



# BEFORE- & AFTER-SCHOOL

## 2021-22 ANNUAL REPORT

# MKE REC

A department of MPS





# ★ To Our Before- & After-School Supporters



Dear Friends,

In a year filled with unprecedented challenges, we are proud to highlight our collective efforts to support students and families during the 2021-22 school year and summer of 2022.

On the pages that follow, you will see the ways in which students were engaged, introduced to new experiences, and supported by caring adults. While the COVID-19 pandemic brought with it many obstacles, including staffing challenges and a change to our overall operations, we were fortunate to realize a number of successes within our before and after-school programs, including:

- Providing services to **25,356 youth**
- **Re-opening 70** after-school program locations
- Hosting the **first-ever Summer STEAM** Challenge

Moving forward, we remain committed to expanding and improving these programs to better meet the needs of our students and their families. Several examples include:

- **Enhanced recruitment strategies** to ensure students most in need have access to programs
- **Increased compensation** for program staff

In closing, we extend our deepest gratitude to our dedicated educators, staff members, and program coordinators who went the extra mile to keep our before- and after-school programs operational. Their unwavering commitment to the welfare of our students and families is truly commendable. If you or someone you know would like to join our efforts to elevate the before- and after-school landscape in Milwaukee, please contact us. Together, we will ensure that every child in our district has access to high-quality before- and after-school programs.

Sincerely,



**Leighton Cooper**  
Recreation Coordinator,  
Milwaukee Recreation

# Keeping the lights on

Milwaukee has a long history of extending the school day with quality Before- & After-School Programs.

In fact, our city gained national recognition as the “City of the Lighted Schoolhouse” for using public school facilities for evening recreation programming. While other recreation departments in a majority of U.S. cities conduct their activities in stand-alone recreation centers, our programs keep the lights on in MPS. Using our school buildings for this dual purpose allows us to maximize resources and invest the majority of our funds in programming. We are proud to continue this tradition by serving thousands of children every year.



Scan the QR Code to learn more about Milwaukee Recreation's Before- & After-School Programs.



## BEFORE- & AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS BY THE NUMBERS

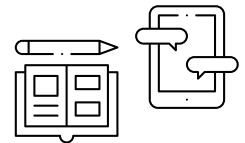
# 25,356

Youth served in Before- & After-School Programs throughout the city of Milwaukee



## K3-12th

Grades served in programs



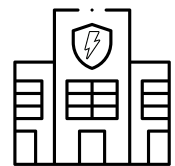
## 106,538

Program hours



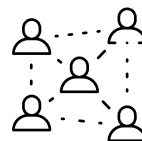
## 526,039

Meals served



## 95

School sites



## 142

Partners that provided programming or goods



## 3

New K3 wrap-around sites launched

# Essential Support

Providing youth with safe spaces for academic enrichment, youth development - and so much more.

“**T**his is my home, this is my city,” Milwaukee Bucks star Giannis Antetokounmpo penned on social media in December 2020 when he announced his decision to re-sign with the team that drafted him.

When Ana Magaña says, “this is my school” regarding Alexander Mitchell Integrated Arts School, she means it with just as much conviction as Antetokounmpo – and perhaps even more. By every definition, Magaña has made a lifetime commitment to Mitchell School.

Mitchell School is tucked off Mitchell St. in the Muskego Way neighborhood. Magaña lived just a few blocks away and attended Mitchell School from kindergarten through sixth grade. Her mother still lives in Magaña’s childhood home, and when Magaña had children of her own, she made sure they all attended Mitchell School.

When her youngest daughter enrolled at Mitchell, Magaña began to volunteer at the school. Shortly thereafter, she began working for the before- & after-school program at Mitchell. And despite the changes over her two decades, Magaña remains committed as ever to Mitchell.

Throughout the city, Milwaukee Recreation partners with local youth-serving and neighborhood agencies to operate Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning

Center (21st CCLC) Grant Programs and Safe Places, increasing student achievement and offering engaging enrichment opportunities. Milwaukee Recreation operates Mitchell’s 21st CCLC alongside the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee.

“Community Learning Centers are absolutely critical for families in Milwaukee,” Milwaukee Recreation Before- & After-School Programs manager Beth-marie Kurtz said. “21st CCLCs provide essential support to students and families who are often underserved and offer creative learning opportunities to youth of all ages and backgrounds.”

Magaña moved into the site coordinator role at Mitchell’s 21st CCLC four years ago, and continues to foster an environment centered on support. Magaña prides herself on her problem-solving abilities, and is touched that parents and students look to her when they need assistance, and have the confidence in her to help them.

Kurtz praised Magaña’s desire to listen to her students and staff, and seek out new resources and ideas. Mitchell School is open to students through eighth grade, and while the 21st CCLC has mostly featured young people from grades K-4

in the past, Magaña has seen a steady rise in older children and teenagers showing interest in the program. Now, she is adding activities to keep those students engaged in the 21st CCLC as well.

“[I want] to try to make a difference in as many children’s lives to make sure they graduate from high school.”

“Hopefully, the students will always feel they can come back to Mitchell for any support they may need as they grow up. As long as I am here, I will be there to help each and every one of them as long as they need me.”

Magaña’s working tenure at Mitchell dates back to October 2001 and she still sees some of her past 21st CCLC participants now; not because they come to her with problems to solve, but because they now bring their own children to Mitchell’s 21st CCLC.





## NITA M. LOWEY 21ST CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER (21ST CCLC) GRANT PROGRAM BY THE NUMBERS

# 28,414

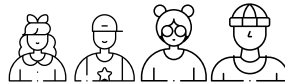


Total program hours



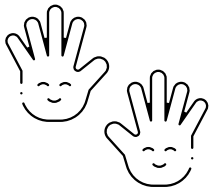
## 35

Program locations



## 4,874

Students served



## 27

Elementary/K-8 school locations



## 8

Middle and high school locations



**“[I want] to try to make a difference in as many children’s lives to make sure they graduate from high school.”**

**- ANA MAGAÑA**



## Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC)

Milwaukee Recreation partners with local youth-serving agencies to provide expanded academic enrichment opportunities during out-of-school time.

**Interested in being a partner?**

**Contact Leighton Cooper at [Leighton@mkerec.net](mailto:Leighton@mkerec.net)**



**Scan the QR Code to learn more about Milwaukee Recreation’s Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Center (21st CCLC) Grant Program.**

# Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Center (21st CCLC) Grant Program

The Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Center (21st CCLC) Grant Program provide students with daily academic enrichment and recreational activities designed to complement day-school academic programs in a safe and supporting environment. They also offer special educational programs to families of participating students.

## Reach

During the 2021-22 school year and summer, a total of 35 Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Center (21st CCLC) Grant Programs (28 of which were open during the summer) served 4,874 unduplicated students over 28,414 program hours at 27 elementary/K-8 schools and 8 middle and high schools. These 21st CCLCs operated in partnership with five community-based organizations serving as Lead Agencies. They provided a range of services to support student learning and development, including homework help, academic enrichment activities such as hands-on science, literacy, math and/or technology programs, community service opportunities, and a variety of arts and sports programs.

## Total Staff Professional Development Hours/Topics

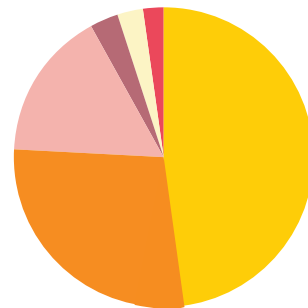
Each 21st CCLC is required by contract to provide a minimum of 10 hours of staff development each school year. The Milwaukee Recreation 21st CCLC team provides trainings in the fall and winter for all program staff. The team also provides more than 15 hours of trainings during the school year at mandatory site coordinator and academic coordinator meetings.

Training subjects may include, but are not limited to:

- Curriculum Training (literacy, math, physical activity/wellness, SEL)
- Youth Mental Health
- Trauma-Informed Care
- Culturally Responsive Practices
- Strategies for De-escalating Conflict
- Implementing Restorative Culture and Practices
- Supporting Youth Social-Emotional Development
- Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)
- Classroom Management
- COVID-19 Safety Procedures and Protocols

## Ethnicities

- 45% African-American
- 33% Hispanic-American
- 14% Non-Hispanic/Latino
- 2% Asian-American
- 3% Caucasian
- 3% Other/Unknown



## Grade Levels

- 56% K4-5th
- 24% 6th-8th
- 20% 9th-12th

## Gender

- 54% Male
- 46% Female

## Survey Results:



**98%**

of Spring 2022 middle - high school student survey respondents felt **"safe"** or **"very safe"** when they are at the 21st CCLC.



**83%**

of Spring 2022 middle - high school student survey respondents felt the 21st CCLC **"helps them with their school work"** (Homework, Research Projects, Tutoring, etc.).





## 2021-22 21st CCLCs

### Allen Field (K-5) Elem. School

730 W. Lapham Blv.

### Audubon Middle School

3300 S. 39th St.

### Auer Avenue (K-8) School

2319 W. Auer Ave.

### Bay View High School

2751 S. Lenox St.

### Bethune (K-8) Academy

1535 N. 35th St.

### Carson Academy (K-8)

4920 W. Capitol Dr.

### Cass St. (K-8) School

1647 N. Cass St.

### Clarke (K-8) School

2816 W. Clarke St.

### Doerfler (K-8) School

3014 W. Scott St.

### 81st St. (K-8) School

2964 N. 81st St.

### Engleburg (K-5) Elem. School

5100 N. 91st St.

### 53rd St. (K-7) School

3618 N. 53rd St.

### Fratney (K-5) LaEscuela School

3255 N. Fratney St.

### Grantosa (K-8) School

4850 N. 82nd St.

### Greenfield (K-8) School

1711 S. 35th St.

### Hayes Bilingual School

971 W. Windlake Ave.

### Hopkins-Lloyd (K-8) School

1503 W. Hopkins St.

### Kluge Elem School

5760 N. 67th St.

### LaFollette (K-8) School

3239 N. 9th St.

### Lincoln Ave. (K-5) Elem. School

1817 W. Lincoln Ave.

### Lincoln Ctr. MS of the Arts

820 E. Knapp St.

### Maple Tree (K-5) Elem. School

6644 N. 107th St.

### North Div. Multiplex H.S.

1011 W. Center St.

### Obama School for Career & Tech.

5075 N. Sherman Blvd.

### Riley (K-5) Elem. School

2424 S. 4th St.

### Riverwest Elem. School

2765 N. Fratney St.

### Sherman (K-8) School

5110 W. Locust St.

### Siefert (K-5) Elem. School

1547 N. 14th St.

### Thurston Woods (K-8) Campus

5966 N. 35th St.

### Townsend (K-8) School

3360 N. Sherman Blvd.

### Vieau (K-8) School

823 S. 4th St.

### Washington H.S. Campus

2525 N. Sherman Blvd.

### Wedgewood Park Int. M.S.

6506 W. Warnimont Ave.

### Westside Academy (K-5) School

1945 N. 31st St.

### Zablocki (K-5) Elem. School

1016 W. Oklahoma Ave.

## Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Center (21st CCLC) Grant Program Lead Agencies



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS  
OF GREATER MILWAUKEE



COA  
YOUTH & FAMILY CENTERS



UMOS  
Building Better Futures



# Child Care Camps

Before- and After-School Child Care Camps provide essential wrap-around care for students enrolled in many MPS K3-8th grade schools. These services are provided to families at a low cost and include academic enrichment and recreational activities. To further support the needs of working families, numerous locations offer a full-day summer program. Camps promote creativity and a positive sense of self-worth and offer a safe place for students to be themselves during non-school hours.

## Reach

Milwaukee Recreation employed 304 school year and 155 summer part-time employees to serve students attending Child Care Camp Programs. During the 2021-22 school year, 42 Child Care Camps were in operation, of which 17 hosted 2022 summer programming. As a result, 46,437 hours of service were provided to 3,322 students.

## Total Staff Professional Development Hours/Topics

Child Care Camp staff completed approximately 7,500 hours of professional development, averaging over 16 hours per employee. The camp project team organized and facilitated many of these trainings as well.

Training subjects may include, but are not limited to:

- Introduction to Child Care Profession
- Skills and Strategies for the Child Care Teacher
- Mandated Reporter
- DPI – Child Maltreatment
- DPI – Medication
- CPR/AED/First Aid
- Abusive Head Trauma
- Customer Service

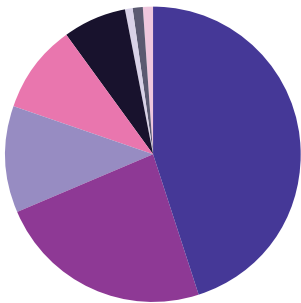
“High-quality after-school programs promote positive youth development and offer a safe space where youth can explore their potential.”

- AFTERSCHOOL ALLIANCE, 2020



## Ethnicities

- 33.5% Non-Hispanic/Latino
- 26.1% African-American
- 20.8% Hispanic-American
- 13.1% Caucasian
- 3.8% Two or More Races
- 1.9% Other/Unknown
- .4% Asian-American
- .4% Native American

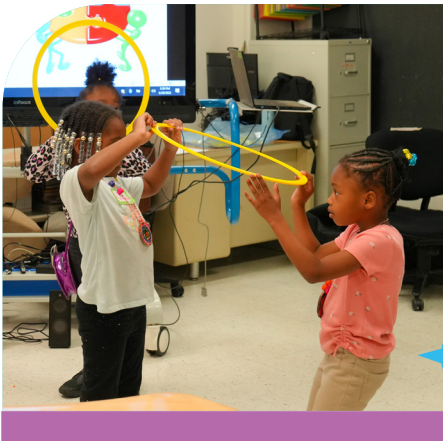


## Grade Levels

- 7.1% K3 Wrap-Around Programs
- 85.8% K4 – 5th
- 7.1% 6th – 8th

## Gender

- 51% Female
- 49% Male





## 2021-22 Child Care Camps

### Academy of Accelerated Learning

3727 S. 78th St.

### Alcott School

3563 S. 97th St.

### Barton Elementary School

5700 W. Green Tree Rd.

### Bay View Montessori – Lower

357 E. Howard Ave

### Bryant Elementary School

8718 W. Thurston Ave.

### Burdick Elementary School

4348 S. Griffin Ave.

### Clemens Elementary School

3600 W. Hope Ave.

### Clement Avenue Elementary School

3666 S. Clement St.

### Congress School

5225 W. Lincoln Creek Dr.

### Cooper Elementary School

5143 S. 21st St.

### Craig Montessori School

7667 W. Congress St.

### Curtin Elementary School

3450 S. 32nd St.

### Elm Creative Arts Elementary School

900 W. Walnut St.

### Fairview School

6500 W. Kinnickinnic River Pkwy.

### Fernwood Montessori

3239 S. Pennsylvania Ave.

### Franklin Elementary School

2060 S. 86th St.

### Garland Elementary School

3120 W. Green Ave.

### Goodrich Elementary School

8251 N. Celina St.

### Hawthorne School

6945 N. 41st St.

### Hi-Mount Community School

4921 W. Garfield Ave.

### Honey Creek School

6701 W. Eden Pl.

### IDEAL School

1420 W. Goldcrest Ave.

### Kilbourn Elementary School

5354 N. 68th St.

### Lancaster School

4931 N. 68th St.

### Lincoln Avenue Elementary School

1817 W. Lincoln Ave.

### Lloyd Barbee Montessori

4456 N. Teutonia Ave.

### MacDowell Montessori School

6415 W. Mt. Vernon Ave.

### Manitoba Elementary School

4040 W. Forest Home Ave.

### Maple Tree

6644 N. 107th St.

### Maryland Montessori

2418 N. Maryland Ave.

### Milwaukee French Immersion

2360 N. 52nd St.

### Milwaukee German Immersion

3778 N. 82nd St.

### Milwaukee Parkside School

2969 S. Howell Ave.

### Milwaukee Spanish Immersion School

2765 S. 55th St.

### Morgandale Elementary School

3635 S. 17th St.

### Ninety-Fifth Street School

3707 N. 94th St.

### Parkview School

10825 W. Villard Ave.

### Siefert School

1547 N. 14th St

### Starks Early Childhood

2616 W. Garfield Ave.

### Stuart Elementary School

7001 N. 86th St.

### Thoreau School

7878 N. 60th St.

### Whitman Elementary School

4200 S. 54th St.

**NOW HIRING!**  
Child Care Camps: Instructors & Directors

**APPLY TODAY!**  
[mkerec.net/camps](https://mkerec.net/camps)



Scan the QR Code to learn more about Milwaukee Recreation's Child Care Camp Programs.

# Safe Places

In partnership with eight community-based organizations and neighborhood agencies serving local youth, MPS Safe Places offer educational, recreational, and social activities for students at MPS elementary, K-8, and high school locations. Under the direction of trained staff from these agency partners, Safe Places provide youth with homework help, enrichment activities, and safe environments away from unwanted influences. They also support families by providing opportunities for family involvement in various activities and social events. A nominal program fee is charged. Financial assistance is available for eligible families.

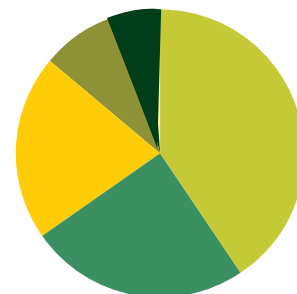
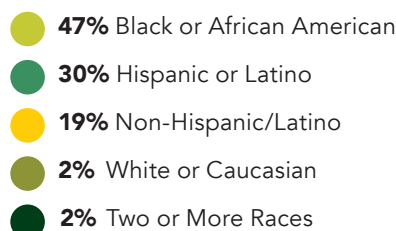
## Reach

During the 2021-22 school year and summer, a total of 15 Safe Places (11 of which were open during the summer) served 1,468 unduplicated students over 10,279 program hours at 14 elementary/K-8 schools and 1 high school. In partnership with eight local youth serving and neighborhood agencies, Safe Places offer educational, recreational, and social enrichment activities for youth at MPS elementary, K-8, and high school locations.

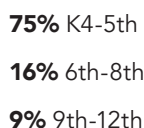
Under the direction of trained staff from agency partners, Safe Places provide youth with opportunities to engage in educational and social enrichment activities, and play in safe environments. Safe Places also support families by providing opportunities for parent involvement in various activities and social events.

## 2022 Summer

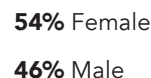
### Ethnicities



### Grade Levels

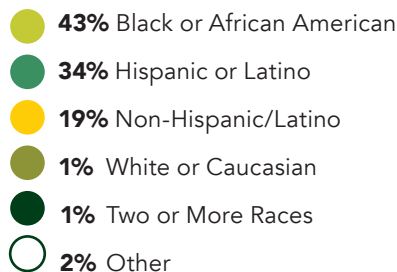


### Gender

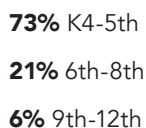


## 2021-22 School Year

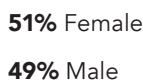
### Ethnicities



### Grade Levels



### Gender





## 2021-22 Safe Places



### ALBA

1712 S. 32nd St.

### Bradley Tech High School

700 S. 4th St.

### Browning (K-5) Elem. School

5440 N. 64th St.

### Brown Street Academy

2029 N. 20th St.

### Carver Academy (K-8)

1900 N. 1st St.

### Forest Home Avenue School

1516 W. Forest Home Ave.

### Gaenslen (K-8) School

1250 E. Burleigh St.

### O.W. Holmes (K-8) School

2463 N. Buffum St.

### Gwen T. Jackson (K-5) School

2121 W. Hadley St.

### Kagel (K-5) Elem. School

1210 W. Mineral St.

### Longfellow (K-8) School

1021 S. 21st St.

### Marvin Pratt Elem. School

5131 N Green Bay Rd.

### Mitchell (K-8) School

1728 S. 23rd St.

### Riley (K-5) Elem. School

2424 S. 4th St.

### Story School

3815 W. Kilbourn Ave.

## Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Center (21st CCLC) Grant Program Lead Agencies



## ARTS INTERNSHIP PROGRAM:

# Creative Collaboration

Empowering high school students to cultivate their voices.

Two of Milwaukee Recreation's arts-related initiatives – the Arts Internship Program & the Partnership for the Arts & Humanities – intertwined on stage at the Milwaukee Repertory Theater in 2022.

While Milwaukee Recreation offers a variety of arts opportunities – such as arts & crafts classes for youth, adults, and seniors at community centers, arts-themed enrichment activities for young people at Twilight Centers, and sessions for individuals with disabilities – the aforementioned after-school arts initiatives serve as connecting forces for people and non-profits throughout the city. The Partnership for the Arts & Humanities and Arts Internship programs allow local arts organizations to tackle new projects and provide new opportunities to students and families.

Two former Milwaukee Recreation Arts Interns – Terynn Erby-Walker and Alexandria Woods – were shining examples of the department's commitment to local arts opportunities when they qualified for nationals at the inaugural True Colors Next Narrative™ Monologue Competition in New York City. Just 17 students from around the country were selected to participate in this national event.

Woods, then a junior at Rufus King High School, earned a \$1,000 scholarship with her third-place performance of "One Second" by Rachel Lynett. Erby-Walker, then a junior at Golda Meir High School, presented "Say No to the Dress" by Stacey Rose, and received a \$250 cash prize.

Milwaukee Rep, with funding from Milwaukee Recreation's Partnership for the Arts & Humanities grant, created a recruitment and rehearsal process for

students to prepare for the Next Narrative Monologue Competition throughout the fall and winter. After shifting to an entirely virtual format in 2020-21, Milwaukee Rep returned to in-person sessions at three locations in 2021-22 (a virtual space was also available). During the year, roughly 40 students participated in Milwaukee Rep's after-school programming, though not every student auditioned for regionals in front of a panel of judges.

Nine total students, including Erby-Walker, Woods, and another former Arts Intern, Ana Gutierrez, qualified for regionals, which were hosted by Milwaukee Rep in March 2022. The top two performers won cash prizes and the opportunity to represent Milwaukee at the Apollo Theatre in New York City.

Building upon the former August Wilson Monologue Competition, the Next Narrative Monologue Competition was launched in 2022. The objective is to create opportunities for high school students to find their unique voices through the power of theater. It features contemporary Black playwrights who contributed to a compendium of monologues based on themes such as class, gender, cultural celebration, inclusivity, and more.

"Thanks to this change, [we heard] monologues that [were] relatable, powerful, and meaningful to the students who

perform them," Jeffrey Mosser, Milwaukee Rep's Associate Director of Education, said.

Gutierrez, then a senior at Ronald Reagan High School, enjoyed the broader range of monologues. "It [has been] refreshing to see such good work written and performed. The artist who wrote the monologue I [performed], Star Finch, also inspires me to be very confident, so it [was] really cool to perform their work."

Woods has now interned with Milwaukee Rep for each of the past two summers, which is where the connection to audition for the Next Narrative Monologue Competition was made.

Milwaukee Recreation's Arts Internship Program is a paid summer internship program that provides high school students with practical job experience in arts-related positions. Milwaukee Recreation provides funding for intern wages and benefits, transportation, and job-related training and career exploration, while the organizations themselves provide oversight to the selected interns in these arts fields.

"I would recommend this internship program to other people that are interested in the arts because it gives you a great opportunity to build connections and networking skills, as well as getting to know other people and really honing in your craft," Woods said.

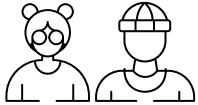




## ARTS INTERNSHIP PROGRAM BY THE NUMBERS

# 6,000+

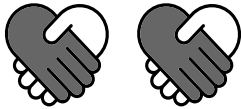
hours worked by interns



**50**  
intern  
participants



**15**  
host  
organizations



**70%**  
MPS  
students

**30%**  
non-MPS  
students



## 2021-22 Arts Internship Host Organizations

**Art Start, Inc.**

**Artists Working in Education**

**ArtWorks for Milwaukee**

**Bembé Drum and Dance**

**Casa Romero**

**Lead2Change**

**LocoMotion Dance Company**

**Lynden Sculpture Garden**

**Milwaukee Repertory Theater**

**TBEY Arts Center, Inc.**

**TRUE Skool**

**UW-Milwaukee/ ArtsECO**

**Walker's Point Center for the Arts**

**Walnut Way**

**Woodland Pattern Book Center**



## Arts Internship Program

Milwaukee Recreation's award-winning Arts Internship Program is a paid summer internship program that provides high school students with practical job experience in arts-related positions. Interns explore the arts in an in-depth and applicable way while also gaining 21st century job skills.

**Interested in being a partner? Contact Christina Dresang at [Christina@mkerec.net](mailto:Christina@mkerec.net)**



**Scan the QR Code  
to learn more about  
Milwaukee Recreation's  
Art Internship Program.**

# Partnership for the Arts & Humanities

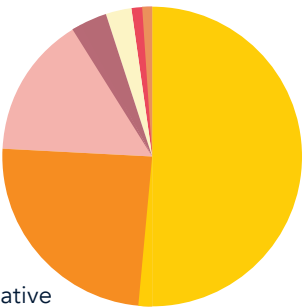
The Partnership for the Arts and Humanities is an allocation of \$1.83 million approved annually by the Milwaukee Board of School Directors to support after-school, weekend, and summer arts- and humanities-related opportunities for youth and families throughout Milwaukee.

## Reach

For the 2021-22 school year and summer, the Partnership for the Arts & Humanities provided a total of \$1,750,624 to 50 different community-based organizations. These organizations delivered over 18,000 hours of programming to 15,642 unduplicated students and family members through after-school, weekend, or summer programming at 61 schools and 42 citywide youth-serving agencies such as Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee, COA Youth & Family Centers, Neighborhood House, Running Rebels, and more.

## Ethnicities

- 54% Black or African American
- 25% Hispanic or Latino
- 11% White
- 5% Two or More Races
- 3% Asian
- 1% American Indian or Alaskan Native
- 1% Other



## Grade Range

- 31% K-5th
- 21% Middle School
- 44% High School
- 4% 12th+ (Adult)

## Gender

- 60% Female
- 37% Male
- 3% Other



“I get what music is all about now! It’s about art and beauty and dance and all the things you can feel. I get it now!”

- MILWAUKEE YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PARTICIPANT



## PARTNERSHIP FOR THE ARTS & HUMANITIES PROGRAM BY THE NUMBERS

# \$1,750,624

awarded throughout the program



**50**

organizations awarded funding



**81%**

served were economically disadvantaged



**15,642**

unduplicated students and family members served



Scan the QR Code to learn more about Milwaukee Recreation's Partnership for the Arts and Humanities.

## ★ 2021-22 Partnership for the Arts & Humanities Partners\*

ACLU of Wisconsin  
 All Hands Boatworks  
 America SCORES Milwaukee  
 Art Start  
 Artists Working in Education  
 Arts At Large  
 ArtWorks for Milwaukee  
 Bay View Community Center  
 Bembe Drum and Dance  
 Black Arts MKE  
 Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee  
 CAPITA Productions  
 Casa Romero Renewal Center  
 COA Youth & Family Centers  
 Ex Fabula  
 First Stage

Girl Scouts of Wisconsin Southeast  
 Hmong American Friendship Association  
 Keep Greater Milwaukee Beautiful  
 Lead2Change  
 LocoMotion Dance Company  
 Marcus Performing Arts Center  
 Milwaukee Art Museum  
 Milwaukee Ballet  
 Milwaukee Christian Center  
 Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design  
 Milwaukee Repertory Theater  
 Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestra  
 Neighborhood House of Milwaukee  
 Neu-Life Community Development  
 Quasimondo Physical Theatre  
 Radio Milwaukee

Running Rebels Community Organization  
 Sixteenth Street Community Health Centers  
 Sojourner Foundation  
 TBey Arts Center  
 Teens Grow Greens  
 TransCenter for Youth  
 TRUE Skool  
 Unity in Motion  
 UW-Milwaukee/ArtsECO  
 UW-Milwaukee/Electa Quinney Institute  
 Victory Garden Initiative  
 Walker's Point Center for the Arts  
 Wild Space Dance Company  
 Wisconsin Conservatory of Music  
 Woodland Pattern Book Center  
 Xalaat Africa Drum and Dance for Life

\*Two organizations declined their awards for this funding cycle.



# Passion Leads State-of-the-Art K3 Wrap-Around Program

**A safe space for children to grow and learn.**

**M**s. D knows Milwaukee Recreation. In her lengthy tenure with the department, Damaris Espada Ortiz has covered roles spanning a variety of program areas, including adult sports, citywide programs, and positions within the MPS Central Services building. But Espada Ortiz' passion for child care has always brought her back to Milwaukee Recreation's before- and after-school programs.

Espada Ortiz, known as Ms. D to her students and staff, is the lead teacher at the Fratney School K3 Wrap-Around Program, which was launched ahead of the 2021-22 academic year to provide full-day learning opportunities to three-year-old kindergarten students. Families who have signed up for the half-day K3 program at Fratney – either in the morning or afternoon – can also register for the alternate wrap-around session to complete the full day.

“The program allows parents to work comfortably all day, knowing their child is in a safe environment where they are constantly learning,” Cynthia Cruz, Milwaukee Recreation's K3 Wrap-Around Program supervisor, said. “Children soak up so much information at this age, so being able to provide a quality childcare program along with a half day of K3 only furthers their development.”

Prior to heading up the Fratney program, Espada Ortiz spent nine years as the assistant director at Milwaukee Recreation's Child Care Camp at Whitman School, while also filling in where needed at other Milwaukee Recreation's Before- & After-School locations. Espada Ortiz moved to the Fratney K3 Wrap-Around Program in September 2021 as a resource staff member before transitioning to the lead teacher role in January 2022.

“I value her because of her motivation and drive to be a successful childcare teacher. She was a part of the beginnings of the Milwaukee Recreation K3 Wrap-Around Program with her expertise in childcare programming,” Cruz said.

Milwaukee Recreation invested in the K3 Wrap-Around Program with a state-of-the-art facility. The room is decorated warmly and there are high quality pieces of equipment that allow the students to move seamlessly from one activity to the next. The wrap-around classroom also sits right next door to the traditional K3 classroom, allowing the students who are a part of the program to easily move from one space to the other between sessions.

Milwaukee Recreation's K3 Wrap-Around Program works alongside the traditional K3 class at Fratney. Fratney is a dual language school, so Espada Ortiz provides instruction in both English and Spanish, adding more and more Spanish to the classroom throughout the school year. “At this stage in their lives, their brains are making connections that allow the learning of languages a little more easily than if they start later in life,” Espada Ortiz said.

Everything about the K3 Wrap-Around Program is designed to provide a safe space for the children to grow and learn. Espada Ortiz and her staff lead different program themes each week, such as health & safety or shapes & figures. A daily session includes a wide range of activities, such as arts & crafts, music, singing, & dancing, and reading. “We are the first step in their educational journey. I want to make sure it is a positive one, that they enjoy learning, and are treated with kindness and respect,” Espada Ortiz said.

Throughout the day, children flock to Espada Ortiz, excited to dance with her, read with her, or show her a new drawing. Espada Ortiz responds to all of it with incredible positivity and joy. As the program grows at

“I believe a child who enjoys learning and coming to school will in the long run be more successful. I would like that for each and every one of our children. They deserve it.”



## K3 WRAP-AROUND PROGRAM BY THE NUMBERS

# 4,998

Number of service hours provided



## 3

"New" K3 Wrap-Around locations



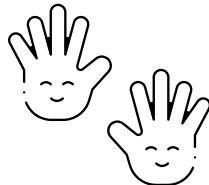
## 68

students served during the 2021-22 school year



## 11

talented K3 Wrap-Around Programs staff



## 180

days of service



**"We are the first step in their educational journey. I want to make sure it is a positive one, that they enjoy learning, and are treated with kindness & respect."**

**- DAMARIS ESPADA ORTIZ**



## K3 WRAP-AROUND

Qualified MPS teaching staff lead the K3 Wrap-Around Programs in a state-of-the-art learning environment outfitted with new age-appropriate furniture, equipment, and interactive learning materials. Classes were offered at the following locations:

### **Fratney (K3-5<sup>th</sup>)**

3255 N. Fratney Street

### **Maple Tree (K3-8<sup>th</sup>)**

6644 N. 107<sup>th</sup> Street

### **Siefert (K3-5<sup>th</sup>)**

1547 N. 14<sup>th</sup> Street



Scan the QR Code to learn more about Milwaukee Recreation's K3 Wrap-Around Programs.

# Our Team

Meet our team of dedicated professionals who oversee our extensive network of Before- & After-School programs. Their commitment and expertise ensure that every child in our programs receives the highest quality care and support for their educational and personal growth.



**Leighton Cooper**  
Coordinator - Before- & After-School Programs  
414-475-8844



**Beth-marie Kurtz**  
Manager - Community Learning Centers & Safe Places  
414-475-8121



**April Heding**  
Manager - After-School Arts & Humanities  
414-475-8508



**Helen Hamilton**  
Supervisor - Community Learning Centers & Safe Places  
414-475-8569



**Elizabeth Breitenfeldt**  
Supervisor - Child Care Camps  
414-777-9948



**La-Wanda Cameron**  
Supervisor - Child Care Camps  
414-475-8323



**Lisa Mitchell**  
Supervisor - Child Care Camps  
414-475-8788



**Tony Totoraitis**  
Supervisor - Child Care Camps  
414-475-8146



**Cynthia Cruz**  
Supervisor - Child Care Camps  
414-475-8637



**Jenny M. Acevedo**  
Secretary - Before- & After-School Programs  
414-475-8637

*Not pictured: Don Bennett,  
Nicole Johnson, and  
Jordan Thornton.*



# Thank You Community Partners!

ACLU of Wisconsin  
 Agape Yogastry  
 All Hands Boatworks  
 Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity - Delta Chi  
 Lambda Chapter  
 America SCORES Milwaukee  
 AmeriCorps  
 Art Start  
 Arte Wine and Paint Studios  
 Artists Working in Education  
 Arts @ Large  
 ArtWorks for Milwaukee  
 Aurora Health Center  
 Bader Philanthropies  
 Bay View Community Center  
 Bembé Drum and Dance  
 Beyond STEM  
 Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metro Milwaukee  
 Black Arts MKE  
 Boy Scouts of America  
 Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee  
 CAPITA Productions  
 Casa Romero  
 City Year  
 COA Youth & Family Centers  
 Delta Sigma Theta  
 Department of Justice Office of Juvenile Justice  
 and Delinquency Prevention  
 Embody Yoga  
 Employ Milwaukee  
 Ex Fabula  
 FIRST Lego Robotics  
 First Stage  
 General Electric  
 Girl Scouts of Wisconsin Southeast  
 Girls on the Run


H2O Community Development Corporation  
 Hmong American Friendship Association  
 J.K. Lee Tae Kwon Do  
 Keep Greater Milwaukee Beautiful  
 Kohl's Department Stores  
 Lead2Change  
 Learn Fresh  
 Lions Clubs International  
 LocoMotion Dance Company  
 Lynden Sculpture Garden  
 Mad Science of Milwaukee  
 Marcus Performing Arts Center  
 Marquette University  
 Milwaukee Area Technical College  
 Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board  
 Milwaukee Art Museum  
 Milwaukee Ballet  
 Milwaukee Bucks  
 Milwaukee Christian Center  
 Milwaukee County Zoo  
 Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design  
 Milwaukee PBS  
 Milwaukee Public Library  
 Milwaukee Repertory Theater  
 Milwaukee Torrent Soccer  
 Milwaukee Youth Sports Authority  
 Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestra  
 Milwaukee Youth Theater  
 Neighborhood House of Milwaukee  
 Neu-Life Community Development  
 Pearls for Teen Girls  
 Play Works  
 "Q" the Sun, LLC  
 Quasimondo Physical Theatre  
 Radio Milwaukee

Riverwest Outdoor Enterprises  
 Running Rebels Community Organization  
 Salsabrosa  
 SC Johnson  
 Science Guy  
 SHARP Literacy  
 Silver Spring Neighborhood Center  
 Sixteenth Street Community Health Centers  
 Sojourner Family Peace Center  
 St. Augustine Preparatory Academy  
 TBey Arts Center  
 Teens Grow Greens  
 TransCenter for Youth  
 TRUE Skool  
 United Migrant Opportunities Services  
 (UMOS)  
 United Way of Greater Milwaukee &  
 Waukesha County  
 Unity in Motion  
 Urban Ecology Center  
 UW-Milwaukee/ArtsECO  
 UW-Milwaukee/Electa Quinney Institute  
 Victory Garden Initiative  
 Walker's Point Center for the Arts  
 Walmart  
 Walnut Way  
 Wild Space Dance Company  
 Wisconsin Conservatory of Music  
 Wisconsin Humane Society  
 Woodland Pattern  
 Xalaat Africa Drum and Dance for Life

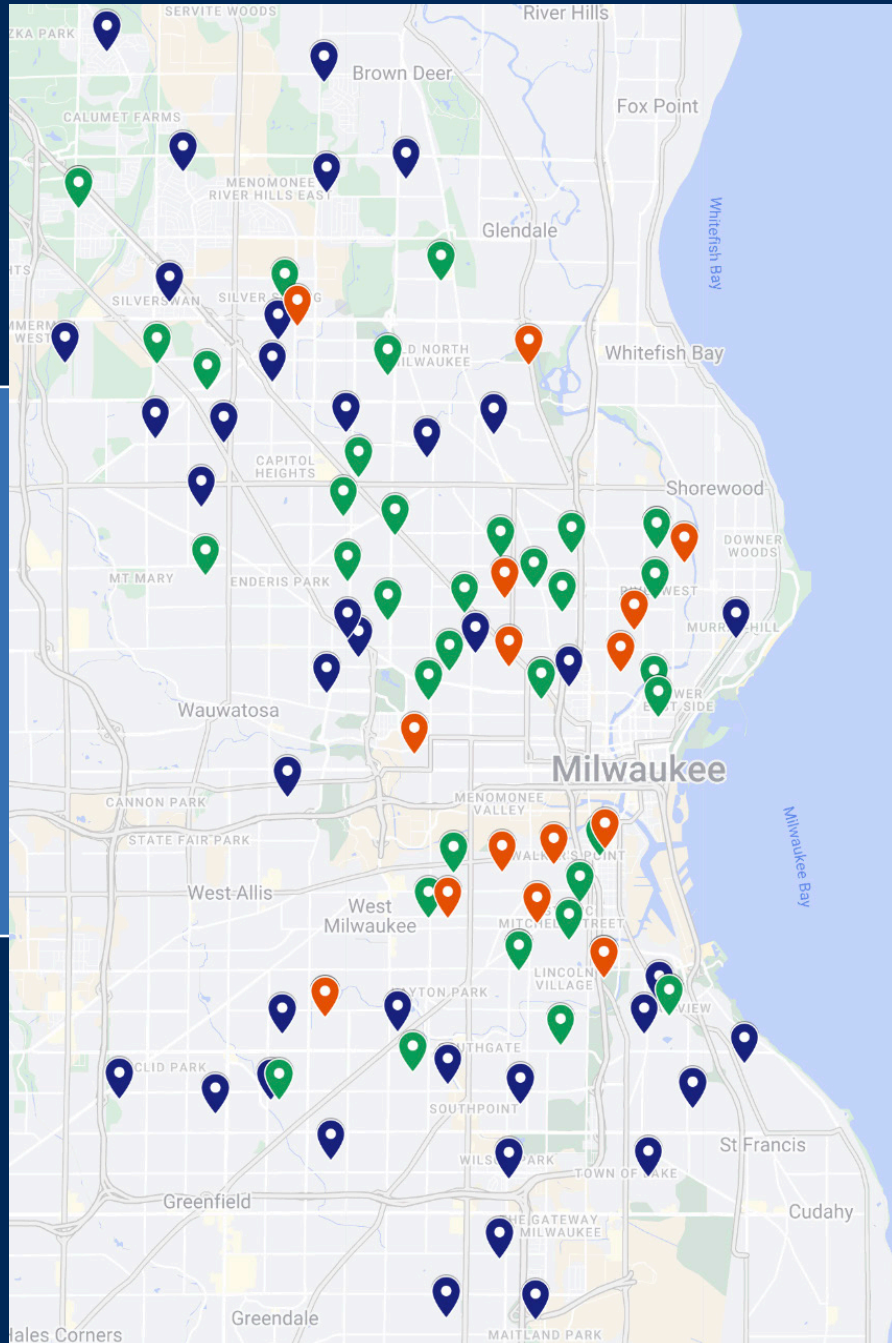
# One Mission. Many Locations.

## LEGEND

 Before- & After-School  
Child Care Camps

 Nita M. Lowey 21<sup>st</sup>  
Century Community  
Learning Centers  
(21<sup>st</sup> CCLC)

 Safe Places



**MKE REC**  
A department of MPS