

Ms. Ana Rivas Logan, Board Member

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 08-96 OF
THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING THE CREATIVE CHILDREN THERAPY MUSIC
AND ART FOR AUTISM IN THE SCHOOLS PROGRAM FOR
ITS CONTRIBUTIONS TO MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC
SCHOOLS STUDENTS**

**COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT**

**LINK TO DISTRICT
STRATEGIC PLAN: INCREASE STUDENT EXPOSURE AND UNDERSTANDING OF
GLOBAL ISSUES AND ECONOMY**

Creative Children Therapy (CCT) is a non-profit organization with the goal of enhancing the quality of life of children with special needs and their families. The organization offers programs that assist children in exploring and developing a variety of interests and enhancing their unique skills and passions.

The purpose of CCT's Music and Art for Autism in the Schools program is to provide an opportunity for children with autism spectrum disorders to participate, express, and craft their own creations through art and music with their peers. Through CCT, children with autism are provided a meaningful experience in the arts and opportunities for inclusion with typically functioning peers. The program also seeks to incorporate the children's creative work into a gallery night exhibition and performance, provide workshops for teachers that offer strategies on how to adapt activities for children with autism, promote positive self-image and increase self-esteem.

The Music and Art for Autism in the Schools pilot program took place April 16 - May 30, 2008, at the Oliver Hoover Elementary School Primary Learning Center. The pilot program, which consisted of three pre-kindergarten classes where art and music programs were conducted once a week, has shown outstanding results. Ms. Maria Regina Orfila and the staff at Creative Children Therapy are to be commended for their commitment and dedication to the children and families of Miami-Dade County.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
MS. ANA RIVAS LOGAN:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 08-96 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing the Creative Children Therapy Music and Art for Autism in the Schools program for its contributions to Miami-Dade County Public Schools students.

H-1

**RESOLUTION NO. 08-96
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING
THE CREATIVE CHILDREN THERAPY MUSIC AND ART FOR AUTISM IN THE
SCHOOLS PROGRAM FOR ITS CONTRIBUTIONS TO MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS STUDENTS**

WHEREAS, Creative Children Therapy is a non-profit organization with the goal of enhancing the quality of life of children with special needs and their families; and

WHEREAS, Creative Children Therapy offers programs that assist children in exploring and developing a variety of interests and enhancing their unique skills and passions; and

WHEREAS, the Music and Art for Autism in the Schools program provided an opportunity for children with autism spectrum disorders to participate, express, and craft their own creations through art and music with their peers; and

WHEREAS, the Music and Art for Autism in the Schools pilot program took place April 16 - May 30, 2008, at the Oliver Hoover Elementary School Primary Learning Center; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Maria Regina Orfila and the staff at Creative Children Therapy are to be commended for their commitment and dedication to the children and families of Miami-Dade County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 08-96 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing the Creative Children Therapy Music and Art for Autism in the Schools program for its contributions to Miami-Dade County Public Schools students.

A copy of this resolution is placed in the permanent records of this Board.

Presented this eighteenth day of November, A.D. 2008

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary