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**The City of New York
Community Board 8 Manhattan
Youth, Education, and Libraries Committee
Joint with the Arts Committee
March 27, 2025 - 6:30 PM
Conducted Remotely via Zoom**

Please note: The resolution contained in the committee minutes is a recommendation submitted by the committee co-chairs to the Community Board. At the monthly full board meeting, the resolution is discussed and voted upon by all members of Community Board 8 Manhattan.

Resolution for Approval:

Item 1: Resolution in support of initiatives, bills, and policy proposals that expand arts education access for NYC students

Minutes

Board Members Present: Taína Borrero, Alida Camp, Addeson Lehv, Rita Popper, Judy Schneider

Approximate Number of Public Attendees: 22

1. Discussion of Importance of Funding for Arts Education: Speakers include Council Members Keith Powers and Julie Menin, Lucy Sexton, Executive Director of New Yorkers for Culture & Arts, and Kim Olsen, Executive Director of the NYC Arts in Education Roundtable.

The committees held a discussion and Q&A with guest speakers on the importance of funding for arts education. Guest speakers included New York State Senator Jose M. Serrano; New York City Council Member Keith Powers; New York City Council Member Julie Menin; Lucy Sexton, Executive Director of New Yorkers for Culture & Arts; and Kim Olsen, Executive Director of the NYC Arts in Education Roundtable.

2. A presentation by the Coalition for Equitable Education Funding on the coalition's city budget education priorities of saving critical education programs originally funded by pandemic funding but funded for one year only by baselining funding for those programs (which include among other things \$41 million in arts programming).

Sexton led a presentation by the Coalition for Equitable Education Funding on the coalition's city budget education priorities. In particular, they highlighted the need for saving critical education programs originally funded by pandemic funding but funded for one year only by baselining funding for those programs (which include, among other things, \$41 million in arts programming).

Following the presentations and Q&A, a discussion about a resolution in support of expanded arts education was brought to the floor. However, there were not enough members from both committees present for a quorum. Thus, the tentative resolution below could not be formally approved; however, it passed in concept by an unanimous vote. The resolution will be brought to the floor for approval at the next Full Board meeting on April 16, 2025.

RESOLUTION FOR APPROVAL:

WHEREAS the arts and arts education has been shown to be helpful for mental wellness, particularly of young people; and

WHEREAS the arts and arts education has continuously been shown to have a positive impact on students' socio-emotional development; and

WHEREAS increased arts education coincides with increased civic engagement; and

WHEREAS even modest investments in arts education funding can yield significant benefits for students and their communities;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED Community Board 8 Manhattan (CB8M) supports the following initiatives, bills, and policy proposals aimed increasing arts education and literacy in the New York City (NYC) public schools: (1) more funding for arts education initiatives in both the state and city budget; (2) support for [New York State Senate Bill S1072](#) (sponsored by State Senator Jose M. Serrano), which directs the commissioner of education to require public schools to report on compliance with art education instruction requirements; (3) consistent funding for a sequential K-12 arts program in all NYC public schools; (4) a dedicated arts instructor in every NYC public school; (5) increased transparency from the NYC Department of Education around arts education access; and (6) the codification of arts education in the New York State budget.

VOTE OUTCOME: Quorum Requirements Not Met

Yes (5): Borrero, Camp, Lehv, Popper, Schneider

No (0): none

Abstain (0): none

3. Old Business – There were no Old Business items

4. New Business – There were no New Business items

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:05pm.

Taína Borrero and Addeson Lehv, Youth, Education, and Libraries Committee Co-Chairs
Alida Camp, Arts Committee Chair