

CAST PROGRAM GOALS

CAST provides a range of arts and humanities activities that give student apprentices a chance to discover their own talents, to stretch their imaginations, and to work responsibly together. The CAST program includes full scale theatrical productions, a speech team, a debate team, performing arts related after school activities, a communications curriculum, a resource for faculty and other educational opportunities.

Under the guidance of professional artists - CAST serve as a kind of laboratory for the arts. Apprentices are not passive recipients of information. They learn by doing. Apprentices make their own decisions. And, with the assistance of professional mentors, they learn all that they need to do excellent work.

The CAST goals, which are described below, reflect the objectives of the Oak Park Elementary School District and the creative mission of CAST.

- To develop strong responsible and caring individuals, thus counteracting such problems as juvenile delinquency and drug abuse.
- To help each individual discover his or her creative talents and to explore productive means of expressing themselves.
- To enable all apprentices to appreciate the arts and humanities and the merits of cultural diversity.
- To teach respect for ethical behavior, cooperation and hard work through real, not hypothetical situations.
- To stimulate communication between children and parents and guardians.
- To provide skills in critical thinking, problem solving, group interaction and decision making.