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August 2025

Re: Update on "Be the SPARK!" 5-year campaign – Raised over \$2.4 Million against \$3 Million Goal

We are immensely grateful to you for your support of FAB's 'Be the Spark!' campaign that is igniting positive change in Broward's creative arts community. Your gift is making a remarkable difference in support for the arts and the impact that FAB can make.

We are proud to share some of the key achievements and initiatives made possible by your generous contributions:

**Expand Existing Grant Funding:**

- Spark donors have added \$500,000 to FAB's performance, exhibition, and education grant funds which supported over 20 arts education programs and over 40 visual and performing arts programs across the county.

**Build a New Grant/Initiative:**

- Introduced a new "Arts Access" Education Grant in collaboration with funding from the Community Foundation of Broward. In October, two groups – Art Prevails Project and South Florida Symphony Orchestra - were awarded grants of \$150,000 over the next three years for a total of \$300,000 to expand existing arts education programs in Title 1 schools within the Broward County School District. The first-year reports are in from the grantees! We are proud to share their truly inspiring and impact results. (see attachment)
- FAB launched a new pilot project in January called "FAB Goes Public" to respond to the desire for more public art and signature events as outlined in the "Enriching the Arts" report. The project focused on the intersection of art and technology. Partners in the project are the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, The Parker and Mad Arts.

**Invest in FAB's Infrastructure:**

- FAB's new website is live! Built to showcase our grantees' amazing accomplishments, we invite you to visit the site at [www.fundingartsbroward.org](http://www.fundingartsbroward.org). The attached document showcases some of the new features. We look forward to sharing phase II of the plan to support our grantees' growth and impact on the arts in our community.

**Endow for the Future:**

- Spark donors made it possible for FAB to start a \$1 million endowment fund at the Community Foundation of Broward with \$584,000 donated to date.

Thank you for being the Spark that is igniting the arts in our community. **We hope you will encourage others to help us meet our \$3 Million goal.** Please feel free to reach out to us via our personal emails or phone numbers below to help us meet with potential new donors.

We hope to see you at FAB's fall opening as we begin our 4<sup>th</sup> year of the 'Be the Spark!' campaign, on October 9<sup>th</sup> from 5-7:00 PM, at Northern Trust and look forward to sharing more on these exciting initiatives.

Best Regards,

Nancy Bryant and Cindy Eden,

Co-Chairs, "Be the SPARK!" Campaign

Nancy's contact information: [nancy@giantsspring.com](mailto:nancy@giantsspring.com) (202) 262-6407  
Cindy's contact information: [cindymeden@gmail.com](mailto:cindymeden@gmail.com) (954) 309-0075

Attachments: NEW "Arts Access" Education Grant Spotlight – 1<sup>st</sup> year Impact Summary and NEW Website Look and Features  
Be the SPARK! Donor List

Funding Arts Broward 1350 E. Sunrise Blvd., Suite 110 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304  
PH: 954.353.7673 EM: [FundingArtsBroward@gmail.com](mailto:FundingArtsBroward@gmail.com) WB: [www.FundingArtsBroward.org](http://www.FundingArtsBroward.org)

# It Began With A SPARK!



- One of the key findings coming out of the Enriching the Arts report was the glaring gaps and need for more arts education in our K-12 public schools in Broward.

- In October 2024, two special multiyear grants of \$150,000 each were made to two local organizations – Arts Prevails Project and South Florida Symphony Orchestra – to expand already established and impactful art education programs in Broward County’s schools.

- Funding was made possible through the Spark campaign and a matching grant from the Community Foundation of Broward.



## “Symphony in the Schools (SiS)” 2024-2025 School Year

- Engaging 2,565 students
- 420 Artist Teacher hours of contact
- 15 schools across Broward County

### Teaching Artists Are Providing:



- Immersive introductory music sessions via ‘Jump Start Camps’ at Indian Ridge, Coral Springs, and Driftwood Middle Schools.
- ‘After-School Strings Program’ at Sea Castle Elementary where a 25-piece student orchestra was formed.
- Live performance opportunities.



- ‘Sectionals’ and ‘Master Classes’, refining students’ technical skills

- Instrument Fittings



## | Music Matters

### Band Student Academic Performance Proficiency Gains: **78% - 12 points higher** than the overall school proficiency

Indian Ridge Middle School becomes the first school to report standardized test data showing significant measurable evidence supporting the impact of South Florida Symphony Orchestra's SiS program on academic achievement – specifically in Reading/ELS.

One out of nine students (11%) at Indian Ridge Middle School is a band student.

Both South Florida Symphony Orchestra and Art Prevails Project are working with schools to encourage reporting academic data in the future.



### Advanced Proficiency Gains (Level 4-5): **52% - 9 points** higher than the overall school gains.

“

*Because of the work that SiS Teaching Artists did with my students, we delivered the best concert we've ever performed. The students you worked with are outperforming peers in grades, behavior, and attendance. I am eternally grateful for your commitment to our school. – Jordan Sawyer, Indian Ridge Middle School*

### It Began With YOU!

**Thank you to our “Be the SPARK!” donors.**

Support for these impactful Arts Access grants was also made possible by the following funds at the Community Foundation of Broward that together matched \$150,000 of FAB's “Be the Spark!” campaign funds:

- ✚ Drial Foundation Fund
- ✚ Mildred H Fagen Charitable Fund
- ✚ Stearns Weaver Miller Fund for the Arts
- ✚ The Frederick A DeLuca Foundation Broward Community Fund.







**Be the SPARK! funds were used to EXPAND THE EXISTING “Write it Out” program from one semester to TWO semesters at existing schools, and the program was also introduced to FIVE new schools and reached 144 new students in the Spring of 2025.**

## “WRITE IT OUT”

- ✚ Pairs resident teaching artists with a group of students for the semester.
- ✚ Creative writing activities with a primary focus on poetry and prose, occurring weekly for 10 weeks.
- ✚ Supplement teacher’s instructional focus calendar and creates a unique learning experience through collaboration with the teacher that engages students
- ✚ Culminates in a poetry reading and published chapbook of the students’ work.



**“Speak Your Peace” was introduced to 27 NEW students at one NEW school during the spring of 2025.**



## “SPEAK YOUR PEACE”

- ✚ A Theatre project that uses creative expression and performance workshop series to explore topics and issues that matter to them.
- ✚ Facilitated by Art Prevails Project performers and educators, Speak Your Peace guides students through the process of self-discovery and provides amplification for student voices.
- ✚ The project culminates with a multidisciplinary performance created by workshop participants in partnership with Art Prevails Project staff.

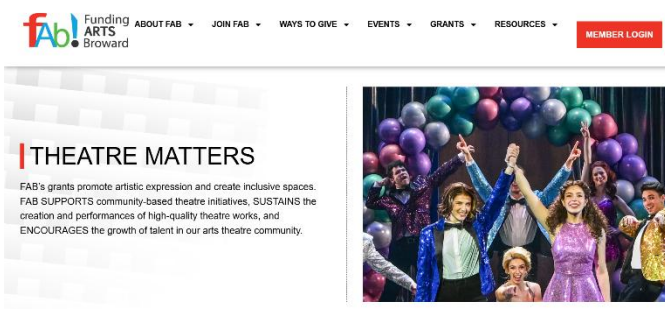
**We invested in helping Art Prevails Project train and expand its corp of teaching artists.**

## THROUGH THE USE OF IMAGES & COLOR, FAB's NEW WEBSITE FOCUSES ON SHOWCASING OUR GRANTEES.

- ✚ Another key finding coming out of the Enriching the Arts study and report was the second largest challenge Broward's Arts Organizations face is marketing to fill venues and attract new audiences.
- ✚ As part of the infrastructure improvements supported by 'Be the Spark' donors, FAB's new website designed to promote our grantee events and tell their stories went live in April 2025.

### New Home Page With Link to FAB CONNECT - Blog Page

- ✚ Soon to be filled with grantee stories that will be shared across various social media platforms, and the FAB Scene

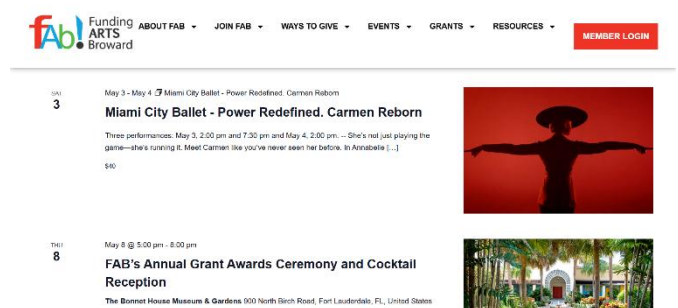


### New Arts Discipline Pages

- ✚ For Dance, Music, Theatre (including Spoken Word), Visual (including Film) and Arts Education.
- ✚ Telling the stories of why, who, and the collective impact of FAB's support.

### New Event Calendar

- ✚ Includes links to register and pay for tickets, and links to grantee websites for more information.



Together, We Are Making A Difference

Thank You for Being the Spark!

*Nancy & Cindy*

