

## FINE ARTS

The Fine Arts Education program in the Wichita Public Schools is one of the oldest continually functioning departments in a school district in the United States. Fine Arts Instruction began in the 1887-88 school year and has continued, taught by specialists, ever since. Following the end of World War II, the Performing and Visual Arts Education programs expanded in size and scope. The 1997-98 school year saw these Education Departments become part of a newly created Fine Arts Department which was charged with supporting Music, Art, and Drama Education throughout the district.

WPS now has 13 middle schools, 3 K-8 schools and 2 Special MS program schools in which students receive Fine Arts Instruction. There are approximately 85 MS Fine Arts Teachers (Band, Orchestra, Vocal/General Music, Visual Arts, Theatre) in the Wichita Public Schools. Middle School Fine Arts programs provide Band, Strings, Visual Arts and Vocal Music electives at each grade level (Drama is also offered currently at six MS sites).

### MS DISTRICT LEVEL OPPORTUNITIES

- MS All-City Band, Choir & Orchestra Honors Concerts at Century 2 Concert Hall

- MS Band, Choir, Orchestra Festival Assessments

- MS Solo/Ensemble Music Festival

- Arts in Education Week, District & Scholastics Art Exhibitions

- McCormick School Museum, Feeder Pattern and AMAC Performance Opportunities

- Community Theatre Performances, Young Peoples Concert and College Arts Field Trips

- Empty Bowls Project Participation (Artist-driven movement helping to combat hunger)

- MS Band, Orchestra, Performing Arts & Visual Arts Summer Camps