



Dancing Classrooms Residency Funding Resources

We are pleased to announce that the **price and funding structure** for Dancing Classrooms has **continued to remain the same** for the 2016-2017 school year! Each school is a funding partner in implementing our program within their school. We, Dancing Classrooms Northeast Ohio (DCNEO), as a nonprofit fundraise half of the fee associated with the program and the school funds the other half.

Where are schools finding the funds to do this? All schools find themselves with limited resources but through community support, PTA/PTO organizations, grant opportunities and outside-the-box thinking schools are finding it possible to implement.

- The total cost of the ten week – twenty session residency for one classroom of students is \$3,000
- DCNEO fundraises \$1,500/classroom
- Your school is responsible for the other \$1,500/classroom (e.g. you have three 5th grade classrooms the school's financial responsibility is \$4,500 and DCNEO will fundraise the other \$4,500)

We are here to help you in your fundraising efforts!

Organizing Funding for Dancing Classrooms at Your School:

- **Examine** your local community business presence or demographic: Who invests in youth, education and health & wellness? i.e. Target, Walmart, local banks, car dealerships, businesses with strong community presence and outreach.
- **Cultivate** relationships with your community bank and business managers; political representatives on local, city and state level and your students' parents.
- **Nurture** your parent and volunteer constituency into action by fundraising or grant writing. Don't underestimate the power of citizen philanthropy i.e. \$20 (cost of two movie tickets) from 75 people is \$1,500.
- **Identify** dollars, grants, title funding and foundation grants that address the conditions or demographics of your population i.e. English Language Learners, At-Risk, Social Emotional Learning or even, roll-over funding.
- **Reach out** to your local Community Based Organization for grant writing partnership possibilities.
- **Empower your school and parent team by diversifying their roles** – ask a teacher to write some grants; ask a parent to be your public relations person and create buzz about your events, fairs and accomplishments.

Funding Resources and Recommendations:

“Adopt-a-Class”: Dancing Classrooms residencies are a great way for local businesses and community members to engage, and invest, in your local school by connecting with a specific class and “adopting” them to provide the Dancing Classrooms experience. Donors can then visit the class throughout their residency, attend the Culminating Event and/or Colors of the Rainbow Team Match to see and experience the transformational experience they have provided.

City Council Member Information: Contact your city council person. City council members are often given discretionary funds to spend on special projects.

Government Funding: Educational Guide to all Government Grants: www.ed.gov/fund/grants-apply.html

Donor's Choose: Post your need and get a response. This opportunity attracts contributors from all walks of life through an approach called Citizen Philanthropy: www.donorschoose.org