



MULTNOMAH COUNTY AGENDA PLACEMENT REQUEST (short form)

Board Clerk Use Only

Meeting Date: 9/17/13
Agenda Item #: B.1
Est. Start Time: 10:05 AM
Date Submitted: 9/12/13

Agenda Title:	Right Brain Initiative Briefing
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Note: If Ordinance, Resolution, Order or Proclamation, provide exact title. For all other submissions, provide a clearly written title.

Requested Meeting Date:	<u>September 17, 2013</u>	Amount of Time Needed:	<u>45 minutes</u>
Department:	<u>Non Departmental</u>	Division:	<u>Shiprack</u>
Contact(s):	<u>Matthew Lashua</u>		
Phone:	<u>503-988-4105</u>	Ext.	<u>x 84105</u>
		I/O Address:	<u>503/6</u>
Presenter(s):	<u>Eloise Damrosch, Regional Arts and Culture Council; Seth Truby, Bravo Youth Orchestra; Andres Lopera and Diana Scoggins, Metropolitan Youth Symphony</u>		

General Information

1. What action are you requesting from the Board?

Information Briefing – No Action

2. Please provide sufficient background information for the Board and the public to understand this issue. Please note which Program Offer this action affects and how it impacts the results.

Commissioner Shiprack serves on the Governing Committee of the Right Brain Initiative and will update the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners.

Launched in 2008, The Right Brain Initiative promotes whole brain learning. The vision is to give every K-8 student in the region access to the arts regardless of neighborhood, language, or income. Through an effort engaging the entire community, the Right Brain Initiative is creating long-term, lasting change within our school systems.

The program doesn't replace existing arts education. Instead, the arts are woven into core curriculum, giving teachers new tools to engage students in a creative process that connects back to

other subjects. To date, over 11,000 students and 44 Portland area schools in six school districts are participating.

The goals of the approach are:

- *Equity and excellence:* All students will have access to quality experiences in multiple art forms.
- *Collaboration and capacity building:* Teachers, artists, arts specialists and other members of the school community will work together as partners to integrate the arts and other core curriculum areas.
- *Sustained opportunities to learn arts processes:* Students create and perform/exhibit works of art and reflect upon works of art created by themselves and others.
- *Expanded written and oral expression:* Arts education offered through Right Brain will support the development of students' expanded reading, writing and oral expression skills across the curriculum as well as 21st century skills of creativity, communication, collaboration and critical thinking.

3. Explain the fiscal impact (current year and ongoing).

Donors are from both private (business, foundations, individuals) and public entities (Multnomah County, City of Portland, other county governments and partnering school districts) .

As a public-private venture, 48% of our funding comes from public sources, including an investment by school districts of \$15 per child for each participating school to cover artists' services. The remaining 52% comes from private foundations, corporations and individuals. These figures reflect funding for the 2011-12 school year.

4. Explain any legal and/or policy issues involved.

N/A

5. Explain any citizen and/or other government participation that has or will take place.

N/A

Required Signatures

Elected Official or
Department/
Agency Director:

Commissioner Judy Shiprack /s/

Date: 9/12/13