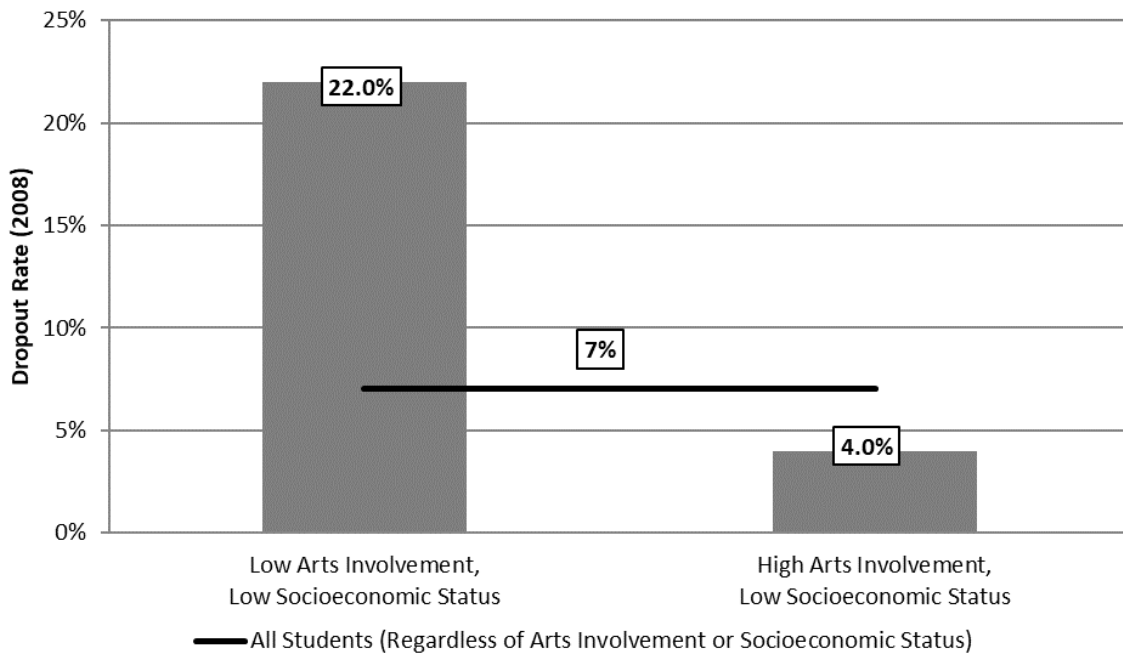




Arts Facts . . . Improved Academic Performance

Students who participate in the arts, both in school and after school, demonstrate improved academic performance and lower dropout rates.

High School Dropout Rate: Students From Low-Income Backgrounds With High Levels of Arts Involvement are More Likely to Graduate



- Longitudinal data of 25,000 students demonstrate that involvement in the arts is linked to higher academic performance, increased standardized test scores, more community service, and lower dropout rates (see chart above). These cognitive and developmental benefits are reaped by students regardless of their socioeconomic status.
- The report, *Critical Links*, contains 62 academic research studies that, taken together, demonstrate that arts education helps close the achievement gap, improves academic skills essential for reading and language development, and advances students' motivation to learn.
- Research conducted between 1987 and 1998 on young people working in the arts for at least three hours on three days of each week throughout at least one full year, demonstrated the following:
 - ✓ 4 times more likely to have been recognized for academic achievement.
 - ✓ Being elected to class office within their schools more than 3 times as often.
 - ✓ 4 times more likely to participate in a math and science fair.
 - ✓ 3 times more likely to win an award for school attendance.
 - ✓ 4 times more likely to win an award for writing an essay or poem.

Sources: NEA Office of Research & Analysis (Catterall 2012); Arts Education Partnership (Deasy, 2002); Americans for the Arts (Heath 1998).