

Newsletter | July 2022 Read how we have brought learning to life this month!

ArtsNOW Kicks Off Two of Our Federal Grants: Barrow, Cobb, Savannah-Chatham, and Florence Counties

SAIL: STEM + the Art of Integrated Learning launched the school year with kick-off events, meeting with educators from six (6) grant partnership schools across Barrow County, Cobb County and Savannah-Chatham County. ArtsNOW visual arts consultant, Shannon Green, guided teachers through a hands-on art making experience utilizing various art techniques and connecting to science curriculum standards. Educators were moving to the beat with ArtsNOW dance consultant, Melissa Joy, as she explored the relationships between dance and geometry. An immersive music session, led by ArtsNOW music consultant, Peggy Benkeser, provided opportunities for teachers to experiment with a variety of instruments to explore pitch, rhythm, harmony, and other elements of sound. The grant's goals and objectives were shared with project teachers to set the stage by Whitney Snuggs, Shawn Williams, and Pamela Walker. We are looking forward to a school year filled with collaboration and inspiration as we begin this exciting grant project!

ArtsNOW began our **REALAI: Reimagining and Accelerating Literacy through Arts Integration** kick-off events with Florence School District 3 in Lake City, South Carolina with two (2) of the six (6) grant schools. In the month of August, we will travel to Clayton County (GA) and to Colleton County (SC) to have those districts' beginning of the year activities. Visual arts consultant, Debi West, collaborated with teachers about how to to use the Elements of Art to design beginning of the year literacy strategies and how to use visual arts in the assessment process. Dance consultant, Laurin Dunleavy, worked with educators as they integrated dance strategies and ELA standards. Drama consultant, Barry Stewart Mann, provided the opportunity for educators to take an "imaginary journey" as he integrated literature and drama standards. It was a very engaging day in Florence, as we used literacy and arts standards to bring learning to life!

































ArtsNOW and Georgia Tech Savannah CEISMC Collaborated for Interactive Sequential Stills

Have you ever wanted to be a sequential artist and create your own comic book? This summer, students in third through eighth grades were able to do just that, as ArtsNOW and Georgia Tech Center for Education Integrating Science, Math, and Computing (CEISMC) collaborated to offer a Summer Program Session at the Savannah Campus. The session's title, "Interactive Sequential Stills", was designed by ArtsNOW visual arts consultant, Shannon Green and was facilitated by SmART Literacy teacher leaders, Kim Mercer and Lauren Sawyer. Interactive Sequential Stills combined participants' interest in storytelling, drawing, and electronics to bring their comic book ideas to life!

During the week of July 18-22, 2022, students rotated through three (3) different sessions and learned about the elements of a comic book and what makes a comic different from other stories. They began to explore character development by creating a character and then drawing their character in three (3) different poses which were then expanded to include expressions. Storyboarding their comic and including word bubbles was the next step in this weeklong process. Not only did students need to develop their comic, but they

used EarSketch to create sounds that would be played when the reader pressed a button. LED lights were incorporated into their final comic book to accentuate the character, or highlight a key moment in their comic. Their final drafts were completed, and their original comic was bound. The last step was to secure the speakers, microswitch, and power supply to their bound comic book. The week was capped off with a gallery showcase for family and friends. This was truly an interactive experience!

















ArtsNOW Partners with Coleman Middle School: Gwinnett County

Coleman Middle School received a STEAM grant from the Georgia Department of Education and ArtsNOW will be a lead partner! We are so excited to begin this new partnership and have already begun with a fantastic professional learning session in which Pamela Walker provided an overview of the role of authentic arts integration in STEM instruction in order to truly become STEAM. Shannon Green used the artwork of Tom Fruin as the impetus of a rigorous standards-based lesson with science and visual arts integration strategies. Educators created their own sculptures and used lights and batteries to "light up" their final products. ArtsNOW looks forward to continuing this partnership, and thanks Coleman Middle School for including us in this journey!













Want to see arts integration in action? Please watch two (2) of our newest video compilations!

The first highlights our partnership with Angel Oak Elementary School, an ArtsNOW Leadership School in Charleston, SC.

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The second reflects our district-wide partnership with Barrow County School District and highlights our work a the Center for Innovative Teaching.

 $\underline{https://drive.google.com/file/d/1nagdUzoSd0kUHZbkgZ1uUngcGgBoZzAP/view ?usp=sharing}$

Why ArtsNOW?

- Integrated learning is powerful learning.
- For over 20 years, ArtsNOW has been leading the way in reshaping pre-K–12 education by integrating the arts with all core subjects.
- We're setting the stage to encourage teacher confidence and improve student engagement for greater academic and personal achievement.
- Teachers are champions and students are heroes.
- We're not just teaching. We bring learning to life.

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

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