Hello ChiArts Families,

We are pleased to announce that ChiArts has reached a tentative agreement with the Chicago Teachers Union (CTU), the union that represents our 42 academic teachers, on a fair multiyear contract that supports both the educational quality and the financial sustainability of our unique, performing arts-focused contract school. **As a result, the ChiArts academic teachers will NOT go out on strike on Thursday, May 2 as previously discussed. All academic and arts classes and activities will be held as previously scheduled.**

The ChiArts Board has made significant compromises to address the CTU’s salary demands and other important concerns. While this will require us to dip into our savings and use deficit spending to fund salary increases—something that is not sustainable over the long-term, we believe it is the right solution for the next five years in order to keep our students and teachers in the classroom and prevent the disruption a strike would have caused our school community.

We appreciate your support of our ChiArts and students and look forward to the many exciting end-of-school year events and activities planned that can now proceed as scheduled.

Thank you,

**José Ochoa**  
Executive and Artistic Director  
The Chicago High School for the Arts