



DATE: June 19, 2012

SUBMISSION TO: EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
FROM: OCDSB ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE ARTS

RE: ANNUAL REPORT 2011/12

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

**ACA celebrates 25 years of advocacy for excellence in arts education, and of providing advice on delivering all the arts, to all students, in all schools, in a fair and equitable manner.**

## **BACKGROUND / CURRENT STATUS**

This year marks the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the establishment of the Advisory Committee on the Arts. The ACA was created in 1987, by the former OBE, as a community advisory committee and its mandate was, and still is, to provide policy and program advice, regarding all aspects of arts education, for the OCDSB schools. (Appendix A)

ACA has continued to provide advice for policy decisions about Arts education, and has always championed arts education in all of the arts, for all our students, in all our schools.

In the past 25 years, as in all vibrant organizations, there have been many developments. The past two years have been no exception.

A first major organizational change occurred in the 2010/11 year, when ACA's Terms of Reference were changed from those established in 1985, and then renewed in 2002. The revised Terms of Reference are now flexible enough to maintain a good balance of new members, while retaining the longer standing volunteers who provide a stable base, corporate memory and knowledge of how the system works.

The Executive Circle, a formalized executive, was also established. It consists of 6 Voting members who are actively involved in setting the organizational priorities, creating the agendas, and focussing our efforts on our goals.

This past year, one of ACA's organizational goals was to recognize the changing nature of volunteers, how that affected our committee and how we could best work as an effective team. We looked at what we do, how we do it and how we could spread the load. In organizational terms, Advisory, Advocacy and Communication "strands" form the core ACA activities. (Appendix B)

In the past two years, ACA has worked to initiate a board-wide dialogue about the importance of the Arts and to become an integral part of that conversation. The Blue Sky Discussion (2012), part of that initiative, collected ideas from a wider population and should offer ideas that will help guide the strategic School Board goals of the future.

The ACA has provided the Board with evidence that the Arts enhance literacy, by both providing a general readiness for learning, and by underlining specific skills that relate to the literacy goals of empathy, deeper meaning and communication.

ACA continued to emphasize the importance of all the Arts, by presentations of current research on the benefits of arts education, by actively asking questions about Board policy and funding, and by stating its concerns about equity, both for the arts and within the arts. (Appendix C)

The Arts Recognition Awards, a yearly event since 1989, continued to focus a spotlight on just a small portion of the exceptional work done by teachers, administration and community members in our classrooms and in our schools. (Appendix D)

At monthly meetings, ACA members shared information and discussed issues of importance to arts education, maintaining the emphasis on what happens in the classroom and how it can be improved. In keeping with the spirit of the Arts, we aim to laugh at every meeting, respect everyone's opinions, eat scrumptious treats and have a good time.

Our over-arching goal is to make arts education at the OCDSB the finest quality possible, and to ensure it can be delivered equitably, in all the arts, to all the students, in all the schools.

#### HOUSEKEEPING ITEMS

There will be twelve (12) Voting Members for next year and the new Co-Chairs will be Sheila White and Katherine Stauble. (Appendix E)

The allocated budget of \$1020 pays for copying costs, meeting costs, plaques for the ACA Arts Recognition Awards and this year, the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary party. (Appendix F)

ACA meetings were held at Fisher Park School Staff Room, from 7:00 to 9:00 pm one Monday of each month. There were 8 formal meetings and one final party. Attendance was excellent and varied from 14 to 30. A similar program is planned for next year. (Appendix G)

#### THANK YOU

The Advisory Committee on the Arts could not function without the dedication of the many community members, staff and trustees, who work with us each year to keep our committee alive and kicking.

To all of you, we say thank you.

- Appendix A: Initiatives of ACA, 1987-2012 (p.3)
- Appendix B: ACA Responsibility Structure (pages 3,4,)
- Appendix C: Presentations to Trustees (p. 5)
- Appendix D: Arts Recognition Award Recipients (p. 5)
- Appendix E: Membership for 2012/13 (p.6)
- Appendix F: Budget Breakdown (p. 6)
- Appendix G: Meeting Schedule (p. 6)

## **APPENDIX A: 1987-2012 INITIATIVES OF ACA**

- 1987 – 1989 – solidification of Committee membership, vision and terms of reference in relation to OBE;
- 1989 – creation of Arts Achievement Awards and administration of the annual ceremony;
- 1990 – in partnership with the Faculty of Education, University of Ottawa (FEUO), winning a grant of \$100,000.00, from the Ministry of Education's Transitions Years Fund, to support in-service professional development in Integrated Arts, for interested teachers of the OBE;
- 1992 – creation of a catalogue of all community arts resources available to enrich arts experiences for students of the OBE;
- 1993 – initiated the first of several annual arts focus days at the National Arts Centre, where artists gave workshops to OBE elementary students;
- 1996 – established an ongoing partnership with FEUO to offer A.Q. courses in dramatic arts, P/J music and visual arts;
- 1998 – became a key partner in offering through FEUO an innovative A.Q. summer program in Integrated Arts, in co-operation with the National Arts Centre, the National Gallery of Canada and the Canadian Museum of Civilization;
- 1998 – after amalgamation, the OCDSB continued the existence and work of ACA;
- 2000-2002 – a key contributor to the OCDSB process of a system arts review;
- 2005 – made a successful proposal to OCDSB to create a staff position for arts consultant; created and delivered a pilot recorder program for elementary teachers;
- 2006 – began a program called "Encore": the collection of community donated musical instruments for free distribution to OCDSB students;
- 2007 – created an ACA page on the OCDSB web site; created an online Arts Directory listing arts education opportunities in the community;
- 2008 – created an ACA web-site at [www.acaottawa.ca](http://www.acaottawa.ca);
- 2009 – initiated presentations to school councils on how they can support the arts in schools; initiated the re-ignition of an arts review process;
- 2010 – created a compilation video of OCDSB student performances for screening on Culture Days;
- 2011/12 – worked as a partner in the current Blue Sky innovative community discussion of arts education improvement;
- On-going: advisory presentations to the OCDSB on providing the best in Arts Education for ALL the students.

## **APPENDIX B: ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE ARTS RESPONSIBILITY STRUCTURE**

### **ADVISORY, ADVOCACY, COMMUNICATION**

EXECUTIVE CIRCLE: (EC) consists of: Current Chair(s), Past Chair(s), Vice-Chair, Delegate(s) at Large, and Secretary (if not rotational or just recording)

#### **RESPONSIBILITIES:**

**CHAIR/ CO-CHAIRS:** Over-all Responsibilities of Co-ordination of ACA Activities

Co-ordinate activities of ACA: plan, prepare and chair monthly ACA meetings and Executive Circle meetings; review minutes; prepare and present annual report; communicate with ACA members, OCDSB staff, arts community and other community members.

Work with all members and sub-committees to ensure the following: ACA Arts Directory is updated; ACA presentations to school councils are on-going; ACA website is maintained; all Awards are organized; advocacy, budget and information presentations to Trustees are maintained.

VICE CHAIRS:

Learn all aspects of responsibilities, so that s/he will be able to assume Chair role when needed.

PAST CHAIR(s): to provide advice, history, attend all Exec Circle meetings

DELEGATE(s) AT LARGE: (to be completed)

SECRETARY: prepare and submit minutes of monthly ACA meetings

**ON-GOING ACA PORTFOLIOS / RESPONSIBILITIES:**

ADVISORY

PRESENTATIONS TO OCDSB

Could be Chair, Vice-Chair, but not necessarily:

ADVOCACY

ARTS PRESENTATIONS TO SCHOOL COUNCILS

AWARDS

ARTS RECOGNITION AWARDS

MARJORIE LOUGHREY ARTIST IN THE SCHOOLS AWARD (with EFO and Curriculum Services)

RAISIN ARTISTS (organized and run by Katherine Stauble)

COMMUNICATION (internal and external)

POLITICAL ACTION

BUDGET PRESENTATION/SUBMISSION TO STAFF/TRUSTEES

Could be Chair, Vice-Chair, but not necessarily

INFORMATION PRESENTATIONS TO OCDSB TRUSTEES

Could be Chair, Vice-Chair, but not necessarily

LIAISON WITH ADMIN RE: BUDGET / BACKGROUND INFO

Could be Chair, Vice-Chair, but not necessarily

RECORDING (SECRETARY)

REFRESHMENTS AND PARTY

WEBSITE MANAGEMENT AND CONTENT

**APPENDIX C: PRESENTATIONS BY ACA TO OCDSB**

1. September 20, 2011:

“SUMMARY of CURRENT RESEARCH ON THE DIRECT AND INDIRECT BENEFITS OF THE ARTS”

2. On Tuesday October 18, 2011, the following question was posed by ACA:

“ The allocation in the 2010/11 and 2011/12 budgets of \$322,971 and \$300,00 respectively, for learning materials and instrument maintenance as part of the music curriculum is welcomed by the ACA as

recognition that delivering certain aspects of the Arts curriculum requires specific and incremental funding. This is clearly an important first step in providing equity for all the Arts areas in the Elementary/Intermediate curriculum. The Advisory Committee on the Arts would like to ask then, if there is also a projected budget of the incremental funding that will now be required to provide support for consumables, equipment, maintenance etc in the Visual Arts, Dance and Drama Curricula at the Elementary/ Intermediate levels. “

3. On Tuesday December 13, 2011: ACA posed the same question as on Tuesday October 18.
4. On February 14, 2012, ACA, in honour of its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, re-dedicated a painting to the OCDSB.
5. On February 21, 2012, ACA presented:  
“ RECOMMENDATIONS by ACA FOR EQUITY IN ALL FOUR ARTS AREAS”.
6. On March 19, 2012, ACA presented:  
“ VARYING ROLES OF THE ARTS IN OCDSB STRATEGIC PLAN”.
7. On March 27, 2012, ACA submitted a budget proposal titled:  
“THREE OPPORTUNITIES FOR INVESTMENT, THAT SUPPORT STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND WELL-BEING”.
8. On June 19, 2012, ACA presented its thoughts on the Blue Sky Discussion results.

**APPENDIX D: ACA ARTS RECOGNITION AWARD RECIPIENTS: 2010/11**

Elementary Drama	Jeremy Award and Hedy Burton,	Metcalf PS
Elementary Music – Int.	Mandar Gumaste,	Longfield Davidson Heights
Secondary Drama	D. Gregory Crossett,	Colonel By S.S.
Secondary Integrated Arts	Pierre Massie,	Glebe CI
Secondary Music	Timothy Stanutz and Meredith Ward	Bell H.S.
Leadership in the Arts Award	Barrie Hammond Board (Cappies)	
Student Leadership in the Arts	Jamie Fine	Merivale H.S.
Arts Volunteer Award	David W. Jones	Elmdale PS
Elementary School Event (Perf.)	Beauty and the Beast	W.O. Mitchell ES.
	Sue Brown (Director), Debbie Pratt (Producer)	
Secondary School Event (Display)	Maurice Haycock Retrospective Art Display	
	Glenn Turner, Donna McPhail, (organizers)	
		Nepean H.S.
Secondary School Event (Perf.)	Medea, Bell H.S., Perry Van Allen (Director),	
Marjorie Loughrey Lifetime Achievement Award	Irv Osterer	Merivale H.S.

**APPENDIX E: PROPOSED OFFICIAL VOTING MEMBERSHIP FOR 2012/13**

**Community Members**

Heather Flinn	
Debbie Holzman	(Webmaster)
David Jones (new)	(Delegate at Large)
Judy Kirsh	(Past Co-Chair)
Alina Seguin	
Katherine Stauble	(Co-Chair)
Dale Taylor	
Mike Taylor (new)	

Michael Wilson (Past Co-Chair)

**Parents**

Claire Pelley  
Sheila White (Co-Chair)  
Alexis Williams (new)

**APPENDIX F: BUDGET 2011/2012**

ASN 352 CAA

Amount: \$1020

Budget	Items	Notes	Costs	Balance
\$ 1020	8 meetings	Juices, soft drinks, cookies etc Meeting supplies, paper, markers etc	\$ 150	\$ 870
	Photocopying costs for year	Copying for meetings Copying of handouts for school council presentations Copying for other presentations	\$ 140	\$ 730
	Arts Recognition Awards	Costs include plaques for recipients, most food and drink for the reception was donated,	\$445 for plaques for recipients \$20.00 for drinks	\$ 120
	25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary		\$120	\$ 0

**APPENDIX G: ACA MEETING DATES FOR 2012- 2013**

Monday Sept 24, 2012; Monday October 29, 2012; Monday November 26, 2012;  
no December meeting; Monday January 28, 2013; Monday February 25, 2013;  
Monday March 18, 2013; Monday April 29, 2013; Monday May 27, 2013; June: Annual Party