

The James Weldon Johnson Community School of the Arts

AT A GLANCE

Mission

To provide professional and innovative arts education and enrichment programs to all ages, children and adults.

Professional: JWJCSA is committed to 1) providing the highest quality education in the arts, 2) recruiting highest quality personnel and assisting in the development of high quality personnel., and 3) recruiting personnel of diverse backgrounds through an active and open employment recruitment program.

Innovative: JWJCSA is committed to 1) organizing programs and services that keep abreast of new opportunities in the arts field, 2) being flexible and open to community input and suggestions, 3) helping solve community problems and issues, and 4) providing opportunities in arts education that may not be widely available in the community.

Vision

1) To provide lifelong arts education in a wide range of artistic disciplines with an emphasis in promoting local arts expression. 2) To promote creativity, love of learning, personal growth, good citizenship, and cultural literacy. 3) To support the work of local artists and to promote positive interaction between generations and cultures.

Background

JWJCSA adheres to the traditions of the community school of the arts. The traditions of community schools of the arts include 1) bringing together people of all ages for the purpose of following common interests and of improving neighborhood life, 2) organizing services and activities that meet the needs and aspirations of the community, and 3) offering its programs and services at affordable rates to all interested persons regardless of artistic aptitude or ability to pay. Community schools of the arts, including JWJCSA, are often nonprofit, non-degree granting 501(c)(3) educational organizations.

Faculty

Current teaching staff includes teachers with bachelor, master's, and/or doctorate degrees. All teachers are practicing artists in their field of expertise with 1) at least three years of teaching experience, 2) and a proven record of community service, creativity, personal growth.

Who is James Weldon Johnson?

James Weldon Johnson was born in 1871 in Jacksonville, Florida. As a creative writer and librettist, his two most well-known works are "God's Trombones," a collection of sermon-poems that include his most famous poem The Creation, and the Negro anthem "Lift Every Voice and Sing." His accomplishments include distinguished service as a teacher, principal, lawyer, editor, ambassador, and artist. This school is named after James Weldon Johnson in recognition of his many contributions to the arts, education, and society.

Contact Information

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