

**DETERMINATION AND FINDING
FOR A SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT**

AGENCY: District of Columbia Public Schools
Office of the Chief of Teaching and Learning
CAPTION: Washington Performing Arts/Capital Arts Partnership Program
PROPOSED CONTRACTOR: Washington Performing Arts
CONTRACT NO. N/A

FINDINGS

1. AUTHORIZATION:

D.C. Code 2-354.04.5 and 27 DCMR, Section 1304 and 1702.

2. MINIMUM NEED:

The District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS), Office of the Chief of Teaching and Learning has an immediate need to procure the services of Washington Performing Arts (WPA) to provide summer instrumental music studies (jazz music and classical string), vocal music studies (gospel) and dance studies (step, modern dance) to DCPS students.

3. ESTIMATED COST:

The estimated cost is \$103,365 for the period June 22, 2015-August 7, 2015.

3. FACTS WHICH JUSTIFY A SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT:

The District of Columbia Public Schools, Office of the Chief of Teaching and Learning recommends the services of Washington Performing Arts ' Summer Performing Arts Academy to provide instruction, rehearsal and performance time with educators, artists and clinicians.

Scientific research finds that exposing students to music and dance training can:

1. Lead to a high state of motivation that produces the sustained attention necessary to improve academic performance and the training of attention that leads to improvement in other domains of cognition.
2. Enhance the ability to manipulate information in both working and long term memory.
3. Improve reading acquisition and sequence learning
4. Lead to memory improvement through the learning of general skills for manipulating semantic information.

WPA is uniquely qualified to provide instrumental music study; vocal music study and dance study to DCPS because:

1. The Washington Performing Arts' Summer Performing Arts Academy is distributed exclusively by Washington Performing Arts and is an extension of the expansive work performed in DCPS throughout the school year. Some of the unique services provided by the Washington Performing Arts' Summer Performing Arts Academy are:
2. Capital Jazz Camp: WPA engages artists from Jazz at Lincoln Center as well as local jazz teaching artists and jazz educators. This is also an opportunity for DCPS teachers to work with professional artists. Instruments are provided free of charge.
3. Capital Strings: This is the only classical string camp in the area to accept participants with no prior training and with all instruments provided free of charge.
4. Summer Vocal Workshop: Leveraging their exclusive partnerships, WPA is able to allow participants to self-select areas of interest from gospel, world music, blues and spirituals. All participants have the opportunity to perform at venues across Washington, DC, such as the National Building Museum.
5. Summer Steps with StepAfrika!: This is the only camp in Washington, DC that is taught by the international professional touring company; StepAfrika! Participants are afforded the opportunity to take part in a culminating performance at the National Building Museum.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF THIS VENDOR WITH DCPS:

Washington Performing Arts' Capital Arts Partnership (CAP) programs have served DCPS students throughout the school year. The CAP program emphasizes depth over reach; and build technique, writing, listening, improvisation, and performance skills. The CAP programs are in-school, curriculum-based and adhere to state approved Arts Education Standards. The CAP programs are supervised by the Director of Music for DCPS. WPA/CAP and Summer Performing Arts Academy has recruited students from at least twenty-nine (29) DC public schools; spanning all eight wards.

School Year Programming

Since 2008, the Capital Jazz Project® a partnership with WPA and DCPS, in collaboration with Wynton Marsalis and Jazz at Lincoln Center provides jazz music instruction and supports putting musical instruments directly into the hands of students. Other CAP programs include Capitol Strings (classical music), Capitol Voices (vocal music) and Capitol Dance Project (modern dance).

Summer Intensive Programming

WPA's Summer Performing Arts Academy serves DCPS students throughout the summer. More than four hundred (400) students attend the camps tuition free. All students receive free breakfast and lunch daily. WPA partners with local churches, schools and community centers to provide space for daily camps as well as providing rehearsal and performance spaces.

Based on the aforementioned information, it is both necessary and in the best interest of DCPS, Office of the Chief of Teaching and Learning to contract with Washington Performing Arts as the sole source for providing instrumental music, vocal and dance studies to DCPS. A sole source award is the most efficient and most cost effective procurement method.

CERTIFICATION BY THE DCPS PROGRAM OFFICE:

I hereby certify that the above findings are correct and the anticipated cost to DCPS is fair and reasonable.

Date

Office of the Chief of Teaching and Learning

CERTIFICATION AND DETERMINATION

Based on the above certified findings in accordance cited authority, I hereby determine that it is not feasible or practical to invoke the competitive bidding process under Section 402 or 403 of the District of Columbia Procurement Practices Reform Act of 2010 (D.C. Law 18-371; DC Official Code § 2-354 and 27 DCMR 1304 and 1700. Accordingly, I determine that the District is justified in using the sole source method of procurement.

Date

Chief Procurement Officer