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TEXAS MUSIC EDUCATION FACT SHEET

- Nearly one in five American schools fails to offer music or art classes even once a week. (*The National Assessment of Educational Progress*, Department of Education, The Texas Cultural Trust)
- The Americans for the Arts, the nation's leading non-profit organization for advancing the arts in America, conducted a public opinion survey in 2001 and found the following statistics:
 - Approximately 95 percent of parents believe the arts are important in preparing children for their future.
 - More than 90 percent of parents surveyed thought the arts were an important part of a well-rounded education.
 - About 70 percent of parents felt "someone else" was better suited to ask for more arts education.
- According to the Texas Music Educators Association, students of the arts continue to outperform their non-art peers on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT).
- Texas All-State music students consistently score more than 200 points higher on the SAT than the state averages for their peers, indicating a strong correlation between students excelling in music also excelling in all other academic areas

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- Texas' invest in the arts approximately \$0.18 per citizen placing it near the bottom of all 56 U.S. states and territories. The national average is \$1.44 per citizen say the Department of Education, The Texas Cultural Trust.
- A 2003 survey conducted by The Gallup Organization and commissioned by the International Music Products Association found the following statistics.
 - Exactly 80 percent of respondents believe that playing an instrument makes you smarter.
 - More than 95 percent of respondents said music was part of a well-rounded education.
 - Close to 78 percent of respondents said learning a musical instrument helps you do bettering school.
 - About 96 percent of respondents said that school band was a good way to develop teamwork skills.
 - Approximately 93 percent of respondents felt schools should offer musical instruction as part of regular curriculum.
 - Nearly 88 percent said playing an instrument teaches children discipline.
- Students who were exposed to the music-based lessons scored 100 percent higher on fractions tests than in an untraditional manner – by teaching them music rhythm notation. The group was taught about the relationship between eight, quarter, half and whole notes. Their peers received traditional fraction instruction.
- Music students can help kids understand advanced music concepts. A grasp of proportional math and fractions is a prerequisite to math at higher levels and children who do not master these areas cannot understand more advance math critical to high-tech fields. Music involves ratios, fractions, piano keyboard training, as well as time using newly designed math software. The group scored over 27 percent higher on proportional math and fractions tests than children who used only the math software.

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- Young children with developed rhythm skills perform better academically in early school years. Findings of a recent study showed that there was a significant difference in the academic achievement levels of students classified according to rhythmic competency. Students who were scored lower on the rhythmic test achieved below academic expectation.
- According to Americans for the Arts, young people who participate in the arts for at least three hours, three days a week for at least one year are:
 - Four times more likely to be recognized for academic achievement
 - Three times more likely to be elected to class office within their schools
 - Four times more likely to participate in math and science fairs
 - Three times more likely to win an award for school attendance
 - Four times more likely to win an award for writing an essay or poem

Texas Music Project is a statewide initiative founded by the Social Marketing Resource Center with a mission of restoring and strengthening music education in Texas schools. TMP grants will be distributed to schools by the Texas Commission on the Arts, and awarded based on need. Applications for grants can be submitted on line at www.texasmusicproject.org or www.arts.state.tx.us at any time. It is the intention of the Texas Music Project that grants be used to support the implementation of full time, rigorous music education curricula. For more information on Texas Music Project, visit www.texasmusicproject.org.

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