**Douglass High School Fine Arts Department Technology Grant Application**

**Submitted by: Barry D. Thibault -Theater arts Teacher**

225 Hamilton E. Holmes D

Atlanta, GA 30318  
Phone:(404) 802-3100  
Atlanta City School District (APS)

[](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:DouglassHighSchool.JPG)

**Status:** Operational

**Type:** Regular

**Grades:** 9th - 12th

**School Location:** Atlanta, Georgia

 

**Introduction**

Frederick Douglass High School is a public school located in northwest Atlanta, Georgia bordering the Collier Heights and Center Hill communities. I have been a member of the “Astros Faculty” teaching Musical Theater/Dramatic Arts classes since July 2007 hired by our current principal, Mr. J. Austin Brown. I am proud to be a part of the Douglass High School Faculty serving 9th through 12th grade theater students in the city of Atlanta. Our school takes great pride in its academic history in both core classes and fine art classes. The school has strong alumni, many of which are parents of our students and some who are now part of our faculty. This Fine Arts Technology Grant will not only benefit today’s students, but it will also bring a certain satisfaction to those alumni who prevailed in a time without much technology. The following chart shows a small example of some accomplished graduates in the theater and music classes from Douglass High School.

## Douglass Notable Alumni of Music/Theater Courses

* Walter Franks - Actor, Writer, Producer, Singer, Songwriter. Most noted for his portrayal of the young Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in the movie The Boy King as the title role. Dem Franchize Boyz - rap group
* Sonny Emory - musician, composer, producer, and professor
* Hitman Sammy Sam - rapper
* Dexter Scott King - Actor, Documentary Film Maker and Civil Rights Activist. Also the 2nd son of Civil Rights leaders Dr. Martin Luther King Jr and Mrs. Coretta Scott King.
* Bernice King - Attorney, Author, revered Orator, Minister, and Daughter of the Late Dr. and Mrs. Martin Luther King, Jr.
* Kilo Ali - rapper
* Killer Mike - rapper
* Lil Jon - rapper and producer
* Jody Mayfield - musician, composer and producer
* Finesse Mitchell - Actor, Saturday Night Live 2003-2006
* T.I. - rapper/actor
* Unk - rapper
* Miss B. - rapper

**Description of the Fine Arts at Douglass**

The Fine and Performing Arts (FAPA) program at Douglass High School has endured some major program changes in the last several school years. The school was remodeled with a new state of the art auditorium housing the fine arts classrooms. The FAPA program consists of Choral, Band, Piano, Theater, Guitar, Strings, and Music Appreciation courses for the 9th -12th grade student body. All music courses are taught between four music teachers.

During the years of 2002-2003, the school underwent a major renovation that was completed in time for the 2004-05 school years. The new features included a state-of-the-art gymnasium, auditorium and full [renovation](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Renovation) of the main building. These buildings will honor former principals Lester W. Butts and Samuel L. Hill.



There are several sub-programs within Douglass High School: the magnet program (CFEAT) Center for Engineering, and Applied Technology, which serves over 500 students, the [NJROTC](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NJROTC) which is the only Naval NJROTC in metropolitan Atlanta area, the Media Arts academy, and the Ninth Grade School.

**Douglass Student and Academics**

Douglass High School offers several small learning communities. Each program/community is designed to give each student an excellent educational experience and graduate with real options for lifelong success whether they choose college or enter the workforce. There are several sub-programs within Douglass High School: the magnet program (CFEAT) Center for Engineering, and Applied Technology, which serves over 500 students, the [NJROTC](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NJROTC) which is the only Naval NJROTC in metropolitan Atlanta area, the Media Arts academy, and the Ninth Grade School.

**The Douglass High School Small Learning Communities**

* (CFEAT) Center for Engineering and Applied Technology
* (CJ) Communications and Journalism
* (CHTM) Center for Hospitality, Tourism, and Marketing
* (CBE) Center for Business and Entrepreneurship
* *(*FAPA) Fine and Performing Arts

**Statement of Need**

When I began teaching, I noticed that there was no music computer lab for the students to use. I did find 6 broken Compaq computers that have been outdated since 2003. These computers were used as a music lab at one time but were now set aside to be picked up by APS technical team for discard. I tried to work it out with the IT team to keep what we had for student word processing. I have asked my administrators what we could do about continuing a lab and they suggested that I try to get some grants, and then had a big laugh!

The Music Educators National Convention (MENC) states that all students benefit from a curriculum enriched with music and theater. A combination of the two would be a huge asset to our classrooms. The projected grant monies would help us accomplish a state of the art computer lab that fits the need of Douglass students and our staff. In pursuing a Master’s Degree at the University of West Georgia, I have been involved in many courses involving the use of technology in the classroom. Other graduate students are able to discuss and share ideas about their own classroom and school district. I have learned that not all classrooms are the same. Many schools systems have no money to spend on the equipment needed while others spend money foolishly. These courses are offered to us online, which is also a great benefit of technology.

In doing graduate research, I found out that the Music Educators National Convention (MENC) also applied, developed a plan for, and received a grant from the National Standards for Arts Education. They then continued the fight for music in our schools by getting additional grants from U.S. Department of Education, the National Endowment for the humanities, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

The National Standards represent the first comprehensive set of educational standards for K-12 arts instruction. MENC has since published more than 20 documents in instructional techniques for helping students accomplish the Standards, dealing with such issues as staffing, scheduling, equipment, technology, and assessment. The standards set by MENC should allow for all students to have access to these music resources regardless of financial issues.

**The MENC's Mission**

To advance music education by encouraging the study and making of music by all.

## Teacher Classroom Goals for Douglass Fine Arts (FAPA)

My goals for creating more music resources for Douglass High school students include: creating a diverse collection of technical, musical and professional class items that aid in student learning and teaching by applying for grants.

An ideal classroom situation would allow for a mobile and classroom computer lab specifically for the Fine and Performing Arts Students. The grant monies will be used to purchase all the required peripherals found in any student-based music-learning lab including hardware, software, maintenance, and future upgrades.

The requirements and stipulations in your Grant Award-Funding Packet will be met in a timely fashion. ***The Student Needs Requirement*** section should be evident in the requested ***School History*** and ***Community Information*** section of this application. Additionally, We have also included our computer lab (AUP) as well as the required, ***Fine Arts Computer Lab Classroom PowerPoint*** presentation ***Lab Policies Packet*** with complete lab rules by use of students . I have also included a copy of my teacher ***Lesson Plans*** , also fulfilling the ***Computer Lab Program Software*** created with Microsoft Office Suite 2007’s Infopath software.

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| Our students in FAPA are eager to learn and they need these skills to compete with other music classes from Atlanta and other cities. My colleagues and I are dedicated to providing the music education with technology skills students need to understand how to use computers for learning new music and theater skills. I envision our classes using the internet for researching the great composers, and learning how to use the computer lab’s media resources in designing and printing our own theater production programs.  This mobile or classroom computer lab would be a huge asset for student learning. Our school does offer a full time Technology Instructor (IT) on staff to help teachers integrate technology into every aspect of learning. Also, the music building is connected to our local school network during the remodeling of the school. The Atlanta Public School System has invested in many resources already into our building and the wireless service is available throughout the classrooms. I would like to provide students access to printer services as well so that they can achieve these music projects.  The new classroom computer technology will allow many more benefits than just the actual computer hardware, monitors, and hard drives. Although, our main goal is to build a computer lab, this particular grant would also allow the school to other classroom resources. I would like to see our students subscribe to fine arts web services and take virtual field trips to famous theaters around the world. We would also like to purchase software like Sibelius, which can help them notate rhythms and learn to create their own instrumentals. In my own classroom, theater students will learn how to make their own production programs and tickets. |

The Fine Arts Staff understand what the music technology can do for our students at Douglass High School. Learning the art of music and theater performance is important to the development of a well-rounded person. We also see the use of technology as a critical, complemented musical experience for all students.

**School Information/General Grant Requirements Section**

School Information and Demographics

1. School Overview
2. School History
3. Learning Community Information
4. Fine Arts Technology Goals
5. Computer Lab Intended Use

**Grant Application/ Requirements Packet Information**

The Student Needs RequirementsCommunity InformationFine Arts Computer Lab Classroom PowerPoint

Lab Policies PacketLesson Plans- Developed with Computer Program Software Infopath

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| 1. **Douglass Information and Demographics** | |
| Type | Public high school |
| Motto | If there is no struggle, there is no progress |
| Established | 1968 |
| School district | Atlanta Public Schools |
| Principal | J. Austin Brown |
| Grades | 9–12 |
| Enrollment | 1,654 |
| Campus | Urban |
| Astro Color(s) | Black & Gold |
| Mascot | Astros |
| Nickname | Douglass, Doug, 'Stros, The Big D |
| Newspaper | *The North Star* |
| Yearbook | *Polaris* |
| Information | 404-802-3100 |
| Distinctions | A Georgia School of Excellence |

## Douglass History

Since 1968, Frederick Douglass High School has served the community of Center Hill and the city of Atlanta with many academic and non-academic programs. Atlanta Public Schools established Douglass High School to relieve overcrowding at nearby defunct, Harper, Turner and West Fulton High Schools. There are currently over 2,000 students attending Douglass High School, making it the largest high school in the Atlanta Public School system.

**Douglass Students and Academics**

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1. **The Douglass High School Small Learning Communities**

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**[](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:FDA.jpg)**

***Our Douglass High School Cres******t***

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## IV. Douglass Astros Marching Band- Fine Arts Faculty Write-up

Douglass' Marching Astros Band is one of the greater bands in the Atlanta Public School system, as well as the state of Georgia. They compete and deliver in the annual Original Battle of The Bands Showcase and in various jamborees locally and out of state. They also appear in many parades and perform at various events including many special invitations. V.H. Moody, the band's director, has taught at Douglass since the school's creation in 1968. He is currently the longest working band director in Atlanta Public Schools, showing his level of dedication. He is a living legend and his experience in the field of music is well reflected in the creative and innovative sound of his band. They have made trips to Philadelphia, Bermuda, Atlanta to the Magic City/ Blue Flame Classic, Orlando to the Florida Classic, Savannah to the nation's 2nd largest St. Patrick's Day parade, invited to perform at the New England Patriots halftime show and selected members performed at the Super Bowl XXXIII halftime show. This band has marched in almost every historically black college and university parade. The Percussion section is known as DDD (Douglass Deadly Drummers). The Marching Astros have always and still continue to set high standards for themselves. The Difference is Real!!! In 2008, Douglass celebrated their 40th year anniversary.



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|  | **School Overview** |
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|  | Douglass High School | | |
| School Level | High school | | |  |
| School Type | Magnet School | | |  |
| Grades Offered | Grades 9 - 12 | | |  |
| County | [Fulton County](http://www.publicschoolreview.com/county_schools/stateid/GA/county/13121), GA | | |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Students & Faculty |  |  |  |  |
| Total Students | 2254 students | | |  |
| % Male / % Female | 48%  /  52% | | |  |
| Total Classroom Teachers | 122 teachers | | |  |
| Students by Grade | |  | | --- | | Grade 9 - 704 students | | Grade 10 - 645 students | | Grade 11 - 511 students | | Grade 12 - 394 students | | | |  |
|  | |  |  | | --- | --- | | This School | (GA) School Average | | | |  |
| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | Teacher : Student Ratio | 1:18 | *1:15* | | | | |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| *Students by Ethnicity* | |  |  | | --- | --- | | This School | (GA) School Average | | | |  |
| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | % American Indian | n/a | *n/a* | | % Asian | n/a | *2%* | | % Hispanic | 1% | *10%* | | % Black | 99% | *37%* | | % White | n/a | *46%* | | | | |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| *Additional Student Information* | |  |  | | --- | --- | | This School | (GA) School Average | | | |  |
| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | % Eligible for Free Lunch | 71% | *45%* | | | | |  |
| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | % Eligible for Reduced Lunch | 8% | *8%* | | | | |  |
| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | % Migrant Students Enrolled | n/a | *n/a* | | | | |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| School Performance: |  |  |  |  |
|  | |  | | --- | | (GA) Statewide Testing Performance | | | |  |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | School Statewide Performance | [View Education Department Test Scores](http://techservices.doe.k12.ga.us/reportcard/) | | | | |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| School District: |  |  |  |  |
| School District Name | [Atlanta City School District](http://www.publicschoolreview.com/agency_schools/leaid/1300120) | | |  |
|  | |  |  | | --- | --- | | This School's Agency | (GA) District Average | | | |  |
| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | Number of Schools Managed | 103 | *6* | | Number of Students Managed | 54,100 students | *3,472 students* | | District Total Revenue | $716,804,000 | *$29,999,000* | | District Expenditure | $719,855,000 | *$27,898,000* | | District Revenue / Student | $13,250 | *$8,709* | | District Expenditure / Student | $13,306 | *$7,955* | | District Graduation Rates | 66% | *74%* | | | | |  |
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| *About This Zip Code (30318* | |  |  | | --- | --- | | School Zip (30318) | (GA) State Average | | | |  |
| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | Population (Approximate) | 53,229 people | *7,714,340 people* | | % (age 25+) w/College Degree | 30% | *21%* | | Population Average Age | 29 years old | *33 years old* | | Average Household size | 2.5 persons | *2.5 persons* | | Median Household Income | $28,589 | *$44,678* | | Avg. # of Rooms in Household | 4.6 rooms | *5.6 rooms* | | Median Age of Housing Structure | 45 years old | *30 years old* | |  |  | | |  |  | | |  |  |  | | | | |  |

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| School Map: |  |
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| |  | | --- | | Nearby Schools: | | |  | | --- | | 1. School For Integrated Academics And Technologies - 166 students | | 2. Washington Evening High School - 239 students | | 3. Washington High School - 1494 students | | 4. Grady High School - 1220 students | | 5. Tri-cities High School - 1951 students | |  | | |  |
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**Statement of Need**

1. **Computer Lab Intended Use**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Music Tech Lab, November, 2007** | **Music Tech Lab** | **Jazz pictures** | **Music Posters** |
| Win 98 Computers | Win 98 Computers | Music tech students | Music tech students |
| Music tech students | Music tech students | Music tech students | Music tech students |
| Music tech students | Music tech students | Music Tech Lab | Music Tech Lab |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Music Tech Lab 2007 | Garrett | Instrument pictures | Music Lab |
| Garrett | Garrett and Student | Music Lab | Computer |
| Student | Teacher and Student | Keyboard | Piano Book |
| Student | Keyboard | Keyboard | Keyboard |

STUDENT MUSIC COMPOSITIONS...

Student compositions that you can hear and see the music score! The free Sibelius Scorch plug-in is needed to view the files.

MUSIC LESSONS...

Lessons and projects related to music and technology.

**TAKE A QUIZ....**

Multiple choice music quizzes, concentration, word searches and other games

## References for grant project #1-2-3

1. [**^**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Douglass_High_School_%28Georgia%29#cite_ref-0) Frederick Douglass High School
2. [**^**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Douglass_High_School_%28Georgia%29#cite_ref-1) http://www.douglasshighastros.com/slc/index.html
3. [**^**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Douglass_High_School_%28Georgia%29#cite_ref-playerBio_2-0) Zisner, Lynn. "PRO FOOTBALL; Jamal Lewis Charged in Drug Case", The New York Times, February 26, 2004. "At the time of the alleged crime, Lewis, who had graduated from Douglass High School in Atlanta, was waiting to attend his first N.F.L. training camp."