

## *Innovate and Create with Art at the Eliot!*

The Eliot K-8 Innovation School, Boston's only public school in the North End, is thrilled to shine a spotlight on Arts Education and the gifts it brings to our school. The goal of this year's Arts Expansion Initiative is to foster the unique talents and imaginations of our students to bring meaningful art and expression into our community and beyond. We know that creativity, collaboration, and critical thinking are essential 21st Century skills nurtured through the Arts.

With the opening of 585 Commercial Street in September 2019, the Eliot is at a unique time in its school history to create a Digital Arts and Media Studio. Specific to this project, the Eliot will deepen its relationship with Artists for Humanity by adding another Artist In Residence at the school. The studio will offer state-of-the-art design resources and software, collaborative workstations, artists' desks, high-resolution dot and laser printers, and much more!

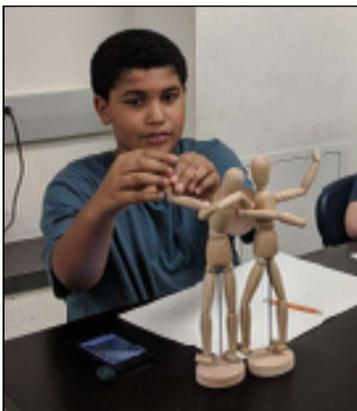
### *Creativity Grows the Brain – Research says it works!*

Creative and play-based learning is a research-based approach to academics, offering equity and inclusion by providing a joyful and multi-faceted environment that is uniquely experienced by each learner. A 2012 research study conducted by the College Board found that arts education is linked to gains in cognitive growth and academic skills, including long-term memory, reading skills, creative thinking skills and writing fluency, in addition to correlations to positive social outcomes and overall engagement in school. The arts are truly brain-building! Art strengthens how a student experiences information from multiple perspectives through leveraging all forms of learning - visual, kinesthetic, auditory, and tactile.



### *Offering Access - If we build it, they will thrive!*

Imagine students using the Studio to visually represent the inner workings of a volcanic system in 3D. Imagine a theater class recreating and sculpting traditional Venetian masks to add depth to a study of Shakespeare. Now keep imagining like our teachers do! Building a Digital Arts and Media Studio, that is accessible to every student in our school, will transform these experiences into a reality. The depth and richness of our offerings will also be substantially expanded to include sculpture, 3-D Art, pottery, graphic arts, and technology design. Teachers will use the Studio as they develop and expand their own curricula and projects, allowing them to access tools and resources adding a level of learning unparalleled in BPS. The Studio will offer opportunities for after-school programming, clubs, and open-studio times.



### *Artists for Humanity*

The Eliot has a powerful partnership with the non-profit Artists for Humanity (AFH). We met our amazing art advocate and teacher, Rachel Rizzo, through this program and our incredible art program was born. AFH is based on an imperative— to address the lack of arts experiences within the Boston Public School system. They believe that young people can provide, through their innate talent and vision, contemporary creative services to the community. An AFH alumnus will be funded through the Arts Expansion Initiative to provide full-time instruction in visual and digital arts.

Checks can be made out to the Friends of the Eliot School, and mailed to:

**Jennifer McGivern**  
**Eliot K-8 Innovation School**  
**16 Charter Street**  
**Boston, MA 02113**

Friends of the Eliot School is a 501(c)3. All donations are tax deductible.

For more information, please contact:

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*\*Once the school has met its goals for Arts funding, any further funds raised will be applied to the school's general fund, allowing the Eliot to continue to pursue innovative and enriching educational opportunities for all students.*