



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

RAHM EMANUEL
MAYOR

September 12, 2013

Dear Principals and Arts Liaisons:

As Mayor and on behalf of the City of Chicago, I offer **my** congratulations to **you** for achieving Creative Schools Certification. You have taken a critical step toward improving our children's education by committing to high-quality arts opportunities for your students.

Every child in this city deserves a quality education, and incorporating the arts into all levels of education is an essential piece in helping Chicago's children thrive. I am proud that the Chicago Public Schools Arts Education Plan is providing systems to capture and enhance arts education across the district which is opening up new possibilities for all of our children. The academic and creative skills fostered through participation in the arts are vital in the 21st century workforce. We know that innovation and critical thinking will unlock opportunities that will prepare students for college and career success. That is why the City has committed \$1 million towards implementing the Arts Education Plan.

I am pleased that you took action on the first major initiative of the Plan by nominating an Arts Liaison for your school. With your support, your school will continue to tap into your unique arts assets and identify opportunities for growth. Thank you for your commitment to the arts in your school, which has made the Arts Education Plan a reality. With your leadership and collaborative spirit, together we will ensure that all children in all of our schools have access to arts education.

Sincerely,

Mayor