



**Legislatively Directed Spending Request – \$99,500  
Tuition Assistance | 2026–2027 Fiscal Year**

**OUR MISSION:** To provide quality, accessible arts education programs for all Jackson County youth, regardless of their financial means.

**OUR COMMUNITY IMPACT:** 893 students currently enrolled in the 2025–2026 school year

- 29% of students currently receive tuition assistance
- 91% of families reside in Jackson County (additional students served from Lenawee, Hillsdale, Calhoun, and Washtenaw Counties)
- One in every seven children living in the City of Jackson participates in programming at Jackson School of the Arts. Across Jackson County, we serve nearly 3% of all youth.

**TUITION ASSISTANCE GROWTH (School Year Programs Only)**

In 2023–2024, 725 students enrolled:

- \$62,000 in tuition assistance provided
- 23% of students received tuition assistance

In 2024–2025, 870 students enrolled:

- \$77,000 in tuition assistance provided
- 24% of students received assistance

To date in 2025–2026, 893 students enrolled:

- \$85,000 projected in tuition assistance
- 29% of students currently receiving assistance

**HOW TUITION ASSISTANCE APPROVALS ARE DETERMINED**

- Income based using Area Median Income, household size and total household income
- Annual FFIEC census data used to identify low and moderate income households
- Tuition tiers aligned with realistic affordability

## **WHY THIS MATTERS**

- Sustained arts participation is linked to improved academic engagement and higher graduation rates.
- Students develop leadership, public speaking confidence, and workforce readiness skills.
- Caregiver and child programming strengthens early literacy and family engagement.
- This funding ensures cost is not the barrier determining access to structured arts education.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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