



Newsletter | November 2022

Read how we have brought learning to life this month!

ArtsNOW Welcomes Three New Board Members: David Shatz, Danna Vetter, and Megan Howard Nellen

ArtsNOW recently conducted a national search for additional Board Members to join our Board of Directors. We are pleased to announce that David Shatz, Danna Vetter, and Megan Howard Nellen have been Board approved and have joined our team.

Mr. Shatz is employed with Blackbaud, the leading cloud provider serving the social good community--nonprofits, foundations, educational institutions--where he serves as the Senior Principal for their Arts & Cultural Division. As a passionate advocate, he spearheads strategic accounts with a sole focus on the Arts & Cultural space. David works with some of the largest and most prestigious arts and cultural customers in the world including the Smithsonian Institution, Philadelphia Museum of Art, Simon Wiesenthal Center, and the Actors Fund. Prior to working at Blackbaud, David worked for a variety of start-ups including eSchoolware where the focus was certifying teachers with current technology to engage students and improve the educational foundation in several states, including South Carolina. David earned his Bachelor of Arts in Business, with a concentration in Entrepreneurial Studies from Muhlenberg College in Allentown, Pennsylvania. He has been married to his wife for over 21 years, and they have a 19 year old daughter and a 17 year old son. They currently reside in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina.

Ms. Vetter is Chief Marketing Officer & Senior Vice President, Marketing and Communications at Milliken & Company. A global leader with unique experience across industries, Danna drives enterprise success through Milliken's Marketing Center of Excellence. Ms. Vetter is highly passionate about providing voice for women and underrepresented professionals. She was a founding member of the first ever Women's Resource Network at Aramark where she served in a leadership position and chaired the communications committee. She currently serves as the Executive Sponsor of Milliken's LGBTQ+ Allies Network. As a champion for inclusion, Danna is well known by senior leaders and her peers for her ability to build and lead diverse teams -- across age, ethnicity, and gender. While serving on the Pennsylvania Ballet Board for five years, Danna worked to bring ballet to inner-city children in Philadelphia through corporate partnerships and private funding. She is also a founding board member of the National Charity League, South Carolina chapter, a non-profit program that embraces community service, leadership development and cultural experiences for young women. Danna is a graduate of Rutgers University where she earned both her Bachelors of Marketing Communications and Masters of Organizational Communication degrees.

Ms. Nellen provides embedded strategic consulting to schools and educational nonprofits through her own firm, Confluence Educational Consulting. Currently, her work centers on leadership development and coaching as well as supporting primary and elementary schools with curriculum design in the areas of reading and writing. After teaching roles at Atlanta Youth Academy and Trinity School in Atlanta, Megan completed her M.A. in private school leadership through the Klingenstein Center at Columbia University in 2010. She served for five years as Head of Lower School at The Walker School and also as Director of Teaching & Learning at Trinity School. In her free time, Megan is deeply involved with the fly fishing community, volunteering on the Board of Georgia Women Fly Fishers and as a staff member for outdoor retreats for women with breast cancer through the national organization, Casting for Recovery. Megan has previously served on the Board of Trustees for The Schenck School and for St. Anne's Day School.



David Shatz



Danna Vetter

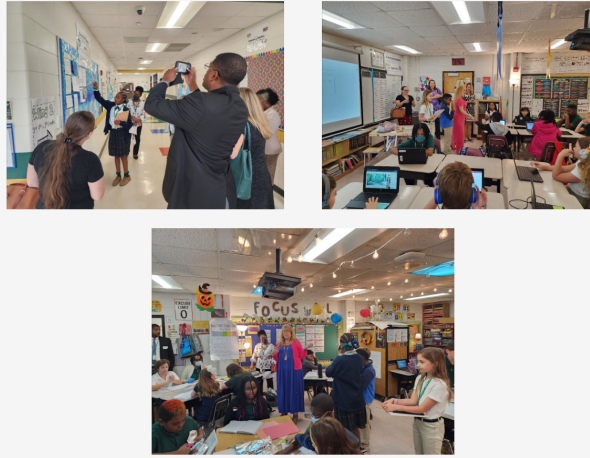


Megan Howard Nellen

The Georgia Department of Education Awarded STEAM Certification to ArtsNOW Partner School: **Virginia L. Heard Elementary in Savannah, GA**

The Georgia Department of Education awarded Virginia L. Heard Elementary School with STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics) certification! ArtsNOW has been a proud partner of Heard Elementary, and they are part of one of our federal grants for the past five (5) years. Serving grades prekindergarten through fifth, Heard Elementary became the first STEAM-certified elementary school southeast of Macon and the first STEAM-certified elementary school in Savannah-Chatham County. Heard Principal, Alonna Curry, says, "Words can't describe how excited our students and staff are to be awarded STEAM certification. The students and staff have worked hard in solving real world problems within our community using science, technology, engineering, arts, and math." STEAM is the integration of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics infused with meaningful arts integration. To be awarded STEAM certification, schools must submit an application showcasing that they meet specific criteria, including evidence of teacher collaboration, business, industry, and community partnerships, high levels of math, science, technology, and arts instruction, and an integrated, project-based STEAM curriculum. This multi-year process includes a close collaboration between the school, the Georgia Department of Education, and ArtsNOW with multiple visits, professional learning, curriculum planning, student/faculty/parent/business partners interviews, and rigorous action planning for future growth and development. The school received a banner from the Georgia Department of Education to be displayed in celebration of their certification and we are SO proud of the progress the school

has made for students and their community!



Angel Oak Elementary School: Officially Recognized as an ArtsNOW Leadership School

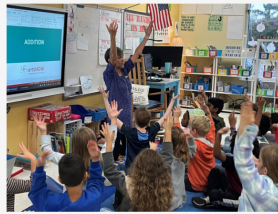
ArtsNOW President and CEO, Pamela Walker, and Executive Vice President, Crystal Collins, officially recognized Angel Oak Elementary School as an ArtsNOW Leadership School. They presented Judith (Judy) Condon, Principal of Angel Oak, with a leadership banner and celebrated their accomplishments at the first 2022-2023 Demonstration of Learning Day. Several school and district leaders from around the state attended to see high quality, engaging arts integrated instruction. Pam and Judy shared information about their transformative partnership and journey. Participants toured the school and observed arts integrated lessons at various grade levels. Following the observations, we facilitated a debrief and answered questions about the process as participants enjoyed lunch. It was a great day of process observing at Angel Oak.



Lancaster County, SC: ABC Partnership with ArtsNOW

Our district partnership with Lancaster County and Arts in Basic Curriculum (ABC) is going so well. Music consultant, Dr. Maribeth Yoder-White, facilitated a day of professional learning with teams of teachers from eight (8) local schools. Teachers learned music vocabulary and integration strategies that can be used in upcoming lessons throughout the school year. The following week, Maribeth taught demonstration lessons at each school and debriefed with teachers. Students were engaged in music integrated lessons in mathematics, reading, and writing.





Arts Grow SC Partnership: Local School Kick-offs and Implementation

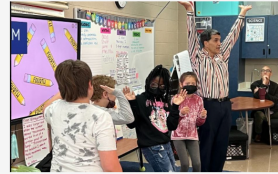
ArtsNOW's partnership with Arts Grow SC is positively impacting multiple districts and schools throughout South Carolina. This month's highlights include Marshall Elementary in Orangeburg County, Ellen Woodside Elementary and Mauldin Elementary in Greenville County, and Andrews Elementary in Georgetown. We are so excited about this partnership made possible through the South Carolina Arts Commission. We had Shannon Green and Debi West, both visual arts consultants, engage teachers and students through professional learning and student demonstration lessons. Pamela Walker and Regi Strickland held kick-off events in order to introduce the partnership to the staff and to review the goals and learning outcomes for the project. This will be a two (2) year journey, and we are so excited about the impact this partnership will have on teaching and learning.



SAIL (STEM + the Art of Integrated Learning) Grant: Barrow and Cobb Counties

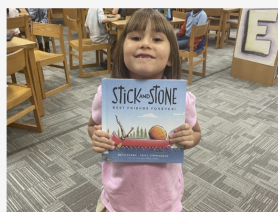
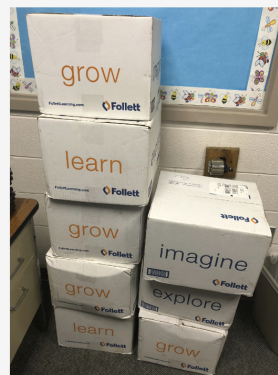
ArtsNOW continued supporting and leading our SAIL grant with Focus

ArtsNOW continued supporting and leading our SAIL grant with Focus Institutes and lesson modeling with our partner schools in Barrow County and Cobb County. Drama Consultant, Barry Stewart Mann, demonstrated how to integrate drama strategies into the math and science curriculum. Through interactive storytelling, improvisation and more, Barry engaged teachers and students in 3rd-5th grade math and science curriculum in meaningful ways. In addition, teacher leaders across all grant schools are refining their arts integration skills by connecting one-on-one with an ArtsNOW consultant through digital coaching. We are looking forward to music and dance integration professional learning days to continue the SAIL grant journey!



Reimagining and Accelerating Literacy through Arts Integration (RELAI): Supporting Literacy with Culturally Diverse Books

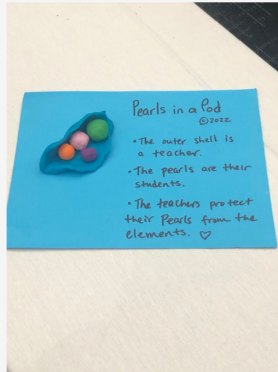
Reimagining and Accelerating Literacy through Arts Integration marks the start of the second year of our grant with books that foster a love of reading. In addition to equipping educators with arts integration strategies to engage and empower young minds, the Innovative Approaches to Literacy (IAL) grant provides funding to enhance and update book circulations in school libraries. Media Specialists and Literacy Coaches at each partner school worked alongside the ArtsNOW grant team to curate relevant and culturally diverse books that support literacy. "The kids (and I!) are loving all of our new books!" shares Stamie Hershalman, Media Specialist at Cottageville Elementary. Providing high-quality books not only improves the book to student ratio, but also increases reading motivation, performance and frequency. ArtsNOW looks forward to sharing how the new additions to the fiction and nonfiction collection will empower students to express their culture and identity through various art forms.



THRIVE! Professional Learning: Savannah-Chatham County Public School System

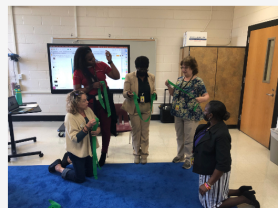
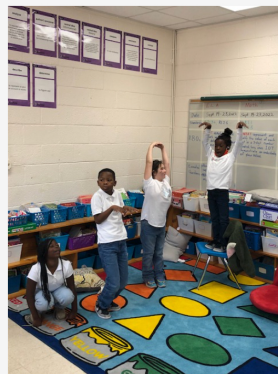
ArtsNOW was thrilled for the opportunity to participate in two days of

ArtsNOW was thrilled for the opportunity to participate in two days of professional learning for new teachers, in the Savannah-Chatham County Public School System. President & CEO Pamela Walker presented arts integration sessions, serving grade level teachers from kindergarten to 12th grade! Using a combination of hands-on activities and group collaboration, educators received an overview of "what is arts integration?" and how to begin implementing it in the classroom. ArtsNOW loves inspiring and engaging new teachers as we look forward to our continued partnership with the district.



Allendale-Fairfax Elementary School: Allendale County Schools, SC

Theatre Consultant, Susie Spear Purcell, spent two (2) days engaging teachers through demonstration lessons and collaborative planning at Allendale-Fairfax Elementary School. Students deepened their understanding of science & math content through theatre strategies such as dramatic play, tableau, pantomime, and open scenes. Teachers then met with Susie the following day to debrief about the techniques they observed, as well as plan for upcoming lessons to incorporate theatre strategies into their daily instruction. ArtsNOW is excited about this new partnership, and we look forward to continuing the journey of arts integrated learning with this amazing school!



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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