

BRONX ARTS: 2017-2018 HIGHLIGHTS

Bronx Arts continues to thrive. Listed as a [Staff Pick](#)—a school with strong leadership, effective teaching, a well-rounded curriculum, a welcoming atmosphere, a fair approach to discipline, and a good record of academic achievement—by [InsideSchools.org](#), Bronx Arts is building on 15 years of expertise and uncommonly strong student performance to launch a middle school for the 2018-2019 school year.

Our Students: Bronx Arts students are talented, intelligent children who thrive in the safe, nurturing environment the school provides. Bronx Arts K-5 students consistently and significantly outperform their district, City and State counterparts:

	Students Proficient in ELA	Students Proficient in Math
Bronx Arts	62%	56%
District 8 School	23%	27%
NYC	41%	43%
NYS	39.8%	40.2%

Currently, 99% of our students are Latino or African American, 94% qualify for free or reduced-price lunch, 41% of our families are single parent homes, 20% are students with disabilities and 18.5% are English language learners.

Significant Student Demand: South Bronx families continue to demonstrate confidence in Bronx Arts, resulting in a record number of applications for the 2018-2019 lottery:

- April 2018 Lottery: **1,600** applications for 161 available seats (K-8)
- April 2017 Lottery: 938 applications for 39 available seats (K-5)
- April 2016 Lottery: 255 applications for 70 available seats (K-5)

Expanding to Better Serve More Students: In 2017, recognizing Bronx Arts' success in improving students' academic achievement, the Board of Regents approved a revision to the school's charter to expand from a K-5 to a K-8 charter school.

- [Bronx Arts Middle School](#) secured dedicated space at 1440 Story Avenue, less than half a mile from Bronx Arts' existing location. Opening in the space previously held by Felisa de Rincon High School—the lowest performing high school in all of New York City—Bronx Arts will bring pride to the community.
- Our first 6th grade class of 115 students will enter in 2018-2019, Bronx Arts Middle School will reach capacity of 345 in 2020-2021. In the first lottery we had more than 280 applications for 71 available seats at Bronx Arts Middle School.
- Bronx Arts secured three expansion-related grants—**\$350,000 from the Charter School Growth Fund, \$325,000 from The Walton Family Foundation and \$150,000 from our City Councilmember, Rafael Salamanca, Jr.**—in support our expansion.

Launching the middle school will more than double Bronx Arts' enrollment, providing additional high-quality charter school seats to a critically underserved community with significant demand. **We invite you to be a part of the Bronx Arts community and attend the Middle School launch event and ribbon-cutting ceremony on Thursday, August 30 from 11:30 am – 1:00 pm at [1440 Story Avenue, Bronx, NY 10473](#).**