



Center for Art, Design, and
Community Engagement

OUR IMPACT

Dr. James Meier from Arete Consulting was hired to update the findings from our first impact study conducted in 2014–2015. Again the analysis encompassed our three core programs, the post-Center K–12 experience of participants who had graduated high school in prior years, and the experience of faculty, undergraduate, and graduate Pratt students who serve as the instructors, student-teachers, and assistants or fellows to the children enrolled in the Center K–12’s programs.

Analysis of the data from our 2016–2017 surveys present an encouragingly positive picture of the programs’ impacts.

- The programs helped to increase children’s knowledge of or appreciation for art and design.
- Over the past 5 1/2 years, 39 percent of the Center K–12 children were returnees, a compelling sign of the value of the Center’s K–12 programs.
- Our programs reach the cross-section of children we seek. The diverse makeup of enrollees includes students who are more casually involved in art and design as well as more serious and avid art students.
- The Pratt Young Scholars program has had a significant impact on the attitudes, concerns, and knowledge about college: the average number of campus visits increased by 65 percent; nearly all respondents undertook a set of pro-active steps toward applying for college (e.g., research about standardized test taking, applications, submitting financial aid applications, and more) and the nature of student concerns about college shifted, seeming to reflect decreased emotional fears and increased awareness about financial considerations.
- The Center’s mission of promoting community engagement and service is demonstrably reflected in the motivations of participating Pratt undergraduate and graduate students.
- Pratt students felt the program enriched both the children’s lives and their own. They reported a strong connection between their involvement in this program and a continued desire to engage in their communities through teaching, education, and related activities. The growth of the Center K–12’s programs, numbers of participants served, high percentage of returning students, and feedback from local teachers, community partners, and parents speak to the soundness of our efforts.