

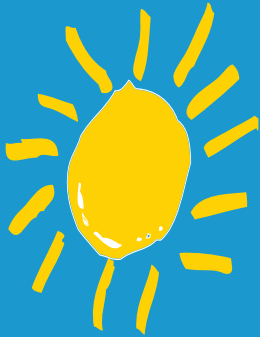
# Academic Excellence with an Artistic Edge



Arts-Integrated  
Intensive  
Academics



Grades  
K-7



Young Audiences  
Charter School  
AT KATE MIDDLETON

# 2016-17 Annual Report

1407 Virgil St • Gretna LA 70053 • 504.304.6332  
[www.yacharterschool.org](http://www.yacharterschool.org)



# About Young Audiences Charter School

Young Audiences Charter School (YACS) at Kate Middleton is an open-enrollment, arts-integrated K-8 school that opened in August 2013. YACS opened with 400 students in grades K-3 and during the 2016-2017 school year served 691 students in grades K-6. YACS will continue to add grades through 12th.

Our mission is to successfully prepare students for high school as well as lay the foundation for lifelong learning. We do this by providing an innovative academic environment that emphasizes a rigorously integrated curriculum with differentiated instruction in and through the arts.

The arts-integrated framework raises academic expectations for all students, providing them with the skills, tools and resources they need for educational success. Our curriculum is organized using Common Core State Standards (CCSS), not only to prepare students for required assessments, but to ensure that they have a solid foundation for high school, college, and career.

## CORE VALUES

Teamwork Discipline  
Creativity Passion

We will provide a safe, supportive and challenging environment that encourages our creative learners to maximize their learning and explore their interests.

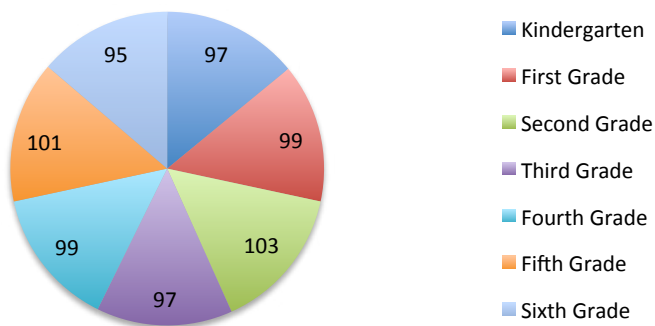
We embrace and value the development of the whole child.

We will deepen our curriculum to prepare our creative learners to be global learners and leaders.

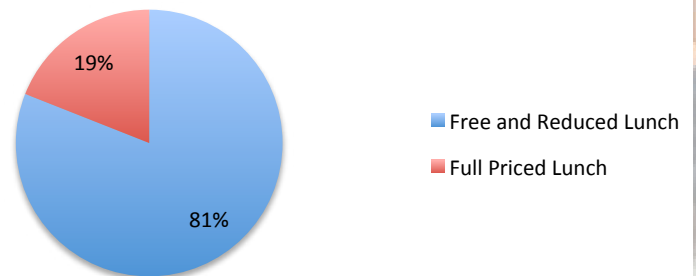


# Student Enrollment Data

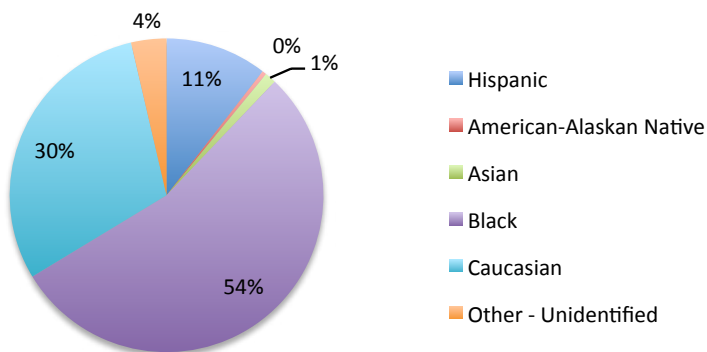
## Enrollment Numbers By Grade



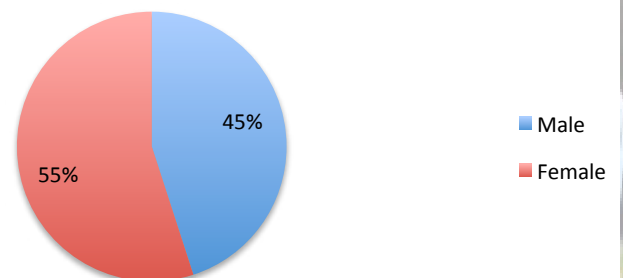
## Percentage of Students Receiving Free/Reduced Lunch



## Student Demographics



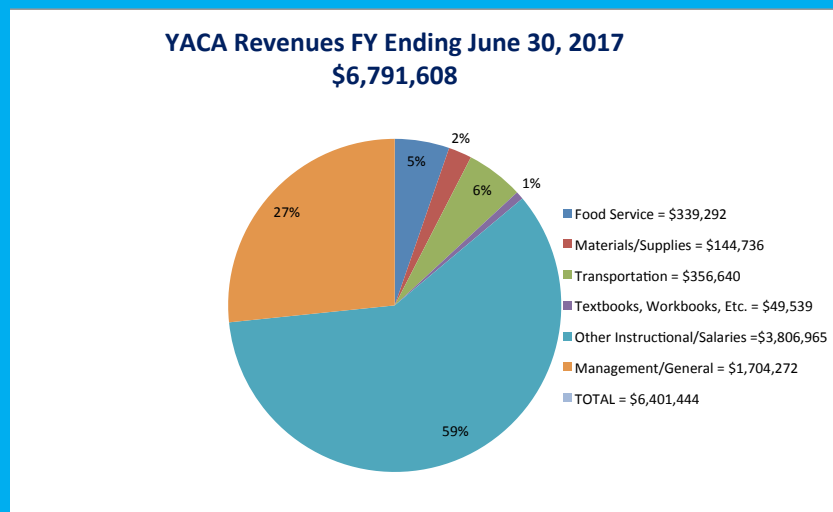
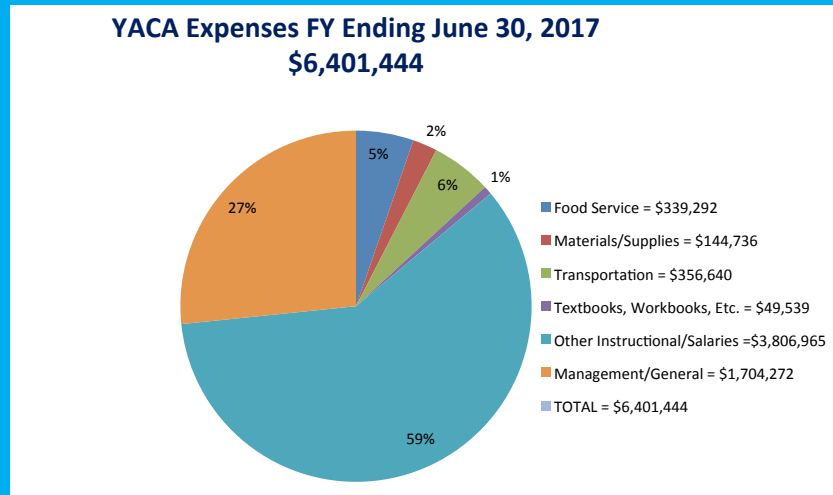
## Student Demographic Data by Gender



**OUR MISSION:** Young Audiences Charter School's mission is to educate the whole child through rigorous academics with arts integration and to prepare our creative learners to flourish as leaders in life and learning. Our vision is to educate learners who are self-aware thinkers, creators, and problem solvers who will serve as leaders in their community.

# Financial Health

YACS strives to be extraordinarily resourceful in creating a cost-effective budget. Our facility on Virgil Street in Gretna is owned by Jefferson Parish School System. Our board and leadership team have recruited volunteers to improve the facility so that it is a welcoming environment for our creative learners. Our board and administrative staff are actively involved in funding raising efforts so that we can provide additional resources at YACS.



# Board of Directors

The board of directors of Young Audiences Charter Association is dedicated to serving the students enrolled at the school, their families, and the community at large.

**Saundra Levy, Chair**  
**Edna Moore, Vice Chair**  
**Erica Seemann, Secretary**  
**Charles Gaspard, Treasurer**  
**Mary P. Nass,**  
**Immediate Past President**

**Arnold Baker**  
**Jennifer Benjamin**  
**Martin Drell**  
**Christine Guillory**  
**Ron Loesel**



# School Leadership

**BRANDON HOUSE** has served as the School Leader at Young Audiences Charter School (YACS) at Kate Middleton in Jefferson Parish, Louisiana since 2015. He moved to New Orleans to serve as the Director of Curriculum and Instruction for YACS in 2013 when the school opened. As the School Leader, Mr. House is responsible for the academic, financial and organizational success of the school. This includes recruiting, selecting, training and supporting a 50-staff team members; recruiting and engaging parents and families of more than 700 students and the operational and financial components that accompany leading a school of that size. Specific accomplishments include the development and implementation of a school-wide initiative to integrate technology into lesson plans, initiating a New Student and Parent Orientation Program, and establishing a Families in Need resource program for low income families. At YACS he has partnered with the Director of Arts Integration to create unique and dynamic arts-integrated curriculum and led the school to incredible year over year academic gains.

**BRIONNE JANE STEWART** is a New Orleans native and the current Assistant School Leader for Young Audiences Charter School. Before assuming this role, Ms. Stewart served as the Director of Curriculum and Instruction and taught as a Bilingual Teacher for 1st and 4th grades. Upon graduating from Louisiana State University, she furthered her studies and received a Masters of Education in Education Administration from Texas Woman's University. Passionate about instruction, Ms. Stewart emphasizes the essentiality of curricular choices and thrives to instill in all learners the importance of self-advocacy in education.

**BRANDY ALEXANDER** is the Director of Operations and is responsible for the smooth operation of the school. She has a Master's of Business Administration from Tulane University. She oversees the office staff, coordinates all events, and communications.

**ROSCOE REDDIX JR.** is the Director of Arts Integration. Mr. Reddix Jr. coaches and evaluates teachers and teaching artists to ensure high quality arts integrated curriculum. With over 20 years experience in the field and a leader in the national Young Audiences network, Mr. Reddix has a thorough knowledge of both academic and arts standards.

**MICHAEL DUNN, CPA** serves as Director of Finances. He works with staff and board to develop an annual budget and reviews monthly statements and expenditures. Mr. Dunn has over 15 years experience in accounting and 5 years in charter school accounting.

# YACS TEACHERS

Great teachers produce great students. Nothing has a more profound impact on student achievement at YACS than teacher quality. Our teachers know their students. They take personal responsibility for the achievement of all their students. They know the State Common Core Standards and they know how to deliver the content to help creative learners succeed.

## STAFF 2016-2017

### Position

Trenice Adams  
Mae Alvarado  
Lidia Amaya  
Emily Barocco  
Zaikeia Bernard  
Debra Brabham  
Jane Breaud  
Emily Bruner  
Mathew Bruzzi  
Sarah Bruzzi  
Monica Byrne  
Jahanna Cannon-Brightman  
Toryn Carter  
Mary Beth Chatelin  
Brandon Christensen  
Christa Combs  
Regan Crawford  
Inga Denman  
Charles Dorsey  
Diane Flax  
Monica Fontova  
Rebecca Frank  
Jennifer Fuentes  
Malisa Gilds  
Eddy Guillen  
Misty LeBouef-Gustafson  
Cody Hammock  
Brandon House  
Clarence Jenkins

Nurse  
Teacher  
Spanish  
Teacher  
Custodial  
Teacher  
Interventionist  
Teacher  
Band Director  
Teacher  
Teacher  
Dean of Culture  
Paraprofessional  
Teacher  
Teacher  
Office Administrator  
Teacher  
Speech Therapist  
Custodial  
Custodial  
Teacher  
Teacher  
Interventionist  
Teacher - SPED  
Teacher PE  
Teacher  
Interventionist  
School Leader  
Custodial

Christina Jones  
Renata Johnson  
Clare Kalmeyer  
Robert Lorschach  
Sylvester Major  
Martha Mason  
India McDougale  
Dawn McKendall-Hunter  
Adeline Michel  
Jessica Miller  
Kristin Morrell  
MiWha Morrison  
Claire Paradelas  
Adam Parker  
Candace Parker  
Carly Rogers  
Addie Russell  
Darria Sails  
Marta Salazar  
Christopher Salerno  
Damien Sayles  
Barbara Scott  
Aaron Solomon  
Brionne Stewart  
Keisha Stewart-Sims  
Sharalynn Taylor  
Kristen Vinterella  
Tamar Watson  
Francis Williams  
Leiqing Xia  
Osiris Yanez

Teacher  
Teaching Assistant  
Teaching Assistant  
Teacher  
Teacher  
Instructional Spec.  
Teacher Assistant  
Director Intervention  
Teacher  
Teacher  
Teacher  
Teacher  
Gifted & Talented  
Interventionist  
Teacher - SPED  
Director - SPED  
Social Worker  
Teaching Assistant  
Teacher  
Teacher  
Interventionist  
Data Manager  
Custodial  
Teaching Assistant  
Asst. School Leader  
Teacher  
Teacher  
Paraprofessional  
Teacher  
Facility Manager  
Teacher PE  
Paraprofessional

# TEACHING ARTISTS

At the core of our mission is the integration of arts into the curriculum. A teaching artist is assigned to each grade level team and works with the other teachers to create arts-integrated lessons.

Giselle Nakhid  
Valerie Polmer  
Renee Benson  
Amber Loftis  
Cory Jenkins  
Andrea Peoples  
Cammie West

Kindergarten Music and Movement  
First Grade Visual Arts  
Second Grade Music  
Third Grade Creative Writing  
Fourth Grade Visual Arts  
Fifth Grade Music and Movement  
Sixth Grade Theater and Language