



Washington Office of Superintendent of **PUBLIC INSTRUCTION**

Centrum Program/Fort Worden

1. **Purpose:**

The purpose of the contract with Centrum (an organization co-founded by OSPI in 1974) is to develop, implement, and administer the statewide *Young Artists Project* program. Centrum programs serve students in 77% of the counties in Washington. This program provides opportunities in the arts and sciences for students in grades 5–12, and for educators who serve these students.

2. **Description of services provided:**

Centrum shall develop, implement, and administer the *Young Artists Project* program to provide opportunities in creativity for highly capable Washington students, and for educators who serve those students. Centrum curates and administers weeklong residential arts immersion experiences for students from throughout Washington State. Students and their teachers are provided with opportunities to learn from professional artists, room and board is included.

3. **Criteria for receiving services and/or grants:**

Develop and provide a series of intensive programs for 5–12 grade students, focusing on developing creative skills. Specific programs are as follows:

1. One (1) genre specific workshop for high school students, four (4) to six (6) days in length.
2. One (1) residential workshop for elementary school students in grades five (5) and six (6) and their teachers, integrating marine science, the arts, and creative problem solving. Workshop shall be five (5) days in length.
3. One (1) residential workshop for middle school students in grades seven (7) and eight (8) and their teachers, integrating writing, visual arts, theater, and dance/movement. Workshop shall be five (5) days in length.

Beneficiaries in the 2022-23 School Year:

Number of School Districts:	24
Number of Schools:	29
Number of Students:	138
Number of Educators:	11
Other: Adult Family members (chaperones)	10



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4. Are federal or other funds contingent on state funding?

☒ No

5. State funding history:

Fiscal Year	Amount Funded	Actual Expenditures
2023	\$85,000	\$85,000
2022	\$85,000	\$85,000
2021	\$85,000	\$85,000
2020	\$85,000	\$85,000
2019	\$85,000	\$85,000

6. Number of beneficiaries (e.g., school districts, schools, students, educators, other) history:

Fiscal Year	Number of Schools
2023	29
2022	16
2021	19
2020	49
2019	57

7. Programmatic changes since inception (if any):

None. The focus of the program to provide arts education opportunities has not changed for the past 36 years. Centrum is refocusing faculty preparation and student outreach to better serve the needs of Highly Capable students.

8. Program evaluation or evaluation of major findings:

The program is fiscally reviewed monthly and through a final review annually. Due to this proviso funding, these programs are able to be offered at an affordable rate to all participants.

9. Major challenges faced by the program:

Major challenges include continuation of the program and funding. The FY 2012–13 allocation was reduced to \$85,000 due to the state's budget shortfall and continued at this rate through FY 2025. The current challenge of public access youth programs for Centrum is returning to pre-Covid enrollment numbers. Student participation numbers have increased in 2022 and 2023 and will likely do so again in 2024.



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10. **Future opportunities:**

Centrum is strengthening the program's focus on addressing the particular needs of highly capable students by engaging staff and teaching artists in professional development, working with OSPI's staff in this area, and reshaping its marketing to schools and districts. Through staff in-service trainings, outreach to Highly Capable teachers and renewed chaperone recruitment, Centrum strives to better serve the needs of this distinct population.

11. **Statutory and/or budget language:**

\$85,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2022 and \$85,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2023 are provided solely for the centrum program at Fort Worden state park.

12. **Other relevant information:**

Centrum provides services to additional OSPI programs:

- WA students living in foster care participate in an immersive week of arts education.
- Migrant Education Program's *Voices from the Field* is a 5-day arts residency program for middle school youth.
- Superintendent's High School Art Show award winners (2023) will be on exhibit at Centrum/Fort Worden State Park in January – February 2024.
- Centrum will provide organizational support through a student award for the 2024 Superintendent's High School Art Show.
- Partnerships with two nearby middle schools enabling all 7th graders in Port Townsend and Chimacum to have access to weeklong arts academies through their home schools.

OSPI is currently in conversation with Centrum about their participation in the 2024 Art of Belonging Conference (Art and Migrant Education programs).

13. **Schools/districts receiving assistance:**

[preliminaryfy23state-fundedprovisograntawardsupdated-42823.xlsx \(live.com\)](#)

14. **Program Contact Information:**

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