



Newsletter | January 2023

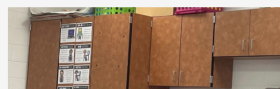
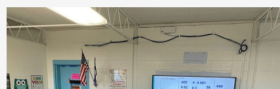
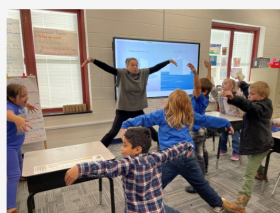
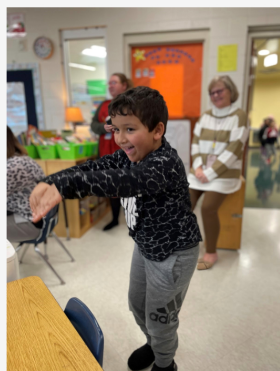
Read how we have brought learning to life this month!

ArtsNOW, South Carolina Arts Commission (SCAC) and Arts Grow SC: Partnership Announcement

ArtsNOW is proud to announce our partnership with South Carolina Arts Commission (SCAC) and Arts Grow SC. The goal of Arts Grow SC is to provide equitable access to learning in, and through, the arts for South Carolina students. With ArtsNOW's mission to equip teachers, engage students, and grow school communities through arts integrated approaches, this was a perfect match! ArtsNOW is serving as a collaborative state-wide professional learning partner providing arts-in-education support in underserved communities, and our work has already begun! Based on criteria of need, Arts Grow SC identified multiple districts for ArtsNOW to establish and grow district and school-wide partnerships. Funding provided will allow two years of ongoing, professional learning support beginning with the following schools:

- Aiken County School District: **East Aiken School of the Arts** and **Oakwood-Windsor Elementary**
- Anderson County School District 5: **Calhoun Academy of the Arts**
- Georgetown County School District: **Sampit Elementary** and **Andrews Elementary**
- Greenville County Schools: **Ellen Woodside Elementary** and **Mauldin Elementary**
- Kershaw County School District: **Midway Elementary** and **North Central Elementary**
- Orangeburg County School District: **Marshall Elementary**
- Spartanburg County School District 1: **New Prospect Elementary** and **Holly Springs-Motlow Elementary**

We are so grateful for this new collaboration with SCAC and Arts Grow SC, and for our new relationships with these districts and schools!





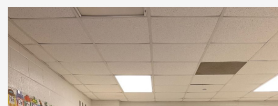
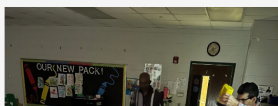
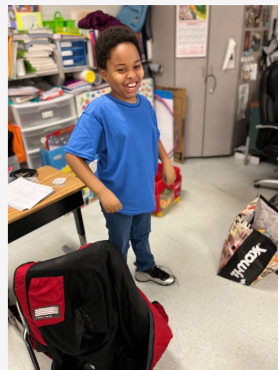
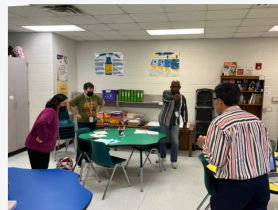
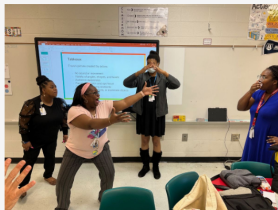
ArtsNOW and Barrow County Schools: Partnership Highlighted at GAEL

Barrow County Schools Superintendent, Dr. Chris McMichael, and ArtsNOW Teacher Leader, Ashley Bailey, shared details and successes of the unique districtwide partnership with ArtsNOW at the Georgia Association of Educational Leaders (GAEL) Winter Conference in Athens, GA. During the break out session, Dr. McMichael and Mrs. Bailey discussed the history of the partnership and ArtsNow's role from starting programming in 2007 at one school, to developing the ArtsNOW Professional Residency at the Center for Innovative Teaching (CFIT). Also highlighted was ArtsNOW opening our first Regional Office at CFIT, beginning the Arts and Innovation Magnet Program at CFIT for middle school students, and Barrow County opening an arts and science focused high school (Barrow Arts and Science Academy). Furthermore, the work with ArtsNOW has impacted teacher retention and efficacy, as well as student achievement data. The pair emphasized that through the partnership, we have cultivated a culture of innovation and empowerment in which our educators and students both thrive.



Hephzibah Elementary School: Drama Integration

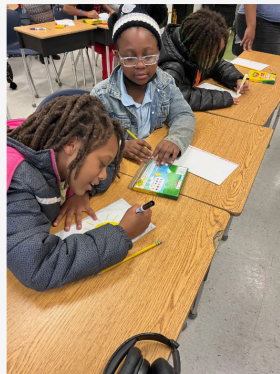
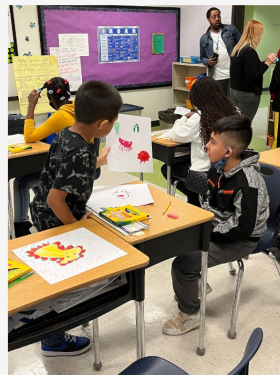
ArtsNOW continues to have a rich relationship with Hephzibah Elementary School thanks to continued and generous funding from the Chestnut Family Foundation! Most recently, Barry Stewart Mann, ArtsNOW Drama Consultant, spent three (3) days working with all teachers and students, including Pre-K. Each grade level received one-on-one professional learning to explore drama teaching strategies, as well as to plan for upcoming lessons. Teachers also had an opportunity to observe arts-integrated demonstration lessons in order to see the integrated strategies in a real classroom setting.





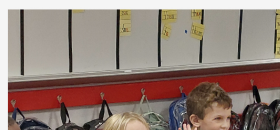
College Park Elementary School: Learn4Life

ArtsNOW Visual Arts Consultant, Shannon Green, spent two (2) days at College Park Elementary School, in Fulton County, with fourth and fifth grade teams. Both grade levels spent a full day with Mrs. Green, including professional learning with teachers and demonstration lessons with students. Students and teachers explored literacy and science content through a variety of visual arts learning strategies like illustrated facts, visual summaries, personifying traits through drawing and sculpture, and comics. Thanks to our partnership with Learn4Life Metro Atlanta, we helped bring this learning to life!



Colleton County, SC: Focus Institute and Classroom Demonstrations

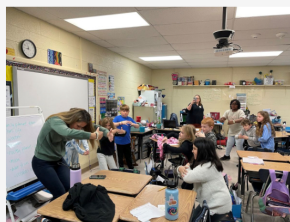
The start of the new year encouraged educators and students to let their creativity take the lead. ArtsNOW Music Consultant, Peggy Benkeser, facilitated professional learning that used music vocabulary and techniques to transform an ordinary literacy lesson into an arts integration experience that emphasized engagement and exploration. During classroom demonstrations, students became attuned to sound. Younger grades explored phonological awareness and associated sounds with symbols, thus connecting to word recognition and decoding skills necessary for reading. Upper grades took a different approach. After a close reading of a selected literary work, reading motivation increased as students used instruments and found sounds to create a soundscape that supported the mood of the text. The joy of music and literacy integration was enthusiastically explored across our Colleton County REALAI partner schools: Cottageville Elementary, Forest Hills Elementary, and Northside Elementary.





ArtsNOW and Arts in Basic Curriculum (ABC): Lancaster County, SC

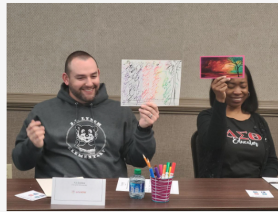
ArtsNOW has partnered with Arts in Basic Curriculum (ABC) to provide professional learning opportunities in all four (4) art forms to teams of teachers in elementary schools across Lancaster County. This month, ArtsNOW Project Manager and Dance Consultant, Whitney Snuggs, facilitated dance sessions and demonstration lessons at several schools. Her lessons included integrations in science (planets), math (number sense and simple addition), and ELA (rhyming words in poetry). Following the day of professional learning, ArtsNOW consultants spent four (4) additional days visiting the eight (8) schools involved in the partnership. During these visits, the consultants facilitated integrated lessons as the team of teachers process observed. The team had an opportunity to debrief with the consultants and leadership team member to ask questions, make connections, and think forward to upcoming lessons.



Reimagining and Accelerating Literacy through Arts Integration (REALAI): Principals' Retreat

ArtsNOW and the REALAI grant principals kicked off 2023 with an annual retreat. From planning to implementation, the group reflected on the first year of the grant and set goals for continuous progress and sustainability. Principals shared stories of changes in teacher practice as a result of the REALAI grant.

The growth of educators and the success of students demonstrate the impact of arts integration and offer a comprehensive approach to cultural changes across each school.



ArtsNOW and Beaufort County School District: District Series Professional Learning

ArtsNOW continued our professional learning partnership with the Visual and Performing Arts Department in Beaufort County, SC. Susie Spear Purcell, ArtsNOW Theatre Consultant, and Ashley Bailey, ArtsNOW Lead Teacher in Barrow County, provided professional learning sessions for arts teachers in Beaufort County. Susie worked with theatre teachers from across the district to share new theatre strategies and lesson ideas that they could take back to their classrooms. The teachers learned new strategies for teaching pantomime, spoken word, and others. Ashley shared many ideas and introduced various platforms for creating digital student portfolios. The visual arts teachers learned ways to support students with creating websites to house and share their work. The teachers had time to collaborate with peers and create sample digital portfolios to share with their students.



ArtsNOW and Barrow County Teachers of the Year: Winder, GA

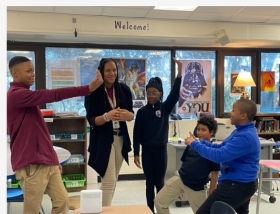
As part of our partnership with the Barrow County School System, Project Coordinator, Whitney Snuggs, and ArtsNOW Barrow Teacher Leader, Laura Payne, engaged the 2022-2023 Barrow County Schools Teachers of the Year in several dance integration activities. The group visited the Center for Innovative Teaching to learn about the ArtsNOW Residency

Program and the support the ArtsNOW-Barrow partnership provides to all schools in the district. Teachers learned strategies they can use back in their classrooms.



ArtsNOW and Lady's Island Middle School: Beaufort, SC

ArtsNOW enjoyed time at Lady's Island Middle School as we integrated dance with multiple content areas! Melissa Dittmar Joy, ArtsNOW Dance Consultant, brought ideas for dance integration to the staff and students of Lady's Island Middle School to kick-off the new year. Teachers engaged in professional learning sessions with their grade level teams to review the elements of dance and learned new strategies for teaching academic vocabulary through meaningful movement. Following a day of professional learning, Melissa facilitated demonstration lessons integrating dance and movement into ELA, math, and science lessons for the 6th, 7th, and 8th graders. Teachers and support staff process-observed the lessons in action and took away strategies to implement in their own classrooms.



Save the Dates!

- February 24, 2023, ArtsNOW will host an Arts Integration Principals' Network Conference in Greenville, South Carolina. This conference will have multiple break out sessions and a keynote address from David Dik, National Executive Director of Young Audiences Arts for Learning. Registration is now open. Contact Pamela Walker at pam@artsnowlearning.org for more information.
 - Future Demonstration of Learning Days: February 10, 2023 at Angel Oak Elementary School in Charleston, SC; March 9, 2023 at Heard Elementary School in Savannah, GA; March 23, 2023 at Powder Springs Elementary School in Cobb County; and, April 6, 2023 at Angel Oak Elementary School in Charleston, SC.
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