



MARQUIS STUDIOS

2020-2021 Annual Report



Letter from the Executive Director

The 2020-2021 school year was one that will not soon be forgotten.

Our world changed in unimaginable ways, and yet – our work continued, and our dedication to our school communities never wavered. The people of Marquis Studios – the board, the staff, the Teaching Artists – were steadfast in their commitment to serving the schools and students of NYC. There was never a question of **WOULD** we do it, our focus laid squarely on figuring out **HOW** to do it.

Help from generous supporters at all levels allowed us to continue working – albeit in different ways, and different places. We all made sacrifices, but we did so with the belief that what we were doing mattered.

In the midst of this unprecedented year, we created new virtual programs, redesigned our website, expanded our Board of Directors and created an enduring set of Best Practices to guide our teaching philosophy. Navigating the ever-changing needs of our communities was a challenging task but one which we took on with resolve. Our Teaching Artists pushed themselves to adapt to new modes of teaching, our staff quickly shifted their priorities to support the transition to remote learning, and our school communities trusted us to do what we do best – provide them with high-quality arts programming for their students.

Throughout all of last year, almost on a daily basis, I was reminded of the power of a community of people to make change. When you share a belief system and a common goal, the possibilities present themselves more clearly than you originally thought possible.

I am eternally grateful to all of the people who supported Marquis Studios. Your belief in our team and our work made all the difference.

With gratitude,



Paula L. Heitman, Executive Director



Year in Review

The arts are needed now more than ever. Marquis Studios is serving our community and inspiring a passion for learning by bringing programs directly to thousands of public school students each year.

326

Engaging arts residencies

121

Family workshops

123

Partner schools across NYC

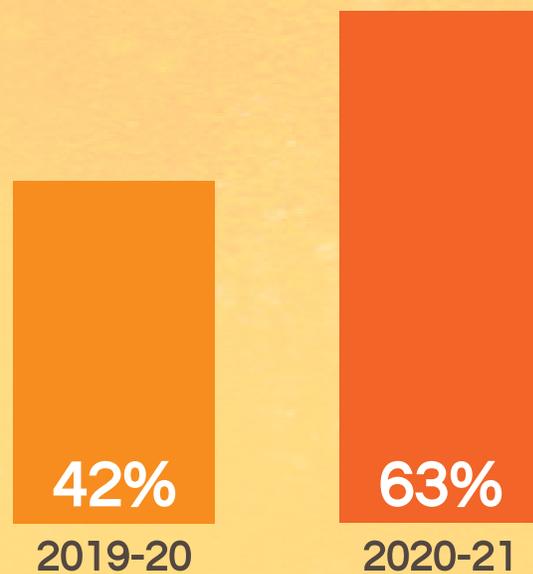
18,065

Students served

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all programs in the 2020-2021 school year were provided remotely. Prior to the start of the school year, an internal Instructional Design Team was convened to determine the best tools and technologies to present residencies and workshops in a digital format. In order to ensure that remote programs maintained the same high quality as in-person learning, the Instructional Design Team also created a set of Remote Learning Best Practices to guide Teaching Artists in developing their lessons. While the shift to remote learning was demanding, the digital format enabled Teaching Artists to incorporate new approaches and has prepared us to respond to new challenges in the future

More important than ever!

63% of teachers reported that students would not have had access to the arts if not for Marquis Studios, a 20% increase over last year





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The arts play a very important role in education. It was thrilling to have a program like Music & Rhythm, especially during COVID when the children are not in the building. Programs like this bring such joy to the children while teaching them about music. It was so great to see family members join in with their children to participate. Last Friday an entire family was dancing at 8:45 in the morning.

Teacher, Staten Island

Arts Learning

92%

of teachers reported that students gained knowledge in the art form



92%

of teachers reported that students' interest in the art form increased



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The students were beyond motivated and excited to learn about Filmmaking. They were amazed by what they were able to produce by the end of each lesson. What an incredible experience it has been.

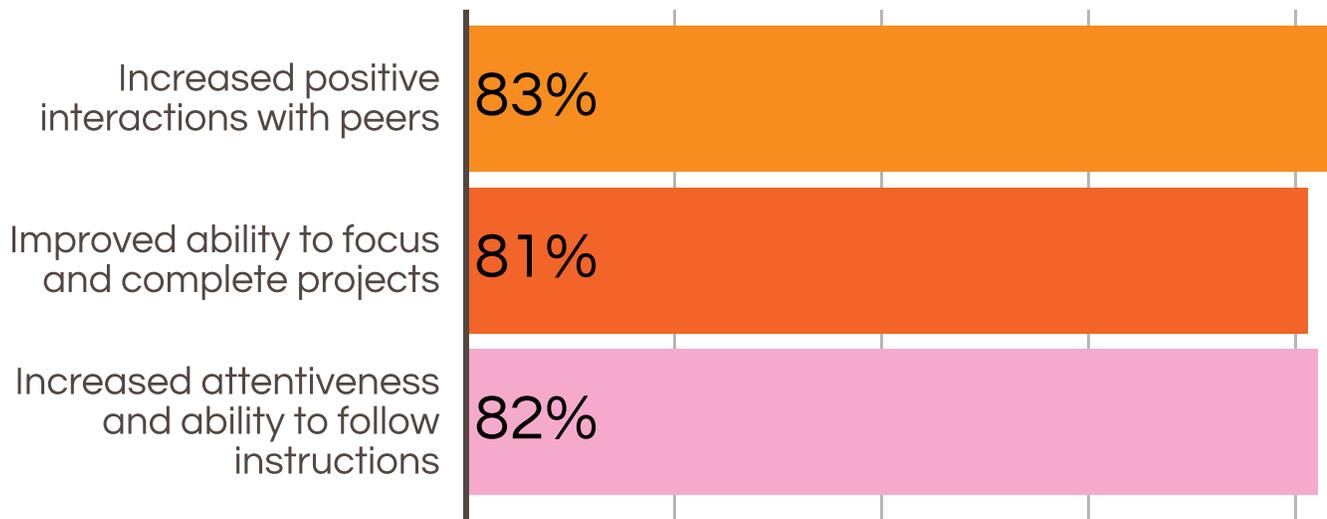
Special Education Teacher, Queens

From the first session of the Collage residency, the students were engaged and vocal about how they enjoyed the topic and presentation. It was the first time they looked forward to completing their artwork in class. Even unfinished pieces they were eager to take home to complete.

Teacher, Brooklyn

Emotional Learning

Marquis Studios programs have a positive impact on social-emotional learning. In 2020-21, teachers reported:



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As a direct result of the Teaching Artist's excellent instruction, students were able to get out of their comfort zone and take risks and express themselves in new and different ways.

Special Education Teacher,
The Bronx

Academic Learning

Our in-school residencies integrate the arts with instruction in academic core subjects using the Next Generation learning standards. Despite the challenges of not being in the classroom, our Teaching Artists still found ways to connect to each school's curriculum



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In ELA we do a lot of work on studying characters and noticing what a character does and says to tell us more about them. Thinking about the different kinds of clowns (sad clown, happy clown, bossy clown, etc) allowed the children to act out how a certain clown would look.

Teacher, Staten Island

Our school is working to incorporate diversity throughout our curriculum. Having music from various parts of the world and traveling there using Google Earth connects with our work, extending it beyond books to other areas. I found Google Earth to be very engaging for our students in showing them where specific pieces of music originated and taking them outside of our immediate community in a digital way.

Teacher, Queens

Teaching Artists



94%

of teachers reported that Teaching Artists had good to excellent interaction with students



91%

of teachers reported that the TAs worked well with themselves and other classroom teachers



This was an amazing experience, I've never seen the students so engaged and into a task. The Teaching Artist was amazing, simply perfect with his professionalism, communication, directions and instruction to students, his praise and feedback showed the students that he really valued what they did.

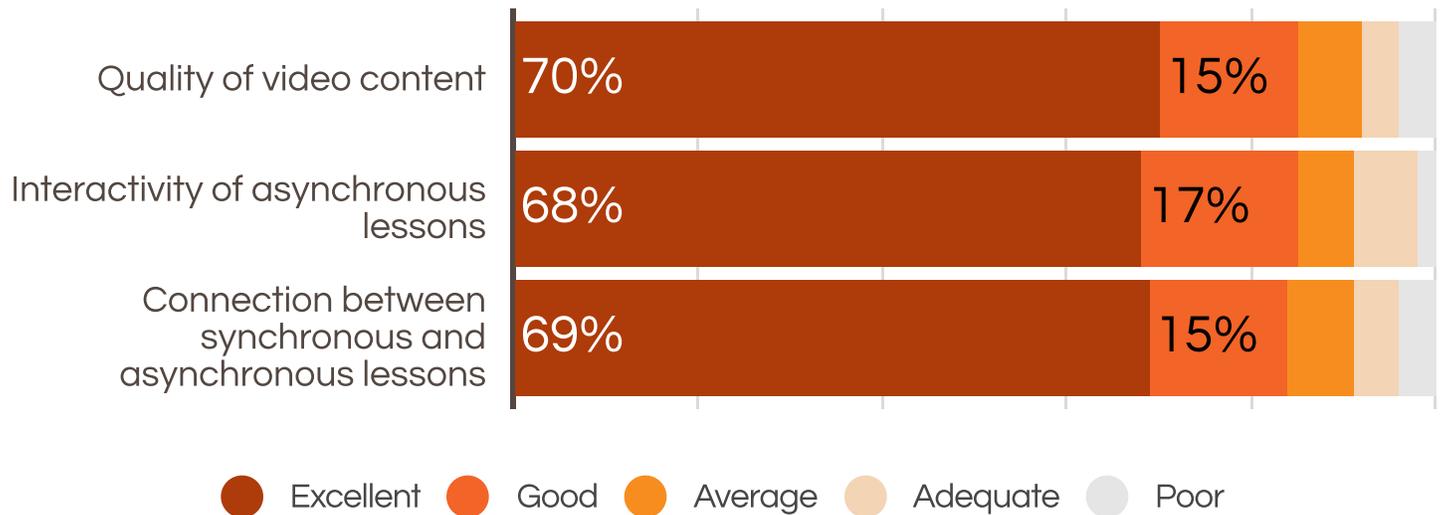
Teacher, Queens

I can't express how awesome our teaching artist was--she listened to what we told her about our student population and what we hoped to provide our students through the arts--and she took it to a whole other level. She exceeded our expectations and our students and their parents had an amazing experience that we can build upon. Her ideas for helping our students express themselves and how she incorporated the social emotion piece was absolutely perfect. Thank you for this very special partnership!!!

Special Education Teacher, The Bronx

Remote Programs

Overall, the quality of digital programs was high, with an average 85% of teachers reporting good to excellent work in the following areas:



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The teaching artist did an amazing job engaging students even though it was asynchronous. It was almost like she was there with us. We loved it!!

Teacher, Brooklyn

Supporters

Thank you to all of our generous supporters. While we cannot list all of our donor names here, we are deeply grateful for every contribution. (*Donor List July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021*)

\$100,000+

New York City Department of Cultural Affairs

\$50,000+

The Emily Davie and Joseph S. Kornfeld Foundation

\$25,000+

National Endowment for the Arts
New York State Council on the Arts
The Harriet and Esteban Vicente Foundation

\$10,000+

The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts
Con Edison
Ken and Rande Greiner

\$5,000+

New York Community Trust
The Rudin Family Foundations
The Irene Ritter Foundation
David and Ruth Levine

\$1,000+

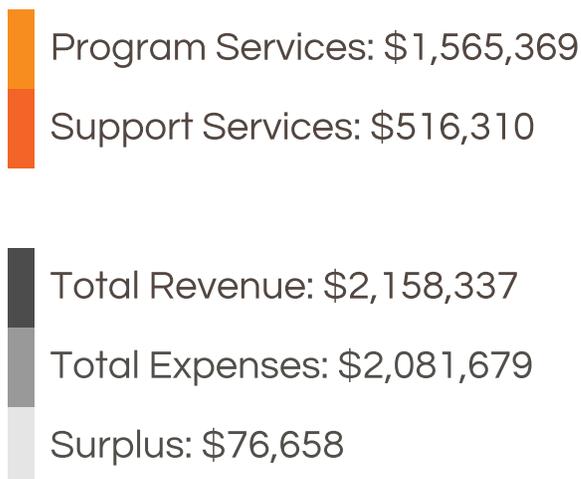
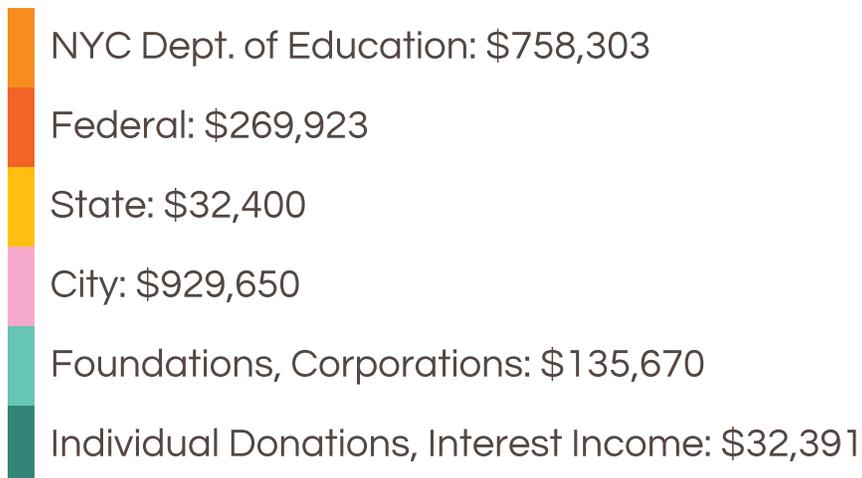
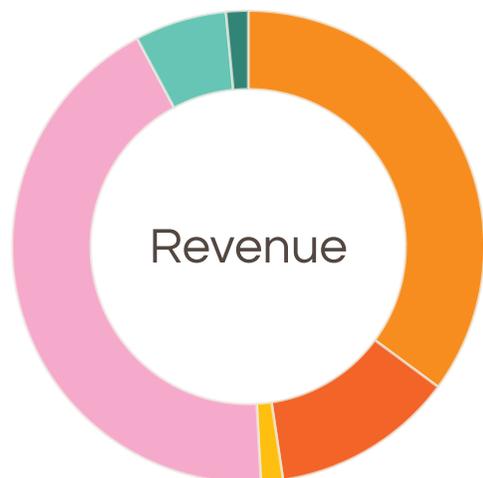
The Bandai Foundation
Dorothy Devlin and Steve Alpert
Julie Jackson
Matthew Rinklin and Joanna Simone
Michael Simonson and Beth Lief
Ricardo Rodriguez and Sarah Shannon
Richard and Virginia Keim

There are lots of ways to support Marquis Studios! Visit our website to make a tax-deductible donation, sign up for our mailing list and find out about special events.

www.MarquisStudios.org

Financials

Financials represent fiscal year 2021, spanning July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021



Marquis Studios' first PPP loan was forgiven, in full, by the SBA during the year ended June 30, 2021. The second PPP loan was forgiven, in full, subsequent to June 30, 2021 (on October 28, 2021). PPP loans which are forgiven, subsequent to June 30, 2021, are recorded in the statement of activities as grant income (from the federal government).

Testimonials



This is my 4th year working with a Marquis Studios teaching artist and year after year it is a positive experience. Students are able to apply what they learn and consistently show increased levels of engagement. I am happy that my students have had the opportunity to work with this year's teaching artist and learn about the complexities and history of music, along with experiencing the beauty that music and rhythm brings to our lives.

Teacher, Staten Island

My students are classified with multiple disabilities and don't have the opportunity to be exposed to many opportunities like other students in general education their age. Marquis Studios has provided such great programs for our children. They get so excited to see the teaching artist because they know they are going to have fun playing the drums. They look forward to Thursdays with him. He is very patient and you can tell he loves what he does. The days they have drums, they have the best day out of the week.

Special Education Teacher, The Bronx

Our Staff



Top Row:

Amoy Mclean, Director of Programming
Vanessa Penberg, Arts Partnership Manager
Vassili Shishkin, Financial Manager
Paula L. Heitman, Executive Director
Laura Grotenstein, Development Manager
Wema Ragophala, Director of Education

Bottom Row:

Shanon Traviss, Program Manager
Ashley Tucker, Director of Operations
Ryan Berg, Data Manager
Katy Patil, Arts Partnership Manager
Michael Repole, Office Coordinator

Board of Directors

Paula L. Heitman, Executive Director

Jessica Smith, Board Chair

Dorothy Devlin

Chris Forte

Julie Jackson

Alexander MacKnight

Ricardo Rodriguez

