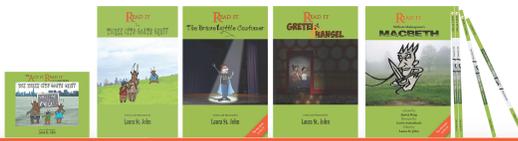




Play In A Book

An innovative approach to improved literacy



A division of
LMS Innovations, Inc.
2734 W. Leland Ave.
Chicago, IL 60625
(773) 329-0920
(773) 334-0824 fax
www.playinabook.com

Laura St. John
President

laura@playinabook.com

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Press Release

Play In A Book Awarded Two Creative School Fund Arts Advance Grants

CHICAGO—Play In A Book has been awarded two Arts Advance Grants from the **Creative Schools Fund** administered by CPS’ [Dept. of Arts Education](#) working in collaboration with [Ingenuity, Inc.](#) Grant proposals from **Luther Burbank Elementary School** and the **Marquette School of Excellence** were accepted which will enable Play In A Book to reach 240 students within the Spring 2016 semester.

This is Play In A Book’s second consecutive year to receive Arts Advance funding, and this will enable the

integrating the arts into their curriculum. The grants are supported and administered by a strategic partnership between the Department of Arts Education and Ingenuity, Inc., which serves as a hub to collect data and aggregate funding to improve arts in education district wide. By partnering with select arts organizations, schools can gain needed resources so more students may be reached with integrated arts instruction. According to the Dept. of Arts Education, 95% of district schools have at least one Arts Partner and 82% of schools utilize arts integration every day.



Chicago based publisher to return to Burbank Elementary which was a recipient of Arts Advance funding last year that allowed Play In A Book to work with their 3rd and 4th grade. At Marquette School of Excellence, PIAB will pilot a program that could allow its materials to reach up to 600 students.

“We are proud to be partnering with these schools,” said Laura St. John, PIAB’s owner. “These schools have been exceptional to work with in writing the grant. I especially want to thank Lillian Maldonado, the Arts Liaison at Burbank, for working to get us back to their school, and for Melissa Hooker and Billy Cooper at Marquette, who were excited about trying something new at their school.”

This is the third year for the Creative Schools Fund which distributes grants raised from a number of sources to schools who embrace the mission of

Last year Play In A Book was awarded grants to do programming at Burbank Elementary and McPherson Elementary, and succeeded in winning additional funding to perform an “Author’s Apprentice” summer program at Burbank.

2015-2016 grants totaling \$1.5 million were awarded across six disciplines including dance, media, music, theater, visual arts, and multi-media.

Play In A Book was one of approximately seventy organizations whose proposals received funding. Overall, there are over 900 arts organizations that provide services to the district.



[Play In A Book](#) is an Arts Partner that works to assist each school they work with in receiving its best possible Creative Schools certification.

CONTACT: Marlon St. John, info@playiinabook.com
(312) 613-2345 cell

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