

# PERFORMING ARTS IN CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Notre Dame High School, Fairfield



**Grant Amount=\$4,800**  
**Project Cost=\$10,700**

## PROJECT UPDATE



**475 Students Impacted**  
**Grade 9-12**

**PURPOSE:** To expose students to the Arts, which inherently appeals to youth and is a quick way to reach them and help them to connect to their faith. The grant allowed Notre Dame High School to update the school sound system used for pep rallies and offset the cost of a Broadway experience for students. For many, this was the first time taking a train, first time in New York City, first Broadway show, first workshop with a Broadway cast member and first time staying out past midnight!

**IMPACT:** Students attended two Broadway shows, *Lion King* and *Aladdin*, had the opportunity to meet-and-greet cast members and attend behind-the-scene workshops. Twenty-two Dance and Drama students went to see *The Lion King*, met cast members Pia Hamilton, Lisa Lewis (former Radio City Rockette), and Natalie Turner Millan. They learned original Broadway choreography from cast member Pia Hamilton. A group of twenty-seven Dance and Drama students went to see *Aladdin*. They took a workshop with Dance Captain Mike Cannon and Aladdin himself, Telly Leung. Both field trips consisted of students from Grades 9-12 that inspired them in a way that could not otherwise be achieved during the school day.

Purchasing a state-of-the-art sound system allowed dance students the confidence and pride to perform before the entire school body and truly express themselves. Our speaker system is also borrowed by other school organizations, thus benefitting other communities in addition to our Dance Department.

**FUTURE PLANS:** Notre Dame High School proudly offers Arts in Catholic Education and will continue to do so as student enthusiasm in the Dance program is peaking.



**FOUNDATIONS IN EDUCATION**  
TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH EDUCATION

For more information on this 2018-2019 grant project or to find out how to support Innovation and Leadership projects in the Diocese of Bridgeport Catholic Schools, contact Theresa Sciallo at (203) 416-1509 or [tsciallo@foundationsineducation.org](mailto:tsciallo@foundationsineducation.org).