It's a long way from the Apollo Theatre to the Apollo program. No person has ever embodied and revolutionized jazz the way Louis Armstrong did. Not bad for a kid whose first experience with the trumpet was as a guest in a New Orleans correction home for wayward boys. Alas, today the arts are dismissed as extravagant in most schools, despite the fact that most parents agree on the importance of arts education. If you feel your kids aren't getting enough, make some noise. Like the great Satchmo, all you need is a little brass.

For more information about the importance of arts education, contact www.AmericansForTheArts.org.