student
“The skills I have learned, and the people I have met, have been so valuable in shaping who I am and my plans for the future. I am very glad that I made the decision to join a teen program my freshman year, where I have connected to ArtsConnection ever since.”

– 11th Grade Student
ArtsConnection’s multi-year sequence of enriching arts and leadership programming puts our organizational mission into practice for young people on the cusp of adulthood. Our work is based on the belief that bringing creativity into the education and lives of young people promotes their personal and academic growth as they deepen their exploration of their place in the world and begin to make choices about their future. During the school day, our teaching artists support students as they translate their thoughts and ideas into individual artistic expressions while also helping them appreciate the creative choices of their peers. During out-of-school-time hours we bring teens together to introduce them to the cultural life of their city and the diversity of viewpoints within it, helping to break down barriers and foster community. We make the best of NYC’s emerging and established arts-going venues available through low-cost tickets; through free courses led by critics and artists, who guide students to articulate and take ownership of their opinions and perspectives, and translate them into written critical responses; and through fostering young people’s personal agency to take on leadership roles as teen program developers and ambassadors for ArtsConnection. Our Teen Programs create an ideal environment for nourishing students’ growth as active and curious learners, helping them discover their voice, express their ideas, and develop skills in support of career and college pathways.
In 2019 ArtsConnection established its inaugural Artist Advisory Council, comprised of working artists across a range of disciplines, to serve as advocates for ArtsConnection and our work. We could not be more thrilled to have assembled such a powerful team of creative minds and influential voices to join us as we embark on the next decade of leadership in arts education.

Artist Advisory Council members embody and amplify our message that the arts are integral to education. Their professional experiences in their given fields, as well as their foundations in arts education, make them valuable contributors to our discussions around arts learning and role models for the young people we serve. We are proud to welcome the members of the Artist Advisory Council to the ArtsConnection community.

**Yazmany Arboleda** - Visual Artist  
**Aesha Ash** - Dancer  
**Purva Bedi** - Actress and Producer  
**Laura Benanti** - Actress  
**Peter Cincotti** – Singer/Songwriter  
**Scherezade Garcia** - Visual Artist  
**Danny Mefford** - Choreographer  
**Mike Reiss** - Television Comedy Writer and Author  
**Jordan Smith** - Singer  
**Grace Van Patten** - Actress  
**Cartier Williams** - Dancer and Choreographer
JOIN ARTSCONNECTION TO SUPPORT THE EDUCATION OF NYC SCHOOL STUDENTS!

ArtsConnection Corporate Opportunities provide your organization with multiple ways of activating student learning and highlighting the achievements of our city’s students:

Create a partnership with our Student Art Program, which works with a diverse group of businesses—financial, public relations/marketing, and law firms—to provide opportunities for middle and high school visual arts students to exhibit their work in your in year-long exhibitions, and celebrate their accomplishments with their families through a company-hosted opening reception.

Provide your employees with the chance to share their professional skills in support of student learning during the school day or after school, in short- or long-term projects, or create a company-wide event. Advance students’ cognitive skills through critical conversations about their art-making process; support language development and literacy of English learners and early childhood students as they create, perform, and assess their works of art; accompany students on fieldtrips to galleries or museums and reflect with them on the exhibitions.

“Volunteering with ArtsConnection has taught me that a simple act of outreach to a child can have direct and measurable results. ArtsConnection is taking a long-term approach to addressing the social, emotional and developmental needs of the City’s most vulnerable students, and I am grateful to play a small role in that commitment.”

- Will Oehler, Regional Manager, Commercial Term Lending, Commercial Banking, Chase

For more information, please don’t hesitate to contact:

Fran Van Horn
(Corporate Volunteer Events)
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212.302.7433 ext. 469

Amanda Guest
(Student Art Program)
Guesta@artsconnection.org
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ArtsConnection receives public funds from the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs in partnerships with City Council Members Adrienne E. Adams, Joe Borelli, Mark Gjonaj, Peter Koo, Brad Lander, Keith Powers, Antonio Reynoso, and Carlina Rivera.

Although space limitations do not allow us to recognize each person by name, we are also deeply grateful to the many individuals whose generosity supports our work throughout the year.
ArtsConnection would like to thank the following for their assistance in bringing together tonight’s celebration:

Advance NYC
ArtsConnection’s Board of Directors
Molly Barnett & Chelsea Nachman / Grapevine PR
The Cast of *Dear Evan Hansen*
Cloud Catering
David Monn, LLC
DKC/O&M
Brian Hatton
IAC Headquarters
Josephine Magliocco
Lynn Matsumoto
Trevor McPherson
Stacey Mindich, Caitlin Clements, and everyone at Stacey Mindich Productions
Wendy Orshan and 101 Productions
Tengku Hana Shafikah
Darko Staničić
The staff and leadership of ArtsConnection
Patrick Tully

Special thanks to the ArtsConnection teaching artists and performers who participated in this evening’s cocktail hour:

Donna Maria de Creeft
Amrita Doshi
Benjamin Hidalgo
Jeff Hopkins
Aishwarya Madhav
Erin Orr
Bharati Penneswaran

Isabel Lau, 10th Grade
High School of Art and Design
Title: *Northern Lights*
Teacher: Richard Weinstein

Special thanks to ArtsConnection’s Teen Advisory Council:

Emmanuela Chinedo, 12th Grade
Bronx Lighthouse Prep Academy
Shori Coggins, 12th Grade
Community Health Academy of the Heights
Nya Eaddy, 11th Grade
High School for Law, Advocacy, & Community Justice
Jeremy Feliz, 12th Grade
International High School of Prospect Heights
August Genova, 11th Grade
Edward R. Murrow High School
Joñi Honeywell, 12th Grade
LaGuardia High School
Asha Karmen-Chan, 12th Grade
Institute for Collaborative Education
Andreas Psahos, 11th Grade
Hunter College High School
Coralis Rivera, 10th Grade
Frank Sinatra High School of the Arts
Vincent Rodriguez-Vega, 12th Grade
Community Health Academy of the Heights
Jasmine Unay, 11th Grade
Franklin Delano Roosevelt High School

Photos by: Brian Hatton Photography, Sari Goodfriend, Rina Ortega, and Antonio Pulgarin
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2018-2019 TEACHING SITES

School Year 2018-2019 Sites

**Bronx**
- PS 14
- PS 36
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- PS 314
- PS 382
- The Academy of Public Relations
- Bronx High School of Visual Art
- East Fordham Academy for the Arts
- Jonas Bronck Academy
- The Lorraine Hansberry Academy
- Morris Academy for Collaborative Studies High School
- Mott Hall III
- Satellite Academy
- Westchester Square Academy
- Young Leaders Elementary School

**Brooklyn**
- PS 24
- PS 32
- PS 38
- P 53 @ Spring Creek Educational Campus
- PS/IS 66
- PS 69
- PS/IS 95
- PS 96
- PS 130
- PS 132
- PS 199
- PS/IS 225
- PS/IS 226
- IS 228
- PS 230
- PS 254
- PS 261
- MS 266
- IS 281
- PS 289
- PS 299
- IS 303
- MS 664
- PS 676
- PS 889
- Boerum Hill School for International Studies
- Ebbets Field Middle School
- John Dewey High School
- McKinney High School
- Middle School for Art and Philosophy
- Ronald Edmonds Learning Center II
- The Shirley Tanyhill School

**Manhattan**
- PS 15
- PS 33
- PS 59
- PS 124
- PS 149
- PS 150
- P 94 @ PS 15
- P 94 @ PS 51
- P 94 @ PS 188
- P 94 @ PS 276
- P 94 @ PS 281
- P 94 @ PS 340
- P 94 @ PS 361
- P 94 @ PS 397
- Fashion Industries High School
- Fiorella H. LaGuardia High School
- Hamilton Grange Middle School
- The High School of Art and Design
- Dr. Horan School
- Mosaic Preparatory Academy
- Pathways to Graduation
- Satellite Academy
- School for Global Leaders
- Washington Heights Academy

**Queens**
- JHS 8
- PS 13
- PS 17
- PS 20
- PS 50
- PS 51
- PS 62
- PS 63
- PS 66
- IS 77
- PS 91
- PS 92
- IS 93
- PS/IS 127
- IS 145
- PS 153
- JHS 185
- IS 208
- PS 212
- IS 216
- P 256 @ Gateway Academy
- P 256 @ PS 43
- P 993 @ Frank Sinatra High School
- P 993 @ LIC High School
- P 993 @ MS 72
- Bayside High School
- Queens Explorers Elementary School
- Queens School of Inquiry
- Rockwood Park School

**Staten Island**
- PS 1
- PS 6
- PS 13
- PS 16
- PS 19
- PS 42
- PS 48
- PS 68
Congratulations to

Stacey Mindich
and Dear Evan Hansen

for this incredible partnership.

Thank you to Steven Tennen and the team for your creativity and hard work on behalf of arts education in New York City.

Tracey & Robert Pruzan
DEAR ARTS CONNECTION

There are few things we value more than the art of connecting. Thank you for the extraordinary work you do with students all over New York.

Sincerely,
The DEAREVANHANSEN Family
Congratulations to Debbie Peltz, the new Chairman of the Board of Directors, and the entire ArtsConnection team on a job well done. Thank you to Stacey Mindich and Dear Evan Hansen for helping ArtsConnection deliver outstanding programs to New York City’s young people.

Robert Kaplan
CONGRATULATIONS

ArtsConnection &

Robert Pruzan

for their continued commitment to the Arts

Marc and Mindy Utay
BRAVO
To Two Extraordinary Educators!

THERESA MSHAR
Principal, JHS 185Q

BRIAN MCCORMICK
ArtsConnection Teaching Artist

Linda LeRoy Janklow

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2019
Congratulations to ArtsConnection, Stacey Mindich and *Dear Evan Hansen* for their amazing partnership and continued efforts toward furthering arts education in NYC public schools.

*Debra H. Peltz*
CONGRATULATIONS TO ARTS CONNECTION

STEVE TENNEN, HIS EXTRAORDINARY TEAM,

AND

THE DEDICATED TEACHING ARTISTS
ON ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR!

LISA AND RICHARD PLEPLER
ARTS RULE!

We applaud ArtsConnection
Congratulations to ArtsConnection on your partnership with Stacey Mindich and *Dear Evan Hansen*!

Thank you for all your hard work on behalf of arts education and the students of New York City.

Stephanie and Harry Wagner
From Sheila and Bill Lambert

CONGRATULATIONS TO ARTS CONNECTION ON ITS 2019 BENEFIT CELEBRATION

IN HONOR OF Robert and Tracey Pruzan
We are honored to continue to support ArtsConnection on the amazing work they have been doing for 41 years and congratulate this year’s honorees, Broadway production Dear Evan Hansen and its lead producer Stacey Mindich for the groundbreaking theater education program in partnership with ArtsConnection.

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Bravo and thank you to Stacey Mindich, Dear Evan Hansen, and ArtsConnection for introducing a new generation of artists to the power of theatre.

WE SALUTE YOU!

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JOHN
and your friends at
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Congratulations to Debra Peltz On your new position as Chairman of the Board!
DEAR LINDA

KEEP UP THE GREAT WORK!

- Bob & Eva
Celebrating ArtsConnection’s continuing contribution to the children of New York!

Congratulations to Steve, Debbie, Linda and the whole ArtsConnection Team.

Transform lives, transform our world!

Lynne Katzmann and Edward Goodell

A standing ovation to

ART2ART: DEAR EVAN HANSEN

and

ARTSCONNECTION

for extending arts education beyond the classroom onto Broadway!

Andrea Glimcher

HYPHEN
CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU

Stacey Mindich for your ongoing commitment to the arts through ArtsConnection.

From your friends at

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CONGRATULATIONS TO ARTS CONNECTION FOR ALL YOUR VERY IMPORTANT WORK.

DOUGLAS E. SCHOEN
CONGRATULATIONS ON THE ART2ART: DEAR EVAN HANSEN PARTNERSHIP AND TO THE YOUNG VISUAL ARTISTS WHO SHARED THEIR IMAGINATIONS WITH ALL OF US.

LOUISE AND BILL WHITE

A standing ovation for ART2ART: DEAR EVAN HANSEN STACEY MINDICH & LINDA JANKLOW LISA PLEPLER and everyone at ARTS_CONNECTION
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