



# **Wingspan Arts**

Annual Report 2011

# Our Mission



Above: Twist & Shout class, NEST+m, Spring 2004



Left: Dance Around the World performance, BSI / TAOTS, Spring 2011

Our mission is to reach out and expose diverse groups, especially young audiences, to all forms of the performing, visual, media and literary arts. We accomplish this by engaging professional artist-educators who are inspired by the work they do and have a unique gift for sharing that inspiration with students. Since our founding in 2001, thousands of children across the New York Metro Region have benefited from Wingspan Arts customized arts education programs, which utilize a wide spectrum of arts disciplines to address a variety of developmental areas.

Our programs enable students to have a better view and understanding of a complicated, changing world that can be uniquely and vividly expressed through the arts. This helps fulfill the mission of connecting students to the arts and the arts to life.

Wingspan Arts is committed to making its programs accessible to an economically and culturally diverse population in each of the communities we serve. For this reason, we provide full and partial scholarships to students who cannot afford the tuition of an intensive conservatory program, reduced or tuition free enrollment to qualified students in our afterschool programs and program support for in-school arts education services when inadequate funding is available. We have never turned a child away from any program due to an inability to pay.

Wingspan Arts programs are funded a number of different ways. Some programs in afterschool are tuition-based and receive support from the PTA and local sources. In-school programs are frequently funded by allocated funds through school districts or by special partnership grants. Wingspan Arts programs also receive generous support from corporations, foundations and individuals. Supporters include New York City Council, National Endowment for the Arts, New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, New York State Council on the Arts, The Jerome Robbins Foundation, The Friars National Association Foundations, Inc., and Lower Manhattan Cultural Council.

Wingspan Arts is a nonprofit 501(c)3 corporation.

2001, September  
Gary Bernstein & Gregory Arata  
incorporate Wingspan Arts.

2001, September  
Wingspan's first afterschool  
program begins at PS 40.

2002, July  
Wingspan Conservatory begins its  
first summer program, held at PS 87.



Above: Club Wingspan, PS 40, Spring 2004

## From our Founder & Executive Directors:

As Wingspan Arts celebrates our 10th Anniversary, we are proud to present some of the milestones and highlights of Wingspan Arts' first decade. As you will see in the pages ahead, our growth has come at a rapid and consistent pace. Wingspan Arts started in 2001 with one school, 60 students and 13 teaching artists. We now work with over 20 schools, thousands of students, and hundreds of teaching artists each year across the New York region.

The positive and sustained impacts of our efforts are tangible; many of our students are now in college, plan to attend graduate programs or are starting professional careers. Whether they ultimately pursue a career in the arts, sciences, or technology, Wingspan Arts students have all experienced the joy of arts learning. Through their participation in the arts, our students have acquired the life-tools to express themselves. Critical thinking, organizational skills, confidence, and the ability to successfully collaborate with others help students to develop a passion for life-long learning as well as a globally minded worldview.

As we visit schools, speak with teaching artists and parents, and watch our students perform, there is a clear, common theme of dedication. We partner with school leaders and teachers who are committed to include arts learning as a significant curriculum element. We have Wingspan staff working tirelessly to ensure that students get the best theatre, dance, music, digital media or visual arts experience we can offer. And, most critically, we've built a roster of Wingspan Teaching Artists who bring energy and professionalism into the classroom to create the opportunity for students to succeed in a complicated and changing world.

As Wingspan Arts enters the next decade of service, we once again want to thank all past, present, and future supporters of Wingspan Arts. We are incredibly proud of the lasting partnerships we have developed with schools, education leaders, parents, teaching artists and the public and private funding communities. You have made a profound impact in a student's life by giving the gift of the arts.



**Gary Bernstein**  
President & Founder



**Paul Ashley**  
Executive Director



# OUR PROGRAMS

## Creating Opportunity

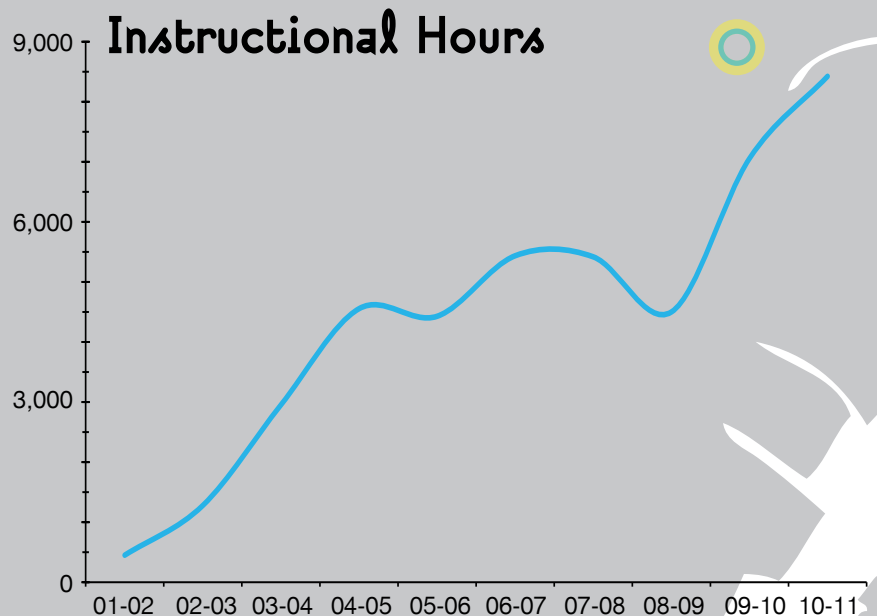
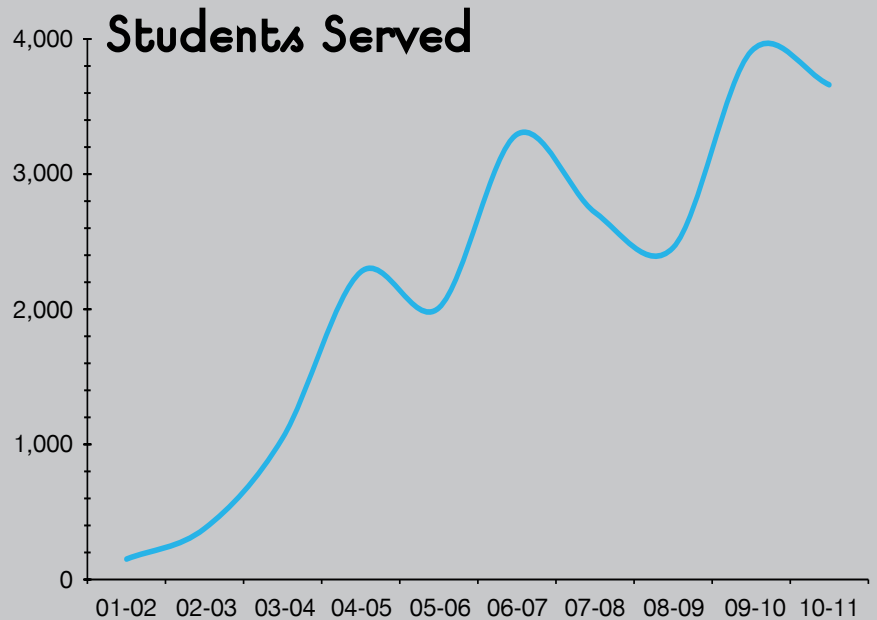
Wingspan Arts is committed to serving all populations of students and we offer financial assistance to families so that everyone has equal access to the arts. Our aim is to create opportunity by offering a broad spectrum of artistic disciplines to a wide range of students and communities.

## Building Community

Wingspan Arts is developing globally-minded people and building community through the arts. Our participants add their names to a long, eclectic list of artists and arts enthusiasts who are uplifting the arts in new, innovative and dynamic ways.

## Discovering Artistry

Understanding a personal sense of artistry can enhance a student's confidence, change their world-view and create a new language for understanding other people and cultures. As an organization, we focus on creating a place for participants to discover their own artistry.







Teaching Artists  
& Professionals  
Hired 2001-11

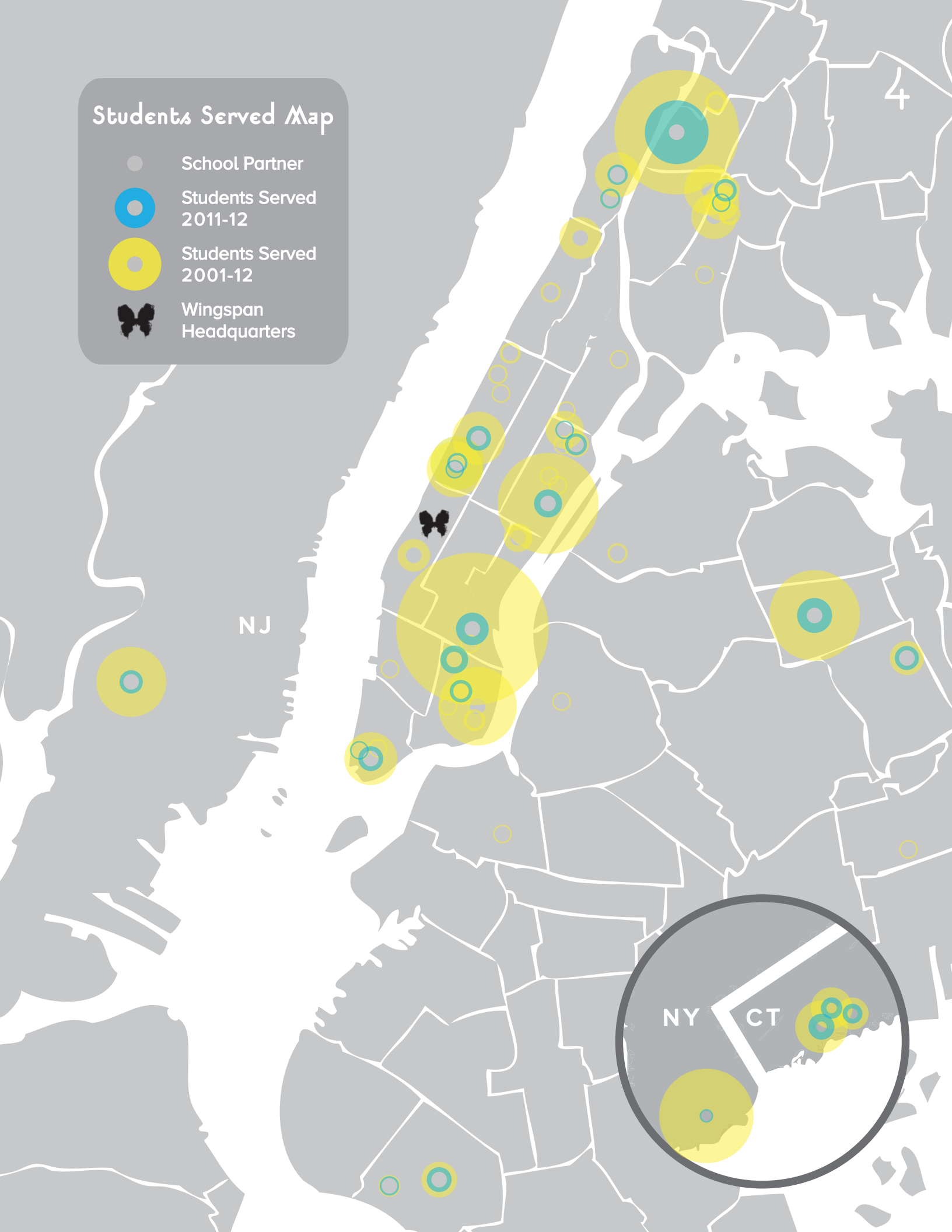
2,094

Average Annual  
% of Low-Income  
Families Served  
2001-11

39%

# Students Served Map

-  School Partner
-  Students Served 2011-12
-  Students Served 2001-12
-  Wingspan Headquarters





Above: Jr. Asphalt Jungle class, PS 183, Spring 2011

## Program Overview

Wingspan's afterschool programs provide students with an important introduction to a wide range of artistic experiences. We believe that learning through the arts is a unique way for students to understand and engage with the world around them.

By providing our students with these authentic artistic experiences at a young age, we strive to educate the whole child while instilling a passion for the arts and creating life-long learners. Taught by professional artists in NYC schools, our programs allow students the freedom to develop their unique personalities while exploring and creating in a safe, fun and enriching environment.

## The Program Model

**Safe:** To engage students, we create a safe and nurturing environment so they feel comfortable learning skills, forming relationships and exploring the world around them.

**Fun:** Our 90-minute arts enrichment classes include a variety of activities to engage students' minds, bodies and imaginations! We provide time before and after our classes where students can play games, read independently, draw or build – activities they get to choose.

**Enriching:** Our multi-disciplinary classes not only teach students new skills, but encourage them to reflect about what they learn. At the end of the semester, students present galleries, plays, concerts and dances for their peers, parents, and school communities.



*"We have witnessed students blossom into stars when given the chance to show their artistic talents. This success trickles over into their schoolwork and their academic performance improves."*

**Principal, Trinity Elem.**



*"As a parent, knowing that [my son] is in a safe, caring and culturally rich environment during the hours that I can't be there for him is more important than I can put into words."*

**Parent, NEST+m**



Above: Storytime Theatre performance, BSI / TAOTS, Spring 2011

## Program Highlights

- Wingspan Arts is committed to making sure that all children are able to participate in our programs, regardless of their financial situation. In FY 2011, Wingspan Arts awarded over \$52,000 in scholarships to our afterschool families.
- Over the past four years, we have partnered with many new schools, and now have nine **Club Wingspan** afterschool programs throughout Manhattan, Brooklyn and Queens, as well as programs in Darien, CT.
- Every year, Wingspan Teaching Artists create exciting new classes for their students. Some of these include Recycled Art, All About Muppets, Shakespeare Theatre, Dance Around the World, Art of Science and Afro-Caribbean Drumming.

## EXPANDING OUR REACH

2001	1	SCHOOL	24	CLASSES	120	STUDENTS
2004	5	SCHOOLS	143	CLASSES	1055	STUDENTS
2009	8	SCHOOLS	262	CLASSES	1909	STUDENTS
2011	12	SCHOOLS	342	CLASSES	2145	STUDENTS



*"My time is spent focusing on my lesson plans and how I'm going to interact with my students and foster a relationship that allows them to be as creative as they can be."*

**Teaching Artist, PS 303**



*"Every day at Wingspan opens a new door to learning, fun and friendships. My son looks forward to each class and the program's activities. He's learning so much."*

**Parent, PS 40**

# Afterschool Programs

2005, February  
The Kids Film Festival holds its inaugural showcase. It features ten short films.

2005, August  
Wingspan becomes a \$1,000,000 organization.





**Above:** *Miscast*, Wingspan Cabaret Troupe, Spring 2010

## Program Overview

Conservatory programs strive to create an artistic home for young performers, provide a professional experience in a fun learning environment, and offer curriculum that is both challenging and nurturing.

Programs are designed by Wingspan Artistic Directors and working theatre artists to create a versatile and meaningful experience. Conservatory pushes the boundaries of what students believe they are capable of and challenges their artistic muscles.

Through conservatory programs, Wingspan is establishing a supportive home for students who love theatre and is creating an environment for rising talent to hone their acting craft, develop socially and find mentors in the arts.

## The Program Model

Summer Conservatory for our middle and high school students consists of an intensive six-week session, during which they receive classes in acting, voice and dance, rehearse for a play or musical, and perform as the culminating event. Our elementary age students explore their imaginations and create original musicals.

School year evening and weekend classes focus on skills building. Class offerings include audition technique, improv, basic acting and college audition preparation.

Cabaret Troupe is an audition-based ensemble for middle and high school students. This musical theatre workshop allows students to focus on individual songs and perform at a professional NYC theatre.

## Building Community

**Aneesa Folds** came to us in 2006. Despite her radiant voice, she hesitated to let it shine. Over the summer Aneesa crept out of her shell and began to truly show her potential. The confidence she gained in 2006 blossomed over the next four years. She became a strong leader with a sense of humor to match, and an incredible vocalist. In 2011, Aneesa completed her freshman year at The Hartt School, one of the most prestigious musical theatre college programs in the country. Following this accomplishment she returned to our program as an assistant director. Her enthusiasm has truly come full circle, and we hope she is the first of many students to return as interns in the coming years.

**Aneesa Folds**



## From Timid to Titan

**Michael Joseph** has filled our rehearsals with joy for the last five years. With a strong voice and an engaging personality, Michael stands out. He was given featured roles right from the start. In addition to his acting work, Michael has used the Summer Conservatory to follow his passion for set design and construction. Working under our stage managers and set designers, Michael has helped to execute their vision while developing the skills that will propel him in the technical theatre field. We're excited to see where his amazing talent will take him, beginning with Columbia College this fall. Michael will major in theatre, with a focus in technical theatre.

**Michael Joseph**



## All That & More

2005-06 School Year

Wingspan increases its number of afterschool & in-school partnerships from 16 to 26 schools.

2006, November

Cabaret Troupe begins work on its first production. "Opening Doors" performs in April 2007.





Above: *The House of Bernarda Alba*, Wingspan Ensemble, Summer 2011

## Program Highlights

- Since 2008, the Summer Conservatory has been tuition free for the 75 middle and high school students chosen to participate.
- The Cabaret Troupe was awarded a grant from the Manhattan Association of Cabarets & Clubs (MAC) to sponsor one high school senior. That senior was also given the opportunity to perform at the 2012 MAC Awards.
- 60% of our students return every summer.
- Financial Aid is available for all of our tuition-based programs.

## TUITION FREE BY THE NUMBERS

Merit Scholarships  
Given per Student 2011

\$2,300

Total Merit  
Scholarships  
Given in 2011

\$172,500

Total Merit  
Scholarships  
Given 2008-11

\$765,000

# Conservatory Programs



Catherine Blades

In 2007, when she was just 15, a hopeful **Catherine Blades** hopped on a plane in Cedar Rapids, Iowa and headed to the big lights of Broadway with a suitcase and a dream. Wide-eyed and confident, Catherine landed a merit scholarship for our Summer Conservatory. In 2008 when she returned to our program, Catherine was discovered and signed after being seen in our summer show, *Merrily We Roll Along*. Her Broadway debut came just a year later, when she was cast in the revival of *Bye Bye Birdie* at Roundabout Theatre Company. Today Catherine is still a huge supporter of Wingspan, and credits the program with encouraging her to stretch herself as an actress and singer.

## A Broadway Star



Marco Salvo

When a quiet **Marco Salvo** joined Club Wingspan at PS 40 as a kindergartner in 2004, his mom, Kim Salvo, had no idea they'd still be a part of the Wingspan Family today. Growing up in our PS 40 afterschool program, Marco developed a taste for theatre. In 2nd grade, he joined our Summer Musical Mania program where that taste developed into a passion. Upon entering middle school, Marco auditioned and was awarded a merit scholarship to our Summer Conservatory, and in 2011 he joined our winter Cabaret Troupe. Marco's growth as an artist is at the heart of our mission, and we are proud to showcase him as an example of the excellence we hope to inspire in each of our young performers.

## Growing Up Wingspan

2007, August

The New York Times writes: "Wingspan Arts [is] an organization that lives up to its name by encouraging young people to spread their wings through creative endeavors."



Above: Afro-Caribbean Drumming class, LCCS-Jersey City, Fall 2006

## Program Objectives

In-school programs allow students to develop their personal sense of artistry, create a connection with working artists, and provide opportunities to engage with an artistic discipline during the school day.

Residencies are designed in collaboration with school partners. They expand and deepen existing opportunities, offer new artistic experiences, and can support core curriculum in the classroom.

The creative process is essential for each student's artistic growth. In-school programs are inquiry based and provide an outlet for students to share their talents with the school community.

## The Program Model

Wingspan Arts works with school leadership to address their arts education needs and create a multi-disciplinary program specific to the school. As each residency is designed, schools have the option to integrate it into the curriculum or to offer the class as an elective.

Professional Teaching Artists write age-appropriate curriculum that is innovative and relevant to the students' current instruction. Wingspan Teaching Artists work in partnership with the school community in order to make the arts learning a unique, authentic experience.

Whether the residency runs ten weeks or for the full school year, it culminates with a student performance or gallery to celebrate the students' achievement.



*"Working with Wingspan Arts has enabled a small school like ours the opportunity to offer our students a rich and diverse range of opportunities in the arts."*

**Principal, LMCMS**



*"The collaboration with the staff and program actually complements our curriculum... It's a natural flow because the kids are studying it and then they write about it."*

**Teacher, PS 77**



**Above:** Wingspan Ballroom Dance Festival, PS 102 / PS 230 / MS 324, Spring 2010

## Program Highlights

- In-School programs provide progressive arts education to a large number of diverse students who may not otherwise have access to the arts.
- Wingspan students connect with a larger artistic community through our cultural resources, which include Teaching Artists and community arts events.
- Wingspan Arts is a contracted NYC Department of Education vendor and is listed in the Office of Arts and Special Projects Arts & Cultural Education Services Guide.



*"I have never been a part of an organization whose vision and generosity far exceeded my expectations. You have allowed me to grow into my craft as a teacher."*

## Teaching Artist, LCCS



*"I am so grateful for the opportunity my children had to participate in the program. They learned so much about acting and theater as well as getting some great positive reinforcement."*

## Parent, Lower Lab

# In School Programs



# Our Ten Year History

11



Above: Star Performers performance, The Anderson School / PS 452, Spring 2011

Wingspan Arts was founded in Fall 2001 as an after school program at PS 40. The program model included a 90-minute enrichment class taught by a professional teaching artist and was created to allow real arts learning throughout the course of a semester. Our Conservatory, which began the following summer, gave students an opportunity to focus on the arts with classes and rehearsals for a full day. These two programs created the foundation of Wingspan and what our students can accomplish with the arts.

By the fall of 2004 Wingspan had continued our expansion into many other areas of arts education. In addition to the afterschool and summer programming, our in-school programs integrated arts education into the classroom at five schools throughout the metro area. Our roster had grown as well – over 90 teaching artists were working with more than 2000 students during the 2004-05 school year.

As we continue to grow and find more ways to connect the arts to life and the students to the arts, we've maintained our core values: to foster the arts and improve the learning experience for students. In our second decade, we will continue to strengthen our partnerships with school leaders and parents, as well as empower our next generation of artists and audiences.

## Our Mark

WINGSPAN  
ARTS

*First logo used 2001 - 04*



WingspanArts

connecting the arts to life

*Logo used 2004 - Present*



WingspanArts

CELEBRATING TEN YEARS

*Wingspan Arts' special edition  
logo for the 10th Anniversary year.*

## Our Teaching Artists

Our roster of diverse Teaching Artists drives our mission – *connecting the arts to life*. These artists are professionals in their disciplines and dedicated to educating students in their art forms. Their unique talents in the classroom provide the connection that creates life-long arts learning.

**Right:** Teaching Artist Mitch Lewis and Clowning Around students, PS 303, Spring 2011



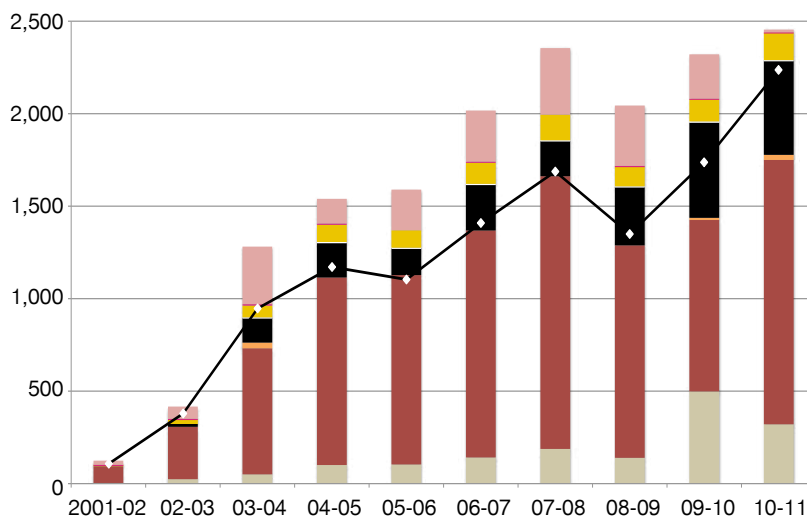
2010, January  
Club Wingspan afterschool expands to Queens with a program at PS 303 for 53 students.

2010, May  
Wingspan's logo gets some new wings in preparation for the 10th year. The reveal takes place during Arts2Life at Joe's Pub.

Above: Teaching Artist Gio Gaynor, Wingspan Back to School Night, Fall 2011

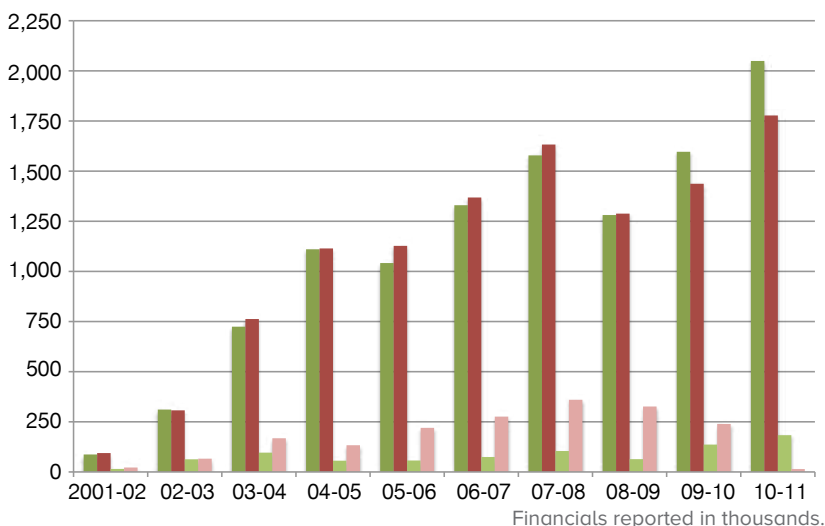
### TOTAL COST OF ALL BUSINESS ACTIVITY

- Liabilities
- Property & Equipment
- Reserve
- Depreciation Expense
- Debt Payments
- Development Expense
- Programs Expense
- Management Expense
- Revenue & Assets



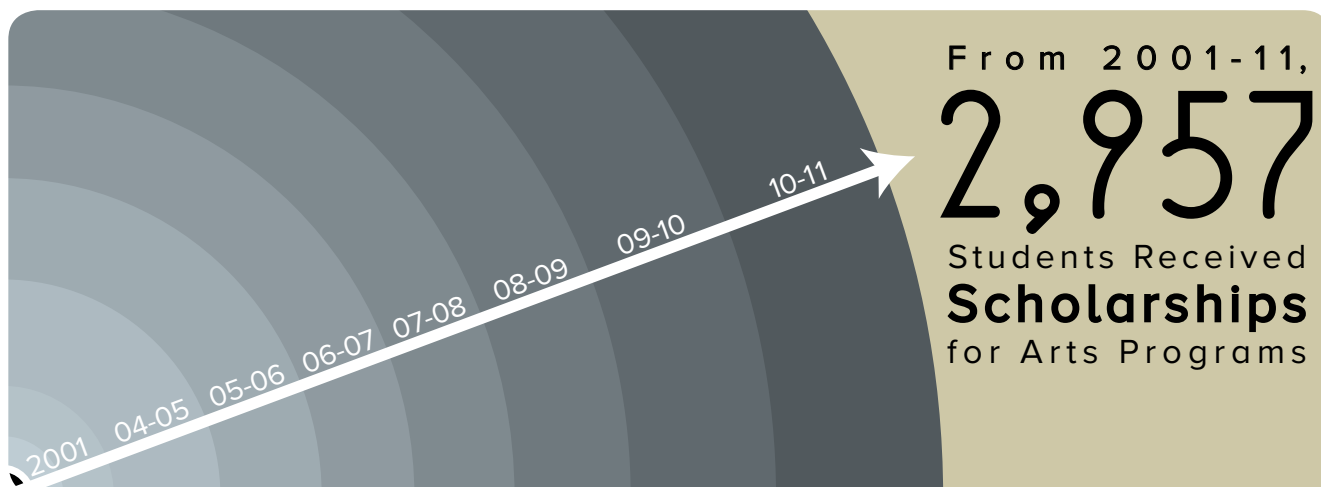
### FINANCIAL POSITION

- Revenue
- Expense
- Assets
- Liabilities



# 12%

Average Annual Fiscal Growth Since 2003



# Our Financial History

2010, June

Wingspan receives recognition from the National Endowment for the Arts with an \$18,000 grant for Summer Conservatory.

2010, September

Club Wingspan afterschool expands to Brooklyn with a program at BSI/TAOTS for 90 students.

Above: Rock Band class, NEST+m, Spring 2010

# 2010-11 Financial Report

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

(fiscal year ending August 31)

### OPERATING SUPPORT & REVENUE

Afterschool Programs	\$ 1,575,000
In-school Programs	\$ 254,000
Conservatory Programs	\$ 30,000
Individual Contributions	\$ 101,000
Government Grants	\$ 59,000
Foundation & Corporate Grants	\$ 7,000
Other Income	\$ 23,000

**Total Support & Revenue \$ 2,049,000**

### OPERATING EXPENSES

Afterschool Programs	\$ 1,046,000
In-school Programs	\$ 246,000
Conservatory Programs	\$ 137,000
Management	\$ 321,000
Development	\$ 27,000

**Total Operating Expenses \$ 1,777,000**

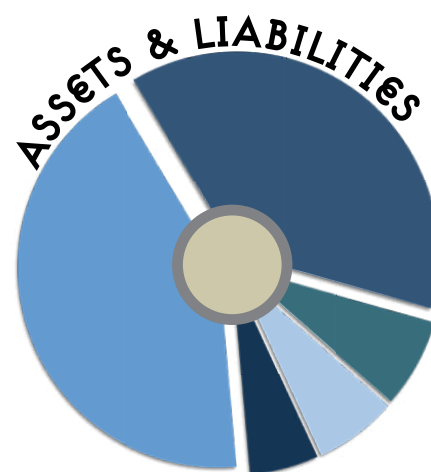
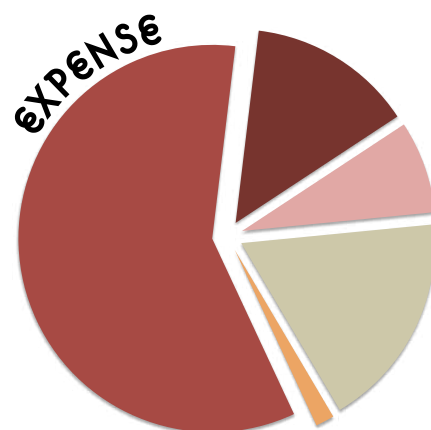
### ASSET, LIABILITY & NET ASSET SUMMARY

Investments	\$ 78,000
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$ 69,000
Contributions & Receivables	\$ 13,000
Prepaid Expenses & Current Assets	\$ 12,000
Other Assets	\$ 10,000

**Total Assets \$ 183,000**

Payables & Accrued Expenses	\$ 14,000
Net Assets	\$ 169,000

**Total Liabilities & Net Assets \$ 183,000**



A complete copy of Wingspan Arts' Audited Financial Statements is available upon request.

2011, June

Wingspan is first supported by the New York State Council on the Arts with a \$13,500 grant for Summer Conservatory.

2011, August

Wingspan becomes a \$2,000,000 organization.



Above: Dance Technique class, LMCMS, Spring 2011

## Supporters

(for fiscal years ending 2010 & 2011)

### GOVERNMENT & FOUNDATIONS

National Endowment for the Arts  
New York State Council on the Arts  
NYC Department of Cultural Affairs  
Council Member, Gale A. Brewer  
Council Member, Margaret Chin  
Lower Manhattan Cultural Council  
The Jerome Robbins Foundation  
The Friars National Association

### CORPORATE

Goldman Sachs  
Olo Brand Group LLC  
Pabst Blue Ribbon

### INDIVIDUALS

Gregory Arata  
Frank & Nancy Ashen  
Benjamin & Cynthia Asher  
Paul & Rebecca Ashley  
Dennis & Brenda Ashley  
Beverly Baker & Gene Locklear  
Don Bashline  
Brian Berke & Laurie Berke-Weiss  
Sean Bernardi  
Adam & Jen Bernstein  
Gary & Dale Bernstein

Amy & Charles Blades  
Madeline & Alan Blinder  
David & Nancy Boehm  
Michael Bretholz  
Debbye Byrum & Robert Leo  
Judy Cohen & Richard Butensky  
Bradley & Katherine Collinson  
Andrea Eisenberg & Martha Glantz  
Suzanne Fine & Christian Salomone  
Valerie Frankfeldt  
Peter & Diane Gotlieb  
Allan & Myrna Greenberg  
Jeffrey & Paula Gural  
Ernest & Sonya Hammer  
Craig & Janet Hoffman  
Alan & Benita Holzer  
Samantha & Kevin Ives  
LaToya Jackson  
Seth & Susan Jacobson  
Liv Johanson  
Nathan Kemler  
Richard & Mary Ellen Ketchum  
Evan Kingsley  
Andrea Kremen & Arne Kotlen  
David Lebenstein  
Ellen & Fred Levine

Thomas Loftus & Patricia O'Hearn  
Elizabeth Lord  
Karen Lorentz & Richard E. Spilman  
Annette & Paul Marcus  
Paul & Joann Maroney  
Susan McClive  
Robert Mencher & Deborah Schmieder  
Judith Moore & Henry Pinkham  
Alfreda Radzicki & William Cunningham  
Greg Rothman & Linda Singer  
Stephan Russo & Susan Jane Souder  
Mariet Schilthuis & Albert D'Souza  
Shirley Schneer  
Mona Schnitzler & Jonathan Hurwitz  
Jean & Tom Schreiber  
Robert & Harriet Simon  
Fran Smyth  
Craig Stinebaugh & Stephanie Lofgren  
Doris Theiler & Carole Gill  
Max Van Gilder & Georgette Jasen  
William Vega & Karen Singleton  
Anita Verbeke  
Cheryl Vollweiler  
Susan Weinstock  
Inna & Arthur White  
Scott & Lucy Wilcox

### Board of Directors

SCOTT WILCOX, BOARD CHAIR  
Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP

DAVID BOEHM, TREASURER  
Inwood Academy for Leadership

INNA WHITE, SECRETARY  
Althea Group

CAROLINE ABRAMO  
Pana Consulting LLC

DALE B. BERNSTEIN  
Ironwood Global LLC

GARY BERNSTEIN  
Wingspan Arts Inc.

NATHAN KEMLER  
Acumen Solutions Inc.

DAWN L. WILLIAMS  
The Barnard Fund

CHERYL VOLLWEILER  
Traub Lieberman Straus  
& Shrewsbury LLP

### Executive Staff

GARY BERNSTEIN  
President & Founder

PAUL ASHLEY  
Executive Director

JESSICA BAILEY  
Education Program Director

JESSICA BASHLINE  
Producing Artistic Director

MEREDITH DIXON  
Business Associate

EMILY GNAGEY  
Business Manager

MARISSA PORTO  
Associate Artistic Director

BROOKE ROGERS  
Education Program Director

LAURA LEE WILLIAMS  
Education Program Manager

### Advisory Board

GREGORY ARATA

REBECCA ASHLEY

MARK BAILEY

SETH DUERR

PAMELA FROST

STEPHEN GIRASUOLO

KIM GROGG MARIN

JERRY KORMAN

GAVIN LODGE

MICHAEL MCEACHRAN

TRACY MITCHELL

DONNA MURPHY

DR. JUDITH PANDOLFO

FRAN SMYTH

VERN THIESSEN

(Boards & Staff as of June 1, 2012)

Design: Emily Gnagey at Wingspan Arts.

Our Voice

2012, June

Wingspan celebrates ten years of exceptional arts programming by honoring Gary Bernstein & NYC Council Member Gale A. Brewer. The 10th Anniversary Benefit is held at B.B. Kings, NYC.



**WingspanArts**  
connecting the arts to life

630 Ninth Ave, Suite 410  
New York, NY 10036  
(212) 586-2330  
[www.wingspanarts.org](http://www.wingspanarts.org)