# SAMPLE:

## Abstract 1

“Perhaps certain students, those lacking academic interests or strengths in specific subjects, experience success in the art form linked to the academic subject, they may then believe they can succeed in the academic subject, or if they experience success in the subject when it is viewed through an artistic lens, their willingness to stay with the subject may increase. Increased confidence should lead to increased motivation and effort, which in turn should result in higher achievement.” Project ZERO: Arts Survive Research supported by John S and James L Knight Foundation.

The POETRY (**P**roviding **O**pportunities for **E**xpression through **T**echnology **R**esources for **Y**outh) Express project seeks to support the Arts in Education Model Development and Dissemination Grant program by creating a quasi-research model for evaluating an integrated literacy and arts project. This model has successfully increased student’s oral and written skills and deepened their appreciation of the arts in twelve District Ten schools. The replication of the model will place professional artists in to team with twelve classroom literacy teachers in four Region 1 schools that have never participated in the District Ten program, over the next 3 years; 2 elementary schools, and 2 middle schools. A directed research study of the POETRY Express will provide the experimental data needed to validate demonstrated positive outcomes for student achievement through integrating literacy and the performing arts. Additionally, the project will equip the school with videoconferencing technology and appropriate telecommunications services. This will enable students to engage in videoconference workshop sessions and academic competitions based on traditional poetry “slams” with other similarly equipped schools. This use of state of the art innovative technology will enable students and teachers across wide spread geographic locations to collaborate and share best practices without wasting valuable instructional time.

The successful model created in District Ten called Bronx WRITeS (Writers and Readers Integrating Technology in Schools) is a dramatized poetry writing and performance project that culminates with a District –wide academic competition, traditionally known as a Poetry Slam, twice per year via videoconferencing. This project presently involves twelve District schools: eight middle schools and four elementary schools. The project combines the art of performance; original poetry writing and the use of video conferencing technology to promote standards based literacy, communication, and the use of technology. The success of this project lies in its ability to engage students in performing and writing original poetry works and receiving immediate feedback from authentic audiences across the District. The 20 teachers and over 300 students who have been participants in Bronx WRITeS will serve as mentors for the four schools new to this project. The project has been collaboration with District Ten’s Arts and Technology departments and artists from the arts organization, Dream Yard.

The goals of The POETRY Express are designed to meet the needs of teachers, students and the Region 1 community, all of which are necessary ingredients to academic success.

* Students will increase their oral and written communication skills and will deepen their appreciation for the arts.
* Teachers will become more proficient at leading literacy instruction and integrating the performing arts with the core curriculum.

# SAMPLE:

## Abstract 2

Community School Districts 9 and 10 (Region One) of the New York City Department of Education are located in the northwestern section of the Bronx. One of the largest of the ten regions within the New York City Department of Education, it currently serves 128 schools with 100,000 students and will be opening fourteen new schools in September 2005. As of January 2005, 68% of District 9 and 10 students are Hispanic, 21% Black, 5% Asian American and 6% White. Forty-two percent or 41,795 of District 9 and 10’s students are English language learners of which 18,605 are in General Education, 2,290 are in self- contained Bilingual Special Education, 9,100 are in Transitional Bilingual/ Dual Language Programs, and 11,800 receive ESL services. In addition, 11,519 of our students receive special education services and 87.8% qualify for free and reduced-lunch.

Community District 9 (District 9), the LEA of this grant application, meets the absolute priority for this grant since it has incorporated a plan for serving its elementary schools that need additional support in literacy interventions. The following five District 9 and 10 schools: PS 2, PS 33, PS 63, PS/MS 4, and MS 166 combined have over 4,663 students, and their libraries are in most need of materials, resources, technological equipment and extended library hours to provide instructional opportunities for students, parents, and educators. Recognizing that student literacy is tied to access to educational materials and resources, District 9 in collaboration with District 10, seeks to establish a Literacy Through Multimedia Content Area Studies Program as a cornerstone of its libraries’ media centers. Key features of this program will include combining rigorous social studies and language arts curriculum, partnering with resources and literary materials, strengthening technology links, and providing ongoing professional development and educational support for parents and the community-at-large.