

Donald Glover: Spring 2022

Manual Alumni Student Recognition Association

## **Brainstorm Ideas for The George Graves, Jr. School of the Cultural Arts**

Rationale: Creating such a school would honor a man whose selfless commitment and dedication to Manual High School and the South-side community enabled him to create a program that became the Pride of Peoria. It would encourage a reinvestment in both the arts and the young people who create it, and it will help encourage pride and cooperation both within and without the hallways of Manual High.

### **Early arts education for all feeder schools at both the primary and junior high levels**

- Secure recorders (the instrument) for all first and second graders
- Offer music appreciation class/day multiple times per grading term
  - Band instructors will teach students the fundamentals of reading, writing, and playing music
  - High school students from Manual's Band and Music professionals who clear background checks will reinforce teachers' courses and provide assistance/music lessons at the primary school site
  - Invite Peoria Jazz All-Stars, Manual band students, band alumni, Mr. Graves, etc. to speak and perform - can be a field trip to \_\_\_\_\_ (we will worry about the name later.)

### **Raise monies to provide instruments, lessons, etc. for junior high students and media coverage**

(See Alumni like Mr. Jackson, Mr. Glover, etc.) --

- Partner with local music stores for instrument maintenance, purchases, rentals, etc.
- Provide band/orchestra camp scholarships for Summer
- Secure part-time music instructors for after school lessons (Maybe partner w/ Dr. Todd Kelly at Bradley to get observation hours for Bradley music majors who plan to teach.)
- Create a recommendation process for middle school students who exhibit musical prowess/sustained interest to receive private lessons – to meet additional criteria (i.e.. C+ and higher grades and good attendance and discipline record)

### **Offer scholarships to four-year band/orchestra/dance students who exhibit excellence in the performing arts and visual arts**

- Create a set of criteria for scholarships with a multi-tiered approach
  - Maintain a certain G.P.A. throughout high school
  - Complete community service hours at the primary and junior high level (Both groups should meet at the school of cultural arts as often as possible to meet with the high school instructor/mentor)
  - Maintain a certain G.P.A. throughout the first couple of years of college to continue scholarship award as an undergrad
  - Agree to volunteer or teach at MHS to continue scholarship junior and senior year of college

### **Make Manual one of the sites for Peoria Municipal Band and the Peoria Jazz**

**All-stars performances** (indoors & outdoors) = community outreach

- Offer performing/visual arts show annually during the municipal band performance at MHS
  - Use part of art show proceeds as a fundraiser for the scholarships and media coverage
  - Use part of art proceeds for band camp and instrument maintenance
- Feature two bands for an additional black history month program (w/ selections chosen and directed by \_\_\_\_\_ in honor of his birthday)

**Recruit highly motivated visual and performing artists to maintain a partnership with the \_\_\_\_\_** (These men and women will mentor students at both the middle school and high school levels)

- Professionals will provide periodic workshops at the school
- Professionals will publish their workshops, performances, etc. on an events calendar online
- **Raise funds for the band/orchestra room improvements.**
- Fresh paint, acoustics tiles, risers, etc.
- The entire music hall will make up the \_\_\_\_\_ -- Use some of the money for a \_\_\_\_\_

**Create a Southside Community Band consisting of local musicians of various levels**  
(This is Scott Baldwin's, the current Manual High School band director, excellent idea.)

- Meet twice a week at the school for the arts for rehearsals
- Perform at least twice a month at the stadium, auditorium, or other venues

**Invite the Western Illinois Jazz band to perform at Manual during Jazz Appreciation Month (April)**

- Invite primary school students and their parents to a.m. performance (field trip)
- Invite middle school students (field trip) and their parents and high school musicians to p.m. performance
- Select high/middle school musicians to attend a jazz workshop with the college band (by teacher recommendation & meet attendance/discipline criteria)
- Select musicians to "sit-in" with college jazz band

**Invite the Bradley University Jazz band to perform at Manual during Jazz Appreciation Month**

- Invite primary school students and their parents to a.m. performance (field trip)
- Invite middle school students and high school musicians to p.m. performance (field trip)
- Select high/middle school musicians to attend a jazz workshop with the college band (by teacher recommendation & meet attendance/discipline criteria)
- Select musicians to "sit-in" with college jazz band

## **Create a Manual High School Jazz Band**

**Expose Manual High School musicians, middle school musicians, and primary school students to various genres of music during Music in Our Schools Month (March)**

- Feature orchestra and classical music
  - Invite Peoria Symphony Orchestra to perform at MHS
  - Invite Bradley Orchestra to perform at MHS
  - Conduct workshop for middle/high school orchestra musicians by recommendation & meeting criteria
- Feature concert band (see bullets above)
- Feature jazz band (repeat bullets above)

**Devise and annual wish list for performing and visual arts instructors**

- Include a list of arts supplies
- Include art equipment (i.e., kiln, glass blower, etc.)

**Invite local visual artist for demonstrations and discussions about profession**

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