

MLK  Montessori School
SMART
Soirée

October 11, 2018

at C2G Music Hall

323 West Baker Street

Downtown Fort Wayne

Artist Proposal
2018

www.mlkdreamschool.org/smartstart



A Smart Sponsorship Opportunity

On September 28, 2017, MLK Montessori hosted its first-ever **SmartStart** Soirée, and we could not be more thrilled with the results! Community leaders, art lovers, and educational advocates gathered for a unique evening that included an auction featuring collaborative art pieces donated by phenomenal local and national artists, paired with the artworks of MLK students.

We are so pleased to announce that the event exceeded our fundraising goal, and we received overwhelmingly positive feedback from our attendees. In an exit survey, attendee Pat Eber wrote, “What a fantastic evening! I’ve been to many fundraisers in Fort Wayne, but I’ve never attended anything quite like this. I’m looking forward to next year!”

Pat is excited about the 2018 MLK Montessori **SmartStart** Soirée, and so are we! With our inaugural year under our belts, we are ready to take this event to the next level. We have secured a fantastic and much larger venue (C2G Music Hall), and our board and staff are committed to partnering with even more fantastic artists and *tripling* our number attendees on October 11, 2018. We are especially excited because 2018 is a milestone year for MLK Montessori: we will be celebrating our 50th Anniversary!

We would like to extend an invitation to you to participate in this unique and inspiring event as a contributing artist. If you choose to participate, you will be given the opportunity to visit MLK Montessori and select a student’s work of art to be your “inspiration.” You will even have the chance to meet the student-artist and discuss his or her work! You will then be asked to create an original piece of art, inspired by the student work, for the SmartStart Soirée auction. To thank you for your contribution, we will share your work, biography, and contact information on social media, on our website, and in our newsletter; your name and contact information will be prominently displayed next to your piece at the event and will be announced during the live auction; and you will be given a pair of complementary tickets to the SmartStart Soirée.

I would like to thank you in advance for your consideration of this very special opportunity. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact us:

Greta McKinney
Executive Director
(260) 423-4333

Andrea Kendall
Board President
(260) 431-1245

Carrie Fisher
Event Committee Chair
(260) 458-1040

MLK Montessori School SmartStart Soirée
Contact: Greta McKinney, *Executive Director*
gmckinney@mlkdreamschool.org or 260-423-4333



Event Purpose

Not only will your contribution help to make our 50th Anniversary **SmartStart** Soirée a success, but it will also help to support the vital work of our school.

Did you know that, when they enter kindergarten, children from low-income families typically perform far behind their more advantaged peers – both socially and academically? This puts them at an immediate disadvantage that, studies show, is nearly impossible to overcome. A quality preschool education stops this achievement gap in its tracks.

Experts agree that preschool education is a sound investment—academically, socially, and *economically*. Research shows that for every dollar invested in high-quality, comprehensive early care and education, society saves \$7.16 in special education, welfare, and criminal justice costs.

Since our inception in 1968, MLK Montessori School has been dedicated to the mission of providing high-quality care and education to at-risk, low-income preschool children in Fort Wayne. Over the years, MLK Montessori has changed the lives of more than 5,000 children in Fort Wayne. What makes our program effective?

- **Accessibility.** We offer door-to-door bus transportation via our school buses for families that lack reliable transportation.
- **Meals.** Our students, many who come from food-insecure homes, receive free breakfast, lunch, and snacks.
- **Health Services.** MLK students have access to wellness, dental, and vision screenings; a consulting school nurse; speech therapy services; and mental health consultations.
- **Education.** Our time-tested, standards-based Montessori curriculum and developmentally stimulating environment fosters independence and intellectual curiosity.

Your support enables us to continue this vital work for Fort Wayne’s disadvantaged youth. Thank you for being by our side in this mission!

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Art Requirements

- All art work is a donation.
- Artist will select a student's art work for their inspiration and will meet with the child to discuss the piece if at all possible. Meetings will be arranged at the school during the month of May.
- MLK Montessori School has permission to use the inspired art work's image for promotional purposes and fundraising.
- Artist is to set a starting bid for their work.
- All donated paintings should come pre-packaged with all hanging hardware and secure packaging for shipment or for buyer to take with them that evening.
- For paintings exceeding 24x36, artist must get size approved by MLK before beginning work.
- Artist will provide their resumé/artist's statement for our online preview and event program.
- To be included in our event preview, the artist statement and picture of the piece must be received by **September 14**. All finished works must be received no later than October 9 unless other arrangements are made with MLK.
- If at all possible, artist will attend the event on October 11.
- Each artist will receive 2 free tickets.

Artist's Intent to Donate (submit when selecting student work)

I, _____, intend to produce an original piece of art per the guidelines outlined above to be auctioned at the **SmartStart** Soirée, with all proceeds donated to MLK Montessori School for the purpose of raising money to provide quality care and education for MLK Montessori School's low income students. Furthermore, I give MLK Montessori School permission to use the art's image for promotional purposes and fundraising.

Signed _____ Date _____

Email address: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

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CONTRIBUTING ARTIST CONTRACT (submit with finished piece for donation)

1. Please sign and print your name on the back of the work and return it with this contract.
2. Please send us a copy of your resumé/artists statement.
3. The work should be submitted as you wish it to be exhibited, with frame and hanging hardware if needed. It should be delivered securely packaged for shipment.

For inclusion in our online preview and event program, please deliver the art piece by **Friday, September 14, 2017**. If you are mailing it, please mail by Monday, September 10. As long as this donation form with attached artist statement and a picture of the art in progress is received by September 14, finished art may be delivered by 3 p.m. on Tuesday, October 9.

ART SUBMISSION FORM

Artist: _____

Title: _____

Media: _____

Size: _____ Starting Bid: _____

Date: _____

Email address: _____

Mailing address: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

I am donating this artwork to MLK Montessori School for the purpose of raising money to provide quality care and education for MLK Montessori School's low income students. Furthermore, I give MLK Montessori School permission to use this image for promotional purposes and fundraising.

[] If not sold, the school is to return the artwork (artist must pick up).

[] If not sold, the school may keep the artwork for a future fundraising events.

Signed _____ Date _____