



# Young Audiences of Massachusetts

*Arts for Learning*

## **Tips for Artists Partnering with a School**

- Remain flexible and open
- Identify and understand the school environment including mission, population, academic priorities
- Ground your program in the mission of the school. Use language and structures that reinforce the school vision
- Set a planning meeting, inviting key stakeholders
- Consider the logistics of the program. Time, location, physical layout, materials needed, personnel assistance. Understand scheduling needs, and factors that will potentially impede the program like snack and recess
- Introduce yourself to principals, teachers, after school coordinators, custodians and other providers
- Establish a point person on school staff who is on site during the program
- Advocate for your program whenever possible, verbally and in print. Awareness of your program among school community members is the best way to ensure a robust partnership
- Consider how you can intentionally include families and the community in your work and in the creative experience
- Plan for the last day of your program. Give the students closure by asking them what they've learned and facilitate a culminating event if appropriate
- Leave a product behind when your program is over. This strengthens the creative school community while keeping your work in the public sphere
- Provide closure including thanking all involved
- Formally evaluate the project via student and faculty evaluations

*Young Audiences is a non-profit organization*  
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