Date: June 2020  
To: Arts Education Service Providers and DOE Schools (including Arts Partnership Grantee schools)  
From: Maria Palma, Executive Director (I.A.), Office of Arts and Special Projects  
Re: Arts Partnership Grants 2020-2021: Arts for English Language Learners/Students with Disabilities and Arts and Family Engagement Grants

Dear Arts Partner,

Over the past six years, The Office of Arts and Special Projects has been pleased to award Arts Partnership Grants to schools to work with arts education service providers. The Arts for English Language Learners & Students with Disabilities and Arts+Family Engagement grants have provided thousands of students in New York City Schools with optimal arts learning provided by NYC’s exceptional arts partner organizations. These grants have made it possible for arts and cultural partners to engage school communities in rich educational experiences that fostered a deep appreciation for the arts and allowed students artistic talents to thrive.

Due to the unprecedented impact of Covid-19, we regret to inform you that the Arts Partnership Grants will not be renewed for 2020-2021. This is devastating news as we know the tremendous impact The Arts for English Language Learners & Students with Disabilities and Arts+Family Engagement grants has had on students, their families, school communities and arts partner organizations. We have always had a vision of supporting sustainability in grants, so we encourage partners and schools to discuss possibilities for continued collaboration within the school’s existing resources. However, we know this is a challenging fiscal climate, and this news will have an impact on arts education partnerships.

For questions about Arts Partnership Grants, please reach out to Audrey Cox, Director of Arts Partnerships at ACox16@schools.nyc.gov. For any other questions, please reach out to ArtsAndSpecialProjects@schools.nyc.gov.

Thank you for your commitment to providing arts rich educational resources and learning to students in New York City schools.