

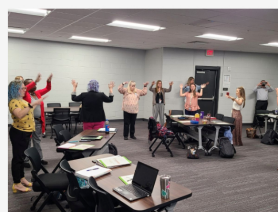
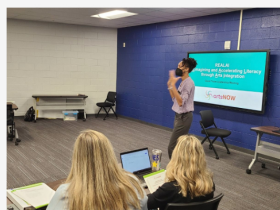


Newsletter | April 2022

Read how we have brought learning to life this month!

ArtsNOW REALAI Grant Kick-offs in Florence School District 3 (SC), Clayton County (GA), and Colleton County (SC)

The ArtsNOW grant team traveled to South Carolina and Georgia to meet with our grant partners for REALAI. Reimagining and Accelerating Literacy through Arts Integration (REALAI) is one of ArtsNOW's newly awarded USDOE federal grants. The Innovative Approaches to Literacy (IAL) grant was reviewed with teacher leaders, school and district leadership, media specialists, and literacy coaches from the six (6) grant schools. East Clayton Elementary, Cottageville Elementary, Forest Hills Elementary, Northside Elementary, JC Lynch Elementary, and Lake City Early Childhood Center met with ArtsNOW grant team members Crystal Collins, Jim Heater, and Andrea Washington. We reviewed expected outcomes, goals, and objectives of the grant; outlined ordering of supplies; reviewed resources and book options for the media centers; and scheduled dates for professional learning and student demonstration lessons for the first two years of the grant. ArtsNOW and the students, teachers, and communities of these three (3) districts are so fortunate to have received this funding. ArtsNOW looks forward to this partnership and the successes this grant will provide!



ArtsNOW's SAIL Grant Meetings in Cobb County (GA)

Stem + the Art of Integrated Learning (SAIL) is off to a great start!

ArtsNOW was awarded this Arts in Education grant from the USDOE in October 2021. The SAIL grant serves math and science teachers in grades 3-5 and focuses on improving students' STEM achievement while building teachers' capacity to deliver arts integrated instruction. There is also a focus on increasing the capacity of fine arts educators to support students' social emotional learning. All six (6) project schools selected teacher leaders and fine arts educators who will help lead the way as we begin this exciting project. ArtsNOW's grant leadership team, Whitney Snuggs and Shawn Williams, scheduled meetings in each district to prepare teacher leaders for their key role in the grant. SAIL teacher leaders at Dowell Elementary and Mableton Elementary, in Cobb County, were all smiles as they learned about the journey in which they are embarking. The remaining meetings will take place in May, so look for that update soon!





Theatre Integration Continues at Beaufort Middle School

Thanks to the initial introduction through ABC (Arts in Basic Curriculum) in South Carolina, Beaufort Middle School contracted ArtsNOW to return for additional professional learning. Susie Spear Purcell, ArtsNOW Theatre Consultant, provided professional learning focused on arts integration to middle school social studies and language arts teachers. Teachers were actively involved in hands-on theatre integration strategies that aligned to state standards; teachers received a general overview of theatre integration including vocabulary and implementation ideas; and using the knowledge gained, teachers collaborated with Susie to plan future lessons for use in their classrooms. The team used tableau to tell stories, and utilized character grounding strategies to make connections with South Carolina history during the Great Depression. Shawn Williams, ArtsNOW Regional Director, accompanied Susie in order to add value to the planning process and to offer insight for schoolwide transformation.



ArtsNOW and Georgia Tech CEISM C STEAM Saturdays in Savannah, GA

ArtsNOW and Georgia Tech's Center for Education Integrating Science, Mathematics, and Computing (CESIMC) collaborated for STEAM Saturday at the Savannah campus. Forty five (45) students in 3rd through 8th grades designed and created a wearable piece of clothing. Students rotated through sessions of coding, theatre, and visual arts incorporating STEAM practices. During the visual arts session, they used indigo dye to tie dye a t-shirt and observed the chemical and physical changes associated with the process. The theatre session was based on the book, [Blue: A History of the Color as Deep as the Sea and as Wide as the Sky](#), by Nana Ekua Brew-Hammond; a simple picture-book format that provided many opportunities to explore pantomime and the history of the indigo industry on the Southeast Coast of the United States. In the coding session, students used LED lights to code and create a wearable watch. The ArtsNOW consultants for this session were Shannon Green and Barry Stewart-Mann. ArtsNOW and CEISM C look forward to this continued partnership, collaborating for summer programming at the Georgia Tech Savannah Campus for week long sessions in June and July 2022.





Residencies at Goshen Elementary School in Hephzibah, GA

Second through fifth grade students at Goshen Elementary School were welcomed back from Spring Break with a two-day music residency, thanks to the generosity of the Chestnut Family Foundation. ArtsNOW consultant, Peggy Benkeser, integrated music and science for second and third grade students. Day one, students were introduced to properties of stars and how they form various constellations. Students then listened to music choreographed to stars exploding (supernovas). Students selected a specific type of star and the instrument they would use to create a sound for that star. Day two, students began composing a piece of music to represent their star. Once each individual had his or her piece of music, the class then put the sounds together to create original compositions for their constellations.

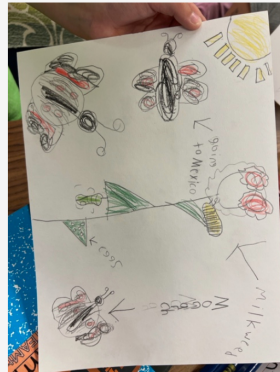
ArtsNOW consultant, Dave Holland, provided a two-day residency for fourth and fifth grade students and staff who were actively engaged in hands-on learning about percussion instruments. Day one, students learned about the resources required to make percussion instruments, pitch, frequency, and the energy required to produce music. Everyone learned how percussionist strike, shake, or scrape instruments to produce sound. Students also learned how many cultures used percussion instruments to communicate and their importance to storytelling. The second day, students used techniques learned previously and used drum circles to create their own music. Students and staff truly enjoyed these music experiences at Goshen!





Visual Arts Residency at Tritt Elementary in Cobb County, GA

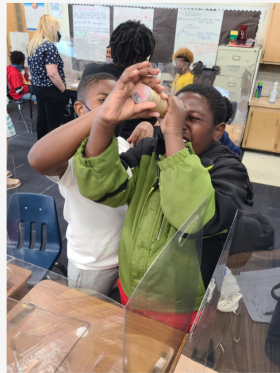
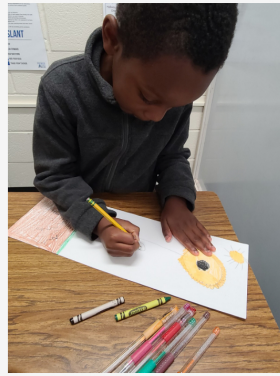
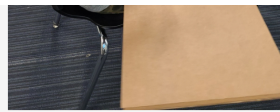
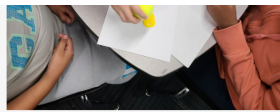
Second graders at Tritt Elementary School, in Cobb County, are in the middle of an ArtsNOW residency to design and create rain barrels for a butterfly garden. They have spent the entire year learning about butterflies as part of their STEAM Project Based Learning unit. Visual Arts Consultant, Shannon Green, joined the students to discuss what they have learned and how to convey and teach that information through artwork. Students worked independently to illustrate their ideas and Shannon combined their creations into four (4) different concepts: Migration, Habitat, Life Cycle, and Butterflies of Georgia. When finished, these concepts will be brought to life through paintings on rain barrels. We cannot wait to see the finished products!



Conder Arts Integrated Magnet Elementary School in Columbia, SC

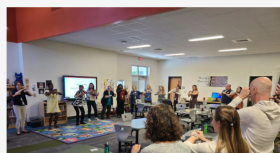
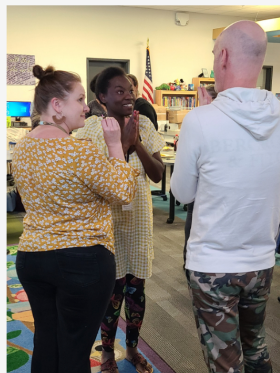
Visual Arts Consultant, Shannon Green, worked with teachers and students in Richland School District 2 at Conder Elementary. Shannon created integrated lessons that were based on the current South Carolina standards in ELA, math, social studies, and science. She conducted the lessons for students as teachers in each grade level process observed as part of their professional learning. One grade level studied light and created kaleidoscopes, while another learned about forces and motion and created paintings using spheres of differing textures, sizes, and shapes. First grade studied parts of a plant and created original pieces of art that were then displayed as a "garden". Conder's fine arts teachers were also a part of the learning process and, the second day, each team debriefed the lesson ideas and made applications for future lessons. Conder is able to send a team to Charleston's Foundational Seminar, due to funding from the Chestnut Family Foundation, and they are so incredibly grateful!

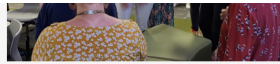
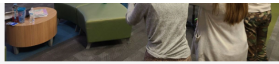




Professional Learning and Student Demonstration Lessons in Charleston, SC

North Charleston Creative Arts Elementary School (NCCAES) and ArtsNOW partnered for music integration for teachers and students. Dr. Maribeth Yoder-White, ArtsNOW Music Consultant, created lessons for kindergarten through fifth grade students and teachers at NCCAES. She spent three (3) days presenting professional learning strategies to teachers and music integrated demonstration lessons for students. The third day was spent with each grade level to design lessons for next school year that would authentically integrate music strategies and vocabulary in the content areas.





ArtsNOW Foundational Seminar Dates

- June 1st, 2nd, and 3rd for Atlanta, Georgia participants
- June 7th, 8th, and 9th for Charleston, South Carolina participants
- Registration links and agendas are available, if needed
- Please email Crystal Collins at crystal@artsnowlearning.org for further information, or should you have questions

Please share this newsletter with an educator or administrator who may not know about ArtsNOW!



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