

Embargo: Friday, April 13, 2018 (6 a.m. EST)

# TURNAROUND ARTS

creating success in schools

A PROGRAM OF THE KENNEDY CENTER

## TURNAROUND ARTS PREMIERES “LOVE TRAIN” FEATURING HUNDREDS OF STUDENTS AND HIGH-PROFILE ARTISTS CELEBRATING THE POWER OF ARTS EDUCATION

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*Music Video Featuring Paula Abdul, Elizabeth Banks, Misty Copeland, Yo-Yo Ma, Jason Mraz, Keb’ Mo’, Tim Robbins, Chad Smith, and More Premieres as Program Announces Another Expansion*

**Washington, D.C.** (April 13, 2018) — Delivering the message that students and schools benefit from the transformative power of arts and music in school, Turnaround Arts, a program of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, marks the program’s continued growth with the release of a new music video, “Love Train”. At the start of the 2018-19 school year, 12 more schools in California, Iowa and Connecticut will join the Turnaround Arts program, for a total of 84 Turnaround Arts schools nationwide.

Watch, share, embed “Love Train”: <https://youtu.be/aUXSVnGsYyY> or <https://www.facebook.com/TurnaroundArts/videos/1484565558332704/>  
Photos for editorial use: <https://sandraselvaphotography.pixieset.com/turnaroundartslovetrain/>

The video, produced by Turnaround Arts in partnership with Playing For Change, features hundreds of Turnaround Arts students from across the country singing and dancing to The O’Jays “Love Train,” alongside their Turnaround Artist mentors: Paula Abdul, IZ Avila, Elizabeth Banks, Jackson Browne, Carla Dirlikov Canales, Misty Copeland, John Cruz, Claudia Eliaza, Paula Fuga, Frank Gehry, Valerie June, Ledisi, Yo-Yo Ma, Larisa Martinez, Keb’ Mo’, Jason Mraz, Ozomatli, Taboo, Tracy Reese, Tim Robbins, Jake Shimabukuro, Trombone Shorty, Chad Smith, Speech, Jacqueline Suskin, The O’Jays, Black Violin, Bernie Williams, Alfre Woodard, Dan Zanes, and John Lloyd Young and more.

Turnaround Arts empowers struggling schools with innovative arts, dance, theater and music programs, arts-based learning across subject areas, arts resources, musical instruments, and high-profile artist mentors, as a strategy to help address broader school challenges and close the achievement gap.

Many Turnaround Arts schools see improvements in math and reading proficiency and attendance, alongside significant decreases in discipline issues following Turnaround Arts’ strategic infusion of the arts. Turnaround Arts launched in 2012 as a pilot program created by the President’s Committee on the Arts and the Humanities. Following the latest expansion, at the start of the 2018 school year, Turnaround Arts will work in 84 schools in 17 states and the District of Columbia, having impact on more than 56,000 students.

“The arts are an integral part of educating the whole child, keeping them engaged in school, and building skills that radiate throughout the curriculum,” said Deborah F. Rutter, President of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. “Turnaround Arts works nationally to ensure that more kids are able to experience the power of the arts in school. We are incredibly proud of our Turnaround Arts students, and of the work and progress that they, their friends, and their teachers are making. We are also grateful to this amazing community of artists who share their time and talent with our students.”

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Schools Joining Turnaround Arts in the 2018-2019 School Year:

Bryant School, Bridgeport, CT  
Moulton Elementary, Des Moines, IA  
Pine Hill Elementary School, South Bay Union School District, CA  
Vincent Academy, Charter Public School, Oakland, CA  
Marina Vista Elementary School, Monterey Peninsula Unified School District, CA  
Vista Verde Middle School, Greenfield Union School District, CA  
Garfield Elementary School, Alhambra Unified School District, CA  
McKinley Elementary School, Compton Unified School District, CA  
Tweedy Elementary School, Los Angeles Unified School District, CA  
Janie P. Abbott Elementary School, Lynwood Unified School District, CA  
Frank J. Zamboni Middle School, Paramount Unified School District, CA  
Montgomery Elementary School, Chula Vista Elementary School District, CA

“Love Train”

Written by The O’Jays

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*Additional support is provided by Anonymous, Bernstein Family Foundation, Dalio Foundation, The Estée Lauder Companies Charitable Foundation, NAMM Foundation, Nordstrom, The Orlebeke Foundation, Robert Rauschenberg Foundation, and Laird Norton Family Foundation.*

*Turnaround Arts is also supported in part by Crayola, Flocabulary, iTheatrics, Little Kids Rock, Music Theatre International, and Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts.*

*Kennedy Center education and related artistic programming is made possible through the generosity of the National Committee for the Performing Arts.*

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Playing For Change is a movement created to inspire and connect the world through music, born from the shared belief that music has the power to break down boundaries and overcome distances between people. PFC spreads their positive message for humanity to millions of people through inspiring multi-cultural music videos, a live global touring band and a 501c3 Foundation supporting music education around the world.