



Ensuring the Arts for

ANYGIVENCHILD[®]

Meridian, Mississippi


The Kennedy Center

OUR MISSION

We believe that every child deserves a continuous, quality arts education.

All students should experience all the arts (music, visual arts, drama, and dance/creative movement) in school and in the community, so they may become creative, engaged learners prepared to lead successful lives.

OUR VISION STATEMENT

We commit to engage all Meridian Public Schools to join the community in a unique, creative culture integrating the arts to inspire and enhance learning for all pre-K through 8th grade students.

What Is Any Given Child?

Meridian is one of the select few communities chosen by the John F. Kennedy for the Performing Arts to partner in an initiative to assist communities in developing a plan for expanded arts education in their schools... ensuring access and equity for all students.

This collaboration includes Mississippi State, members of the Meridian community, local educators, and the Kennedy Center. The Kennedy Center selected Meridian as the 23rd Any Given Child city in the nation in September 2016. The Kennedy Center experts provided consulting to facilitate strategic planning for arts education into the pre-K-8 experience in the Meridian Public School District. The goal of the program is to touch every child in their school experiences with the arts across many different forms – dance, music, theater, and visual arts.



How to be a part of Any Given Child:

To volunteer or support Any Given Child, contact Dr. Charlotte Tabereaux, 601-696-2204 or ctabereaux@riley.msstate.edu.

- Arts are essential elements for a complete education and helps students:
Stay in School = Succeed in School
Succeed in Life = Succeed in Work
- Students engaged in the arts are...
 - 4x more likely to be recognized for academic achievement.
 - 4x more likely to participate in a math or science fair.
 - 3x more likely to win an award for school attendance.
- Low-income students who are highly engaged in the arts are more than TWICE as likely to graduate from college as their peers with no arts education.



How does it work?

Any Given Child will...

- Enhance the quality of arts programs.
- Create equal opportunities for students in MPSD.
- Provide tools for teachers throughout all subject areas to teach in, through, and about the arts.