

THE TRANSFORMATION OF A SCHOOL  
TO ENTER THE MUSEUM PERSPECTIVE:  
THE CASE OF THE MUSEUM MAGNET SCHOOL

Museum Magnet School in New York City

Presented by Hope Salas

Museum Magnet Specialist

# UNITED STATE OF AMERICA: 2 AMERICAS

## AMERICA # 1

The American Dream

America in the Suburbs

“TV America”

Homogenous America

English Speaking

Limited Poverty

Abundant Resources

Limitless Opportunity

## AMERICA # 2

The American Struggle

Urban & Rural America

“Reality Show America”

Multi-cultural America

Multi-lingual, Multi-religious

High Poverty

Limited Resources

Limited Opportunities

# EDUCATION IN AMERICA

## AMERICA #1

## AMERICA # 2

Comprehensive / Fully Funded Education:

Limited /Minimal Funded Education

School Trips/Outside Experiences: HIGH

School Trips/Outside Experiences: LOW

Children College & Career Ready

Many children in poverty below grade level  
80% of school children in NYC qualify for  
school lunch

Multiple Teachers & Instructional  
Assistants in Classrooms: Expected &  
HIGH

Multiple Teachers & Instructional Assistants  
in Classrooms: Expected, but LOW

# EDUCATION IN AMERICA

## AMERICA # 1

Remedial and Advanced Classes and Courses: Expected & HIGH

High Levels of Parent Participation: HIGH (overall)

Higher Socio-Economic

Limited Language Barriers (English official language)

Prof. Development for Teachers: HIGH

Homogeny

## AMERICA # 2

Remedial and Advanced Classes & Courses: Rare/LOW

Low Levels of Parent Participation: LOW (overall)

High Poverty Rates

Language Barriers (more than 800 languages spoken by NYC p.s. children)

Prof. Development for Teachers: LOW

Segregation



# ISSUES BEHIND LOW PARENT PARTICIPATION: LITERAL IMPEDIMENTS

- Language Barriers
- Financially Struggling Families
  - Low Paying Jobs
  - Families working MULTIPLE jobs (jobs vs. career)
- Cultural Differences
- Single Parent Homes
- Expectation that Schools Fill the Gap for Lack of Parental Participation

# CHALLENGES FACING AMERICAN PUBLIC EDUCATION: SOCIETAL IMPLICATIONS

## **The Fundamental Challenge Facing American Public Education**

Many children in urban and rural pockets in the U.S. are NOT receiving the kind of educational, academic and cultural experiences expected by America's competitive colleges and universities. In turn, a specific group of student are being shut out from the kinds of educational and career opportunities that would allow them to compete in the global economy, thereby creating a permanent underclass which will ultimately destroy our economy and society.

THIS IS A CHALLENGE FOR AMERICAN SOCIETY AT  
LARGE

# POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

Reducing Language Barriers

How?

Reducing the Effects of Poverty

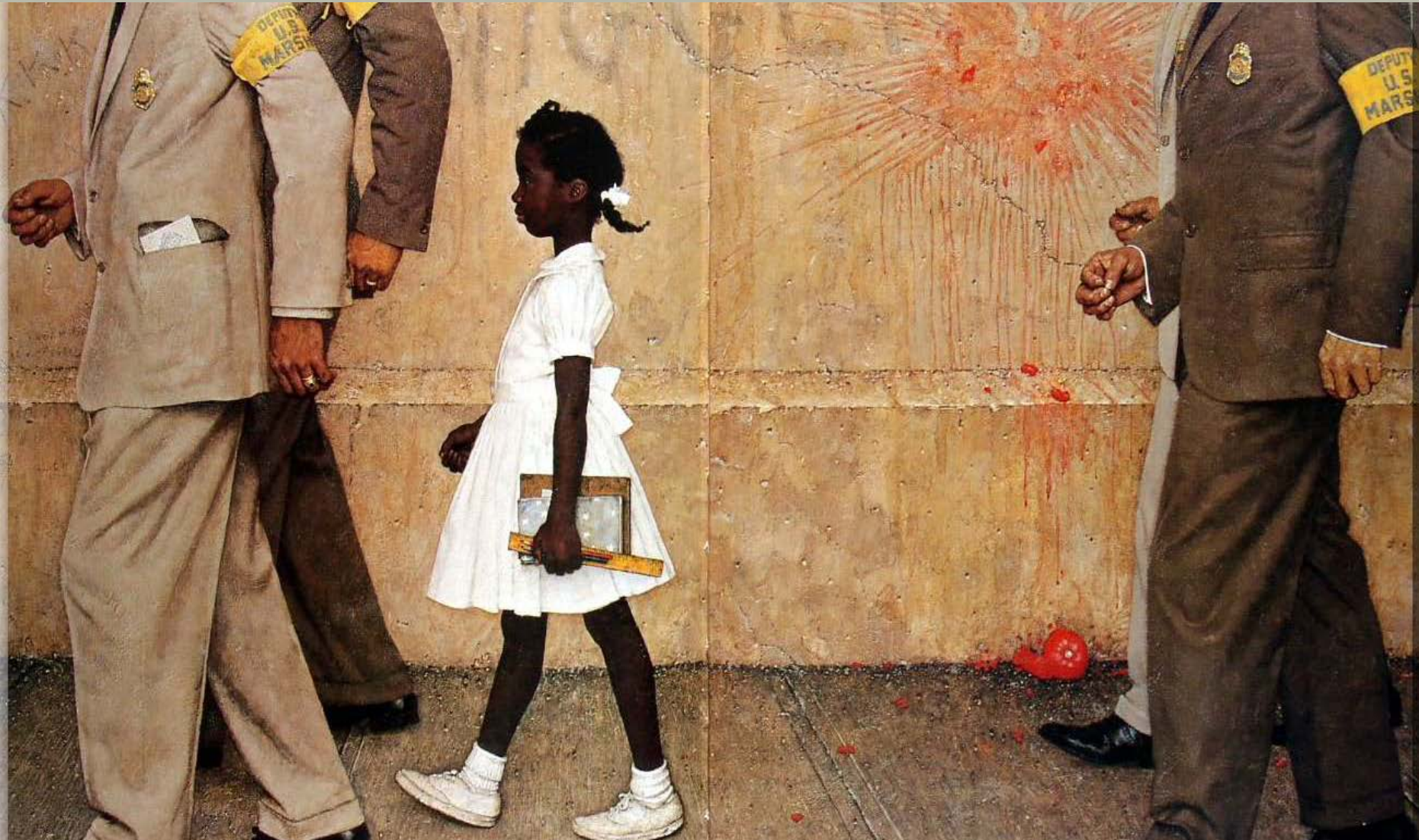
How?

Reducing Segregation

How?



# THE MAGNET SCHOOL MODEL: A BIT OF HISTORY





# MUSEUM MAGNET SCHOOL, NYC FEDERAL GRANT RECIPIENT

1.3 million dollar federal grant

3 year funding period



# SPEAKING THE MAGNET LANGUAGE: THE 5 PILLARS

Systemic Reform

Museum-Themed  
Interdisciplinary Education

Collaboration

Family Programs

Student Recruitment



# MAGNET SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

Chess in Schools (Grades Pre-K – 5)

Cool Culture (Pre-K &K)

Lincoln Center Education: Capacities for Imaginative Learning  
(Pre-K – 8)

New York Historical Society (Pre-K – 8)

Studio in a School (Pre-K – 8)

New York Cares (Pre-K – 8)

The Seaport Group (Pre-K – 8)

New Victory Theater (Pre-K – 8)



# TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR TEACHERS & ADMINISTRATORS

*How do we make the most with the limited amount of time we have together with teachers and administrators?*

Administrative Mapping

Curriculum Mapping

Summer Institutes

Partnership Institutes/Meetings

Year-long Professional Development Workshops

# STRATEGIES TO ATTRACT FAMILIES TO OUR SCHOOL WITH HIGHER SOCIO ECONOMIC STATUS

*Yes.....this is **the** challenge, isn't it?!*

Telling the Truth

Evidence of efforts

Student work

Purpose

Determination

Consistency

OUTCOMES

RECRUITMENT

PROGRAMMING

QUALITY OF INSTRUCTION



# SUCCESSSES & CHALLENGES

## SUCCESSSES

## CHALLENGES

Programming generates trust and buy-in from parents; expands parental involvement	Sustainability – no Magnet Specialists New administration / new staff
Significant Early Childhood & Elementary participation	Grant writers/\$
Provides parents with teaching skills and tools to make museum visits educational & fun	Continuing building and maintaining relationships with museum educators and administrators
Creating life-long museum-goers	Developing new parental leadership as students of strongest supporters matriculate out of the school
Partners offering additional services for students and families	Expanding Middle School family involvement

# CONTACT INFORMATION

Email: [HopeSalas@gmail.com](mailto:HopeSalas@gmail.com)

Phone: 646-417-1023

Facebook: Hope Salas

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/HopeSalas>

Si vienen a Nueva York, estaria encantada de hospedarles  
en mi casa.

Mi casa es su casa!

Gracias por su atencion y por recibirme.



# LET'S TALK: Q & A

