

FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

To our families and supporters of JSA,

This past season for me stepping in as the new Executive Director has provided a constant reminder of how appreciative I am to our families and community that believe in all things JSA! I have seen so many of your hearts shining for the arts and for the kids who come here to explore all that is being offered. It is a beautiful thing to be a witness to the true power of a community.

I am so excited to announce the launch of our new donor platform, Kindful. This platform will allow for us to track gifts-in-kind as well as monetary donations in a more user-friendly way. Our request is to please update your contact information on the backside of the newsletter by scanning the QR code or completing the form. We are also asking individuals to consider becoming a student sponsor for the year. With \$50 per month or \$600 annually, it allows for tuition and materials to be covered for one child for the entire year. We have 650 students identified as in need and this would allow for them to step into class with confidence.



SCAN TO UPDATE YOUR
DONOR INFO ON KINDFUL

We celebrated the end of year for all of our programs. I am blown away by the talent and teamwork that was displayed by our students and staff. Here are a few quarterly highlights:

- Fairy Festival, our annual fundraiser, was a success! It truly does take a village and we saw generosity displayed in a wide variety of ways - time, treasure, and talent. We were blown away by the great support we received.
- Our Theater program continues to thrive and had a phenomenal season with selling out shows for three wonderful productions.
- For Art, we held our first all student Art Exhibition in May with our students' artwork proudly displayed on all three floors. We had over 230 people in attendance to show support. Thank you to those that were able to attend.
- For our first time ever, we sold out our Student Dance Recitals. Dance is our highest enrolled program where we have over 50% of participants receiving some level of tuition assistance. We appreciate everyone's patience as we work through this new season of growth. Recital was a great reminder that when a person develops a passion for the Arts, it stays throughout a lifetime. Recital is an event that builds confidence and celebrates the growth we have seen in so many throughout the year. JSA aims to provide costumes for many to ensure that we keep costs reasonable for our families.

We continue to look for great art experiences to bring within our doors at JSA as well as hold conversations on growing community collaborations.

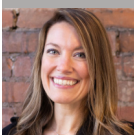
I always enjoy giving tours and sharing our story about Jackson School of the Arts in what makes us truly unique. Thank you to all of you for making an investment in our organization and providing support through time, treasure, and/or talent. You are all so appreciated!

Cherie Good



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CHERIE GOOD
Executive Director

CHILDCARE ACADEMY YEAR 1 DEVELOPMENT

ENHANCEMENTS IN BOTH EDUCATION AND FAMILY COMMUNICATIONS AT 1 YEAR MARK



During its first year of existence, JSA Childcare Academy has prided itself as being a unique all-day Preschool experience offering Young Fives and Preschool readiness curriculum with an emphasis on the arts. We offer themed weeks where children get an opportunity to learn, explore and better understand the world around them.

For instance, during a recent "Creepy Crawly Week" the group explored honey bees. We set up a honey stand in our Dramatic Play area where the class was able to put honey into jars, explore honey comb and honey bee life cycles. We learned words like "pollinate", "colony", and "nectar". We talked about the importance of honey bees and the roll they play to get fruits and vegetables on our tables.

We believe that giving children numerous hands-on opportunities that fulfill their senses and keep them engaged is crucial for molding young, curious minds!

One very important component when working with children is not only the children's safety and well-being but communication between the staff and parents. Childcare Academy is excited to have launched Brightwheels this Spring. This system can send pictures, videos, messages and reminders in real time for the parents to enjoy. This extension of the classroom lets parents observe their child in the learning process that would have otherwise been missed. Brightwheels also offers a variety of options for day-to-day operations such as uploading children's daily schedules, snack menus, classroom newsletters, curriculum and accident or incident forms that may require a signature.

Having these tools at the fingertips of staff and parents closes the communication gap. It allows staff more time to be spent with the children and gives the parents the reassurance that their child is learning in a safe environment.

CONTINUED THEATER PROGRAM GROWTH

EXPANDED LINEUP & CAPABILITIES GIVE OPPORTUNITIES TO A BROADER STUDENT BODY



Our Theater students wrapped up the spring season with an amazing lineup of mini-productions to share with family, friends, and community members!

These talented students of a variety of ages and our wonderful instructors continue to raise the bar each season! Each production has its own unique flair and has been a great showcase for a variety of characters, costumes, and stage designs!

Our Spring Theater lineup had a diverse set of opportunities this year. Younger students had the option of working in smaller roles in a variety of productions or being a more central piece in our "Isle of the Lost" Descendants mini-production. The "Neverland" group was able to share a their fresh take on the

Peter Pan tale to our Fairy Festival visitors with some extra stage magic. Older students also had more options and expanded exposure in our theater program as well. The Shrek mini-production was a hit and let them revel in a bit more adolescent humor along the way. Our Acting 101 program saw its largest teen enrollment and great talent growth. And finally, our Broadway 101 series continued to grow with the enthusiasm behind musical stage numbers.

Our Theater program enrollment has been increasing steadily and it has been so much fun watching these students grow. If your child wants to join us this upcoming season you can register online at jacksonarts.org/theater/.

STUDENT ART EXHIBITION EVENT

CELEBRATING OUR STUDENT ARTISTS ON A LARGER, PUBLIC SCALE



In past years, we've always had an "Exhibition" night on the final day of art class for parents to stop into the classroom and see their student's cumulative work on display.

After having a full year under our belts in our larger facilities, we decided to expand this Exhibition experience into the entire building, allowing all families plus community members into the space to celebrate our young art students.

This opportunity allowed all attendees to see artistic results from an extensive array of art classes – covering our wide age range of preschoolers to teens.

To make the experience even more special, our Creative Technology instructor, Matt Rozensky turned one of our classroom spaces into an immersive, animated space that was populated by a rotation of student

artwork. (This was also a great preview of his upcoming "Immersive Spaces" class going on this summer – see jacksonarts.org/tech for more details) The result of this digital creativity was mesmerizing and entertaining for guests. It also wasn't uncommon for guests to make multiple trips in to see different parts of the digital collection.

Complementing our Visual Arts Exhibit was a Theater performance by our Beauty and the Beast class and a dance routine performance by our Ballet V team. Adding to the event's atmosphere was beautiful live music provided by the Jackson Symphony Orchestra.

We're so thankful for the many families, friends and community members that came out to support our young artists and celebrate their creations.

FAIRY FESTIVAL IN REVIEW

MAGICAL GROWTH FOSTERED BY CREATIVITY AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



At the conclusion of April, we hosted our 16th Annual Fairy Festival, but only the second installment in our new Downtown home!

We learned a lot of lessons last year in our first attempt to bring Fairy Festival to our new facilities. With this experience along with our team's creativity, we were able to evolve this year's Fairy Festival experience into a more enjoyable experience that left many visitors saying it was the best Fairy Festival ever.

In addition to being a great outreach event and an opportunity for Mid-Michigan's children to have a special adventure, Fairy Festival is also JSA's largest fundraiser of the year. We not only broke records for the most paid tickets sold for Fairy Festival, but we also set new heights for sponsorship giving and support as

well! We can't thank all those individuals and organizations enough, for making all this come together in order to help support our mission and students throughout the year.

There was a lot of magical fun during Fairy Festival, but we also had our largest lineup of vendors & partners fill the space with fun items, activities and personal interactions – both outside and inside during Saturday's event! We had many lovely shops and community partners like the Jackson Symphony Orchestra, Jackson District Library, Ella Sharp Museum, Dahlem Center, and Paragon Academy adding their own touches to the weekend's experience and ambiance. We are hoping we can continue to strengthen these partnerships for future events!



MAKING THE
ARTS
ACCESSIBLE
TO ALL

SPONSOR A STUDENT

650 STUDENTS ARE ON TUITION ASSISTANCE

JACKSONARTS.ORG/DONATE

\$50
PER
MONTH



\$600
PER
YEAR

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CHECK OUT OUR
SUMMER
CLASSES & CAMPS

ART / DANCE / THEATER / CAMPS
GYMNASTICS / TAE KWON DO



SCAN THIS QR CODE TO FIND MORE
INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION FOR
ALL OUR SUMMER ART CAMPS & EVENTS.

JACKSONARTS.ORG/SUMMER



JACKSON SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

DONOR FORM

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EMAIL _____

NAME / BUSINESS _____
(as you wish to be acknowledged)

PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

SPONSORSHIP AMOUNT: \$ _____

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