

Performing Arts Inspires Public Schools

In the community today, public schools are starting to lose funding on their performing arts programs. These programs help students to express themselves outside of the classroom. Each year these programs, for example, the Castle Performing Arts Center and Kaimuki High School Performing Arts Center are always looking for funds and sponsors to support their programs from being cut. Every year the directors of the programs are expecting an answer from the Department of Education on whether their program will be funded by them or will it be cut from the DOE system. To solve this problem, there needs to be a showcase put on by the students that displays not only their talent, but explains their experiences in the performing arts and how it impacts their lives.

The performing arts programs in the public schools have inspired students to express themselves. The Castle Performing Arts Program, also known as CPAC out in Kaneohe, has inspired many students. This program is one of the known ones to be putting on about 3 shows a school year. Each of these shows consists of High School students from different public schools around the island. This is the same as the Kaimuki High School Performing Arts Center, KHSPAC, where the high school students put on a musical to display not only talent but also a character on stage that is not seen in the classroom. The directors and choreographers support and teach these students to do their best and that doing your best is being the best.

These students in the performing arts are exposing themselves to real world situations that will occur in their futures. With performing arts, students are learning to memorize lines, music pieces, and being able to remember dance steps.

When a problem occurs onstage, an actor needs to act on the spot and come up with a way to cover up the problem. In the real world, a person needs to come up with a solution to a situation with quick thinking skills. With the arts, students are learning to develop their quick thinking skills.

A solution to this problem is by having a showcase to display the talents of the students. With this, there will be current and alumnae students of the High Schools to discuss how performing has impacted their lives. This will lead to a PSA that displays the impact the arts has on students even if they are not performing currently or is leading them to a goal like being a performer on Broadway. It will display to the community that the performing arts impacts the lives of students and helps them throughout their lives leading them to being successful in the real world.

The performing arts in public schools may not be a big situation, but to students in this program, it is a big deal. Performing arts teaches kids about memorization and social and critical thinking skills which stick with them throughout their lives.