



Assistance League® Tulsa

MISSION : Assistance League® volunteers transforming the lives of children and adults through community programs.

December 2021 - January 2022

Volume 47, Issue 5

Teaching Collaboration & Creativity

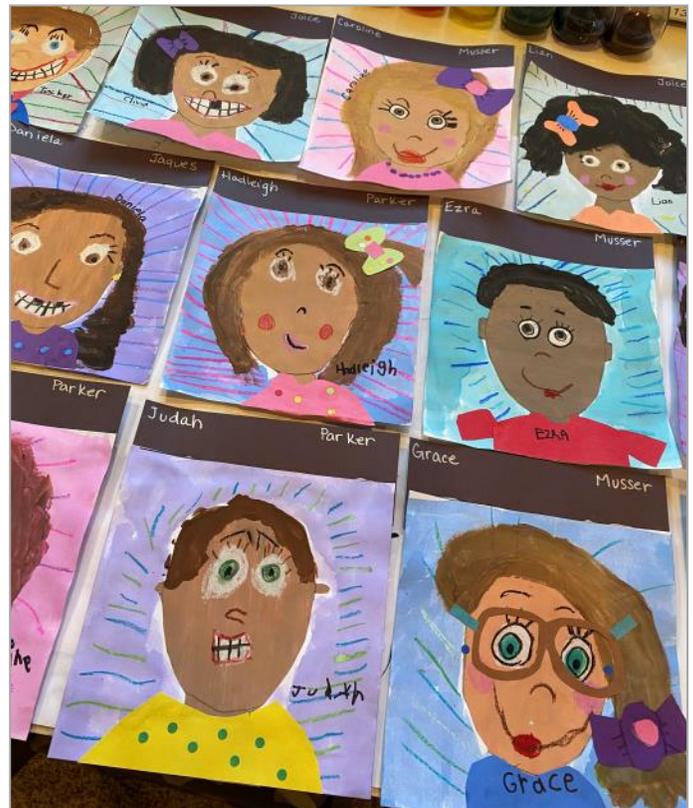
Since 2005, Assistance League® Tulsa has provided Betty Bradstreet Arts Education Awards to Tulsa area public school fine arts teachers for art, music, and theatre/dance/drama classroom projects. Funding for these awards comes from the income from the Betty Bradstreet Assistance Fund, an endowed fund of Assistance League® Tulsa, and other budgeted funds that are determined by the Board and membership of our chapter. The Betty Bradstreet committee is responsible for administering this program overseeing the disbursement of the funds.

Twenty-one (21) school districts in the Tulsa area were notified this August of the procedure their fine arts teachers should follow to submit proposals for this award. Sixty-three (63) proposals were received. 28 of these were with Tulsa Public School district and 35 from 10 other districts in the Tulsa area. The number of students that would be impacted by the funding of these proposals was over 16,000. The dollar amount requested for these 63 proposals was over \$108,000. The budgeted amount for the Betty Bradstreet committee that was approved last spring was \$96,000. More than \$12,000 was needed to fully fund these proposals.

The committee knew that the past school year had been extremely difficult for our schools, and administrators and teachers were working diligently to get children and young people back into the classroom. District budgets have been cut, available teaching positions were not being filled, and teachers were struggling to create meaningful programs with their dwindling district funds. The fine arts is an area that feels these cuts first and often most severely. After much discussion, we asked the Finance Committee to increase the Betty Bradstreet Arts Education Award budget to \$110,000. This was approved and all the proposals were fully funded. Teachers have been notified and are now in the process of procuring the requested supplies and equipment and many have even started their classroom projects.

Thank you to all the members of Assistance League® Tulsa for your willingness to support fine arts in our schools through the Betty Bradstreet Arts Education Award.

~ Kathy Stephen, Betty Bradstreet Arts Education Awards chair



Self-portraits by 1st, 2nd & 3rd graders in Stephanie Long's classes at Bixby North Elementary were fired into ceramic tiles and installed as an art mural for the school.

**Board of Directors
2021-2022**

Officers:

President: Kim Campbell
President-elect: Pat Banzhof
Secretary: Sam Keel
Treasurer: Laurie Brumbaugh
Vice Presidents:
Education: Paula Naylor
Marketing & Communication: Marsha Darden
Membership: Elisabeth Harrington
Philanthropic Programs: Yolanda Taylor
Resource Development: Patti Ross

Elective Standing Chairman:

Bargains Thrift Shop: Amy McAbee
Finance: Cathy LeMaire
Operation School Bell®: Julie Burton
Operations: Julie Guy
Orientation: Barbara Walters
Strategic Planning: Donna Spielman

Appointive Officers and Chairs:

Bylaws: Ginny Greek
Parliamentarian: Ginny Greek

Business Administration

Assistant Treasurers: Carole Hale, Martha Nichols
and Marla Brierly
Office Administration: Glenna Morrison &
Loretta Raschen
Recorder of Service Hours: Mary Sue Whitney

Philanthropic Programs

Betty Bradstreet Arts Education Awards:
Kathy Stephen & Marilyn Brill
Community Action Programs: Yolanda Taylor
LIFE Senior Services: Sharon Atcheson &
Liz McDoulett
Mental Health Assoc. Oklahoma:
Debra Lockerman & Madeline Gilbreth
EIS/Fostering Connections: Deloris Taylor
STEM: Nancy Sacra
Tulsa Day Center: Sharon Coffman
12 & 12: Mary McMahan
Waste Not: Maura Browne

Resource Development

Grant Writing: Julie Brockmeier
Letter Donation Campaign:
Lynne Hoe & Sussie Hyden
Estate Sales: Linda Atwater

Public Relations

Newsletter Editor: Marianne Pickering

Social/Relationships

Care and Concern: Michele Morris
Hospitality: Barbara Walters &
Elisabeth Harrington
Luncheon: Kathy Elliott & Judy Roberts



Students at Sequoyah Elementary created an all-class mural to thank superintendent Dr. Deborah Gist, her team and the TPS School Board for keeping them safe during the past year of COVID.

The project was organized by visual art teacher, Catherine deCamp, with materials funded by a Betty Bradstreet Arts Education Award. Students in grades 3-5 were asked to submit design ideas for the mural. Classes then voted anonymously for a winning sketch. When students were asked what they liked about the design, they responded it best represented their school year. "It started out broken and sad, but smoothed out and now it's almost like normal." The winning 5th grade artist, Eden Saunders, was thrilled with the students' reaction. She said she started drawing broken glass. The heart represents the Sequoyah family and colors, changing from dark gray to a peaceful blue, give a feeling of hope.

Sequoyah Pre-K through 5th grade classes painted the background and letters. The incoming Kindergarten class added flowers and finger painting.

This all-school project demonstrates the impact of Betty Bradstreet Arts Education Awards. The students learn and practiced art techniques. They discussed how art can communicate, critiqued each others ideas and participated in voting. The children processed feelings about the COVID pandemic. Students collaborated and created. AL Tulsa is proud to support such meaningful classroom activities.

Assistance League® Tulsa Advisory Council

Ken Busby
Executive Dir./CEO Route 66 Alliance

Phyllis Dotson
Community Volunteer

Adam Doverspike
Counsel, Gable Gotwals

Heather Duncan
Community Volunteer

Dr. Ebony Johnson
Executive Dir. of Student and Family
Support Resources,
Tulsa Public Schools

Nancy McDonald
Community Volunteer

Gary Percefull
NeWSolutions

Rodger A. Randle
Honorary British Consul (OK)

Clifton Taulbert
The Freemount Foundation

Steve Turnbo, APR
Chairman Emeritus
Schnake, Turnbo, Frank/PR

Anhna K. Vuong
President and CEO
Foundation for Tulsa Schools

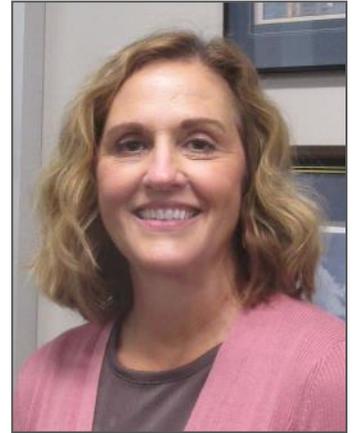
Mollie Williford
Chairman of the Board
Williford Companies

Tis the Season

It is that time of year again. Everywhere you hear those phrases of the season: "shop 'til you drop," "black Friday deals," and "Amazon has everything-just order online." At Assistance League® Tulsa we have our own Bargains Thrift Shop which provides much of our funding for all of the programs to assist our local community needs. As of November 15, we have earned a significant percentage of our projected yearly income at our resale shop. We are anticipating another banner year. Thank you to all of our member volunteers who make it such a smashing success. There is so much that goes on behind the scenes that allows us to have such a spectacular shop and we could not do it without the hard work of each person who volunteers their time and talents.

Our marketing group has added some new images inside of Bargains that display a few of the people we serve and the programs that our chapter supports. Take a moment to look at the faces and descriptions on the photo wrapped pillars and large images on the walls. I would be remiss if I did not thank all of our members who tell their friends, family, and anyone they meet about our shop. This also includes all of the times you share or like our online posts. You are our best marketing tool! You are our ambassador that lets everyone know that we are truly the "haute couture" of resale shops.

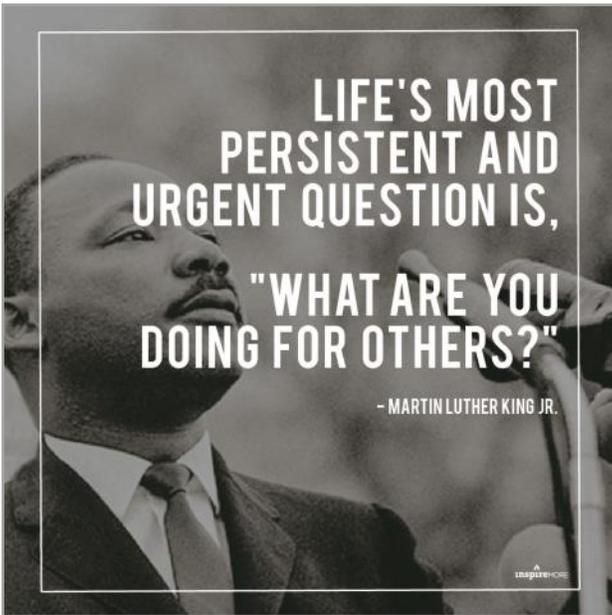
We also are grateful for the wonderful support Bargains gets from the community in the way of donations. Many of those donations are upscale and so gently used that they could be considered new. These contributions are vital to keeping our inventory full and desirable. Remember that while we are off for our Holiday break (Bargains will be closed from December 20-January 3, we will re-open on January 4) you can clean out those closets and cabinets to refresh our stock for the New Year. Each donation given goes to the work of Assistance League® Tulsa and the children, families, and individuals that cross our path. We are dedicated to making sure that the confidence you place in giving to us or shopping with us makes a difference in the Tulsa area. Thank you to everyone who works in, shops in, and supports our Bargains Thrift Shop. Happy Shopping!



Bold new images that reflect AL Tulsa's Mission and Vision have been added to Bargains Thrift Shop! Photo panels highlight our many community programs and volunteer activities. These pics don't do them justice, so enjoy them in-person while shopping at Bargains.



Special thanks to Ronald Taylor, talented graphic artist and son of AL Tulsa's past-president, Yolanda Taylor, for donating his creativity and expertise to this project!



Assistance League® Tulsa Celebrates the 2022 Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Parade

Assistance League® Tulsa will be participating in the 43rd Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Parade on **Monday, January 17, 2022**. We will be a *Beloved Community* Level Sponsor and have a half page ad in their official event program booklet. The parade will start at 11:00 AM at the Corner of N. Detroit Ave. & John Hope Franklin Blvd and meander through historic Greenwood Avenue to Archer. Arrangements have been made for us to ride in a big yellow school bus (seats 58 people) that will pick us up at 7:45 AM in the back parking lot of the AL Tulsa building and return us to that location after the completion of the parade. We have to be in our designate spot that morning no later than 8:30 AM (no exceptions) when the Parade Judging begins. If we elect to decorate the bus it must be completed before that time. Weather permitting, some of us may elect to walk in front of the bus and others can remain on the bus and wave from the windows. Any handouts or items we wish to provide cannot be thrown from the bus or float. Items can be handed to parade watchers, however riders on floats and vehicles **CANNOT** exit the vehicle while in motion to distribute items. If you would like to participate, please email Pat Banzhof at preselect@altulsa.org or call or text me at 713-817-8211. Let's show our support to The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration Society.

The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration Society has provided direct programming, leadership development, civic engagement, and opportunities for artistic expression for more than 20,000 boys and girls across the city of Tulsa, Tulsa County, and the surrounding areas since it was founded in 1978. The Society has awarded \$102,000 in scholarships over the past three decades to local high school graduates aspiring to achieve Dr. King's dream. Annually more than 10,000 people attend the annual parade.

~ Pat Banzhof, President-elect

AL Tulsa enthusiastically participated
in the 2019 Tulsa MLK Parade.
Let's have another big turn out this year!



History of Betty Bradstreet Assistance Fund (an endowed fund of AL Tulsa)

by Kathy Stephen



Emma Showman, circa 1930's

It's a story of two remarkable women whose lives crossed paths in Tulsa, OK, in the 1940's. They became very good friends and were always together. It was this deep friendship that prompted Emma Showman to name Assistance League® Tulsa as a charitable entity within her Trust account to endow the Betty Bradstreet Assistance Fund in honor of her friend. This trust was set up in 1984. Emma Showman died in July 2000, and it was in 2002, after her estate was settled, that Assistance League® Tulsa was notified that it had been bequeathed this endowed fund.

Emma Showman was born in Arkansas and raised in New Mexico where she became a schoolteacher. She married "Pete" Thompson, a rancher/oilman and together they built an oil business and moved to Tulsa. After her first husband's death, she married Dr. Winifred Showman in 1954. Emma loved children, though she had none of her own, and was concerned about children's education. Emma was an astute businesswoman and philanthropist. The University of New Mexico and the University of Tulsa, as well as many other organizations, are major beneficiaries of her charitable endowments.

Betty Bradstreet was born in Texas. Her father was an independent oil producer and in the 40's he brought his family to Tulsa. She was educated in private schools both in the US and abroad and traveled extensively as a young woman. She had a keen interest in the fine arts. Betty was a tireless fundraiser for Tulsa charities and cultural entities. She served as a trustee or on the Board of Directors of the Tulsa Philharmonic, Tulsa Ballet, Philbrook Museum of Art, Tulsa Opera, Tulsa Historical Society, Tulsa Global Alliance, and many others. She was a founding member of the Arts and Humanities Council of Tulsa, the International Council of Tulsa, and in 1964 she was the chairwoman of Tulsa's first arts festival, the predecessor to the annual Mayfest celebration. She was also a founding member of Assistance League® Tulsa and served as president in 1973-74. Betty passed away in March 2001.



Betty Bradstreet, circa 1970's



Collaborative project from students of Christina Prado at the Dual Language Academy of Tulsa Public Schools. Children worked together to emboss foil using different objects, adding texture and interest to the final work.

Betty Bradstreet Arts Education Award School Site Visits

All AL Tulsa members are invited and encouraged to attend the site visits to our award recipients' classrooms to see how students are benefitting from their teacher's award. An email blast will be sent out regularly during the spring semester to let you know when these site visits will occur. You will need to let the contact person know you would like to attend, and they will provide you with the necessary information.

These are site visits scheduled to date:

Mannford High School - December 2, 12:15pm.

Contact Nancy Kirby (nancyckirby@aol.com) for details.

Thoreau Demonstration Academy - January 12, 9:40am.

Contact Kim Piper (KimQualePiper@gmail.com) for further information.



By the time we break for Christmas, we will have served thirty schools, and filled **1,224 bags of clothes!** WHEW! All the volunteers are very thoughtful in the clothing and shoe selections. Despite the student forms being a challenge to interpret sometimes, there have only been four reports of changes that need to be made! That's amazing!

We are currently scheduled through December 7 but will reserve the 14th and 15th if we have any schools scheduled. There will be no OSB December 10, due to an event scheduled for the Activity Room. Once all the schools are completed, we will plan for Project Restock so school clothes closets can be replenished.

Recently a group collaborating with the refugee settlement contacted us about providing school uniforms for the Afghan students. Coats, clothing, and story books for thirty children! Many thanks to Marcy Landis for gathering these items. This may be an ongoing process as the families get settled in Tulsa and will need uniforms.

The wall in the Activity Room that had the colored pegs has been repaired and painted, thanks to Ginny Greek and her skilled crew!

I am so appreciative of all the hard-working OSB volunteers! Thank you!!!

~ Julie Burton, Operation School Bell® chair

OPERATION SCHOOL BELL® OFFSITE

The events for our Offsite program began on September 14, 2021 and were completed on November 11, 2021. We held 33 different events at 8 different Walmart Stores. We served students in **11 districts and 56 different schools and were able to provide school clothing for 1,672 students!**

We used Oklahoma State Department of Education Free & Reduced Lunch numbers as of 7/14/20 and any schools with more than 30% or more students in that category qualified to be included. We added two districts - Berryhill and Collinsville; 4 new schools in Broken Arrow district; and 2 new schools in Owasso. In total we added 10 new schools that we had not served last year.

This project could not have been completed without 11 wonderful leaders that planned and worked the events: Marilyn Brill, Pris Brown, Joyce Coday, Pam Glenn, Kathy Harper, Diane Hensley, Glenna Morrison, Paula Naylor, Marjorie Phillips, and Farryl Stokes. We also give a huge thank you to our fantastic "Book Ladies" - Mary Sue Whitney and Melinda Carver, plus Glenda Murphy, who pitched in when needed. Last, but not least we thank the 33 AL members who helped evening after evening to make these events such a success – **volunteering 904 total hours** on this project!

~ Loretta Raschen, OSB Offsite team leader

Just like participating Tulsa Public Schools elementary students served by our OSB Onsite program, students from surrounding districts, served Offsite, received clothing, a personal care kit and two books at their reading level.



**Assistance League® Tulsa thanks the following
people for their generous contributions in
the second half of October through
the first half of November 2021.**

Assistance League® Tulsa

Dolores Abraham

In memory of Louis Abraham

Kay Robinson Blue

Cherry Bost

In memory of James Bost

Marla Brierly

Avonelle Chitwood

Mickey and Susan Coats

Sharon Coffman

Patricia Connery

Jayne Cox

Janet Davis

In memory of Freida Douglas and Judy Blagg

Geneva DeLoach

Beverly and Bruce Dieterlen

In honor of Sharon Coffman

Ronnie and Bob Darby

Jeannette Dill

Susan Doss

Mary Dotson

Diane Dross

Mary and Randy Elliott

Ruth Ann Fate

Barbara Fennell

Bill and Sue Flynn

Pam Glenn

In honor of Marcy Landis

Donna Glocker

Carolyn Graham

In memory of Sharyn Rusher

Dr. Vondale and Jan Graham

In honor of Judy Thomas

Shirley and Lloyd Grigsby

Jessica Grover

In honor of Judy Thomas

Pat Hansen

Kathy and Jon Harper

Elisabeth Harrington

Priscilla Harris

Donna Hickman

Lynne and Richard Hoe

John and Clara Holderman

Eleanor Hoppe

Mr. and Mrs. Don Hoose

In memory of Betty Oswald

Jan Keegan

Carol Kruegar

Denise Brice Kurtz

In honor of Susan Dunn

Martie McCain

Elizabeth McDoulett

Sallye Mann

Karen Mildren

John Minielly

Lynn and Paul Moore

Glenna and LeRoy Morrison

In memory of Opal Reuben

Paula Naylor

In memory of Gwen Romanello

Nancy Neal

Glenda Neeley

In memory of Carol Bethell

Martha Nichols

Sandra and Bob Norman

Alan and Katie Odgers

Suzanne Palmer

Donna Piper

Patti Pitcock

Betty and Tom Rains

Marjorie Ray

Dolores Ritter

Jean Roberts

Wanda Robinson

In memory of Richard Nichols

Hannah and Joe Robson

Denise and Bob Rock

Neen and Alan Ross

In honor of Mary Dotson and

George and Phyllis Dotson

Robert Sears

In memory of Avery Shannon

Alice Stanish

Dr. C.T. Thompson

Barbara and John Turner

Barbara and Larry Walters

Anita Ward

Lyle O. Young

In memory of Dr. Keith Ballard

Mary Lou and Ron Young

In memory of Betty Oswald

*Thank You
for your support*



HAPPY NEW YEAR



2021 - 2022 Letter Campaign

Did you know? . . . Over 35,675 students in grades Pre K-12 are enrolled in Tulsa Public Schools.

Did you know? . . . 79.7% of these students qualify for free or reduced lunch.

Did you know? . . . Operation School Bell® partners with TPS and surrounding school districts to identify and support families who are struggling to provide clothing and essential items so their children can attend school.

December is a time that many consider end-of-year giving. Your donation, IN ANY AMOUNT, will help area children and families in need.

amazon smile



You shop. Amazon gives.



Support AL Tulsa with Your Holiday Shopping!

Shop at smile.amazon.com and we'll receive 0.5% on your eligible purchases - no fees, no extra cost.

Simply log into smile.amazon.com and select

Supporting: Assistance League of Tulsa

Community Action Programs:



AL Tulsa partners with the Tulsa Regional STEM Alliance and provides high-interest DIY activity kits that engage and inspire area students in the study of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math.



Monday, November 1, saw 15 STEM committee members assembling 1600 Seed Identification kits. These kits were all assembled within a two hour period. Good job!

I have been invited to participate in a Tulsa Regional STEM Alliance Advisory Council on-line meeting. I hope to gain more insight on how Assistance League's role might expand in the future.

There will be a STEM committee meeting, scheduled after the first of the year, to assemble another kit and to discuss other ways, in addition to Operation School Bell®, that we can benefit the STEM Alliance.

~ Nancy Sacra, STEM chair

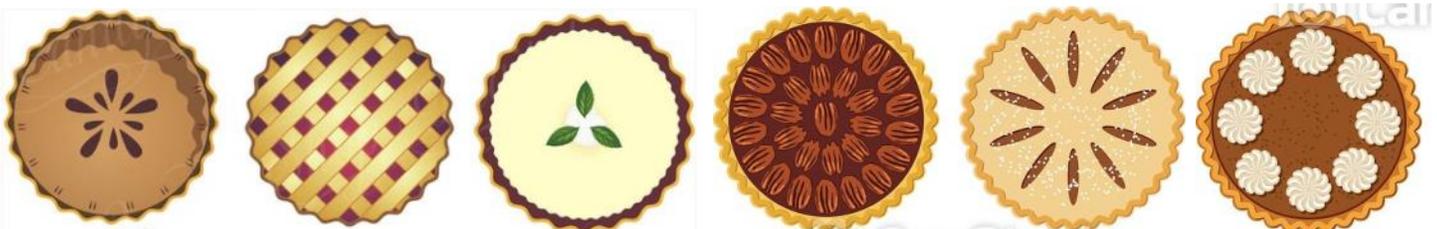


Update from Mental Health Committee

A big THANK YOU to all the AL Tulsa members who brought desserts for the annual Thanksgiving dinner serving clients of Mental Health Association Oklahoma. We had a bountiful assortment that filled 2 SUVs. Jane Watson, my husband Don and I delivered the desserts to Denver House. Everyone was so appreciative and helpful. We all wished each other a Happy Thanksgiving.

In November, we also purchased items for all four MHAO facilities. Items included a garden cart, living room rug, large white board with stand, and a two tier clothing rack. We will update everyone on Christmas needs when we receive them. Thank you!

~ Madeline Gilbreth and Debra Lockerman, Mental Health Association Oklahoma co-chairs



Do you have a few hours to share during this holiday season?

Shoppers know Bargains is a great place to find unique gifts, holiday items and more!

Donating even a couple hours at the registers or restocking merchandise makes a HUGE difference this time of year.

Join the holiday fun and volunteer!

BAG A BARGAIN

Bargains Thrift Shop Needs Bags!

- ◆ All sizes and shapes requested
 - ◆ Bags with handles work best
- Please drop off your paper bags at Donations. Thanks!



Bargains will be closed from December 20 until January 3, 2022. We will reopen on the 4th.

Building Operations

by Julie Guy

READY FOR AN EMERGENCY

AL Tulsa members were trained on new Zoll AED defibrillators by Seth from CINTAS Corp. AED units are stored in the kitchens on both Levels 1 and 2. Please take time to check out their locations in our building.





Tulsa

President: Kim Campbell
Newsletter Editor: Marianne Pickering

www.altulsa.org



Assistance League® Tulsa

A chapter of National Assistance League®

5350 E. 31th St.

Tulsa, Oklahoma 74135

Phone: 918-832-8832



Arts in Action!

Michael Schmidt, music teacher at Holmes Park Elementary in Sapulpa, purchased instruments with his Betty Bradstreet Arts Education Award.



Mr. Schmidt is also allowed to use his school's instruments in summer music camps for kids!



Our Values

Commitment

showing compassion for all

Accountability

being fiscally responsible to our donors & our community

Leadership

demonstrating professionalism that is visionary & ethical

Respect

appreciating & considering others

Self-esteem

enhancing success in the people we serve