



Dear Dream Big Families --

We are so pleased to announce that we received our official 501(c)3 designation from the IRS on November 16, 2018. This was the final step in our transition from for profit to non-profit over the past 2 years. Founded in 2006 with a class of four students, Dream Big Education has grown to serve an average of 1,000 students a week. With after school enrichment classes in over 30 elementary schools throughout Chicago and the Western Suburbs, over 40 innovative weekly summer camps, an annual large-scale production camp, and thoughtfully crafted in-school residencies, Dream Big has solidified its place as one of the prominent performing arts programs for children in the Chicagoland area and Western Suburbs.

Dream Big is unique in its approach to teaching the performing arts to children. With our primary focus on process over product, we are dedicated to educating the whole child through the vehicle of theater. Our classes encourage students to respectfully collaborate with peers, explore who they are as humans, be curious about the world around them, to notice, be aware, and be heard. The gift is the piece of art they make together and perform for family and friends, but the backbone of this heart-centered organization is the mission to teach our students how to express themselves more authentically, experience their emotions, have confidence in their abilities, and explore the world with their peers in creative, life affirming ways. We believe the impact of this type of theater education has reaches far beyond the classroom and stage.

With this exciting nonprofit transition, we are now in a position to secure our sustainability, expand our programming, serve more children, communities, and schools from diverse backgrounds, and continue fulfilling our mission and promise to be accessible to *all* children. We are grateful and so very excited for the honor, privilege and opportunity to do our part in growing a heart-centered, creative generation that will have the facility to change the world.

Sincerely,

The Dream Big Board, Administrative, and Teaching Staff