



---

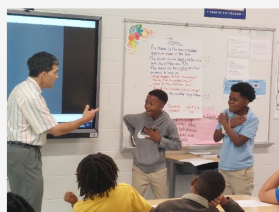
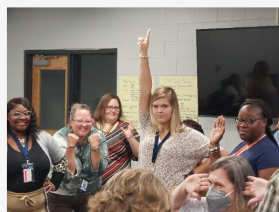
**Newsletter | September 2022**

Read how we have brought learning to life this month!

---

## **ArtsNOW Focus Institutes Began with REALAI (Reimagining and Accelerating Literacy through Arts Integration) Schools**

**ArtsNOW traveled to REALAI partner schools in Florence School District Three (SC), Colleton County (SC), and Clayton County (GA) for the first Focus Institutes.** Theatre was the focus as educators took a deep dive into strategies that support literacy in the classroom. In the days that followed, Drama Consultant, Barry Stewart Mann, facilitated classroom demonstration lessons that allowed teachers to process observe and learn new practices all while seeing the strategies in action with students. From stepping in-role as a character, working in small groups to sequence events in a story, and unpacking poetry to explore underlying themes, students confidently demonstrated a wealth of knowledge through arts integration. ArtsNOW is thrilled to continue the Innovative Approaches to Literacy (IAL) grant from the USDOE with these partner schools: Cottageville ES (Cottageville, SC); East Clayton ES (Ellenwood, GA); Forest Hills ES (Walterboro, SC); J.C. Lynch ES (Coward, SC); Lake City Early Childhood Center (Lake City, SC) and Northside ES (Walterboro, SC).



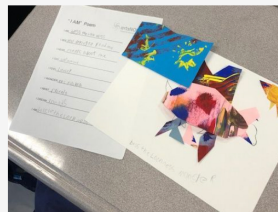
---

**Humanities at Juliette Gordon Low Elementary School: Savannah-Chatham County Public School System**

### Teachers have hit the ground running with their school-wide arts

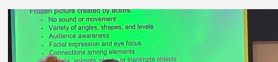
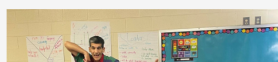
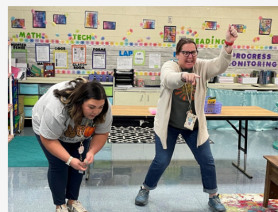
**integration plan**, starting with visual arts in the first nine weeks of school.

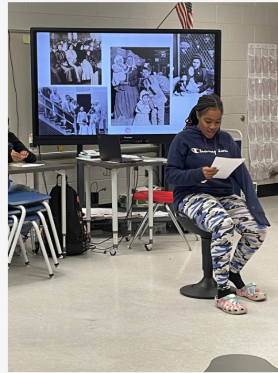
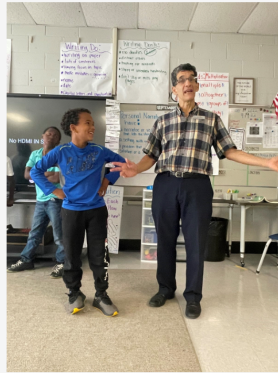
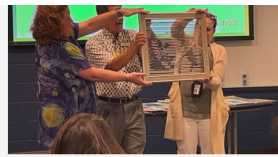
ArtsNOW Visual Arts Consultant, Shannon Green, spent three (3) days with grade level teams to provide professional learning, demonstration lessons, and debrief/planning. Using author and illustrator Eric Carle as an anchor, each grade level explored the art-making process of collage through the lens of ELA standards. Students loved creating unique animal collages and were excited and engaged in using their art as a writing prompt!



## Lancaster County (SC) and Arts in Basic Curriculum Partnership: Student and Educator Support

This month, ArtsNOW kicked off a new partnership in Lancaster County, South Carolina, in collaboration with Arts in Basic Curriculum (ABC). This partnership brings together a team of teachers from seven (7) Lancaster County schools and one (1) Chester County school. Theatre was the focus this month with Drama Consultant, Barry Stewart Mann. We held a professional learning day, where teams gained a deeper understanding of arts integration and learned many new strategies for integrating drama into their classrooms. In the weeks that followed, Barry visited each school to teach student demonstration lessons and to support teachers in learning new strategies to implement with their students. Teachers and students were highly engaged and had so much fun learning through authentic arts integration! We look forward to the continuation of both of these partnerships!





## Marshall Elementary School: Orangeburg County, SC

We are thrilled to share our kick-off event at Marshall Elementary School in Orangeburg County, SC. This school collaboration comes to us as part of our partnership with Arts Grow SC and the South Carolina Arts Commission. Pamela Walker, ArtsNOW President and CEO, facilitated an afternoon session of team building and engagement through authentic arts integration. We look forward to sharing more with you from Marshall Elementary, and many other schools through our exciting Arts Grow SC partnership!



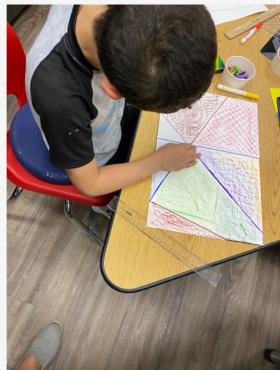
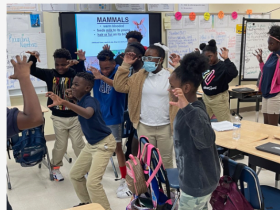
## SmART Literacy: Principals' Retreat

September 30th, ArtsNOW's fourth year of our AAEDD grant came to a close. The SmART Literacy principals, external evaluator, and ArtsNOW leadership team met to reflect on the project's journey. The impact the grant had on teachers, students, leaders, and school communities was evident in the data and the many stories of success shared by principals. We were challenged with many obstacles including school closures, digital learning, and virtual "school visits" for some time. Throughout it all, arts integration provided opportunity and hope! We stayed connected and maintained the mission of supporting teachers with implementing literacy-based arts integration strategies to positively impact student achievement. It is with great joy that we announce a 5<sup>th</sup> year no-cost extension for SmART Literacy. We have been granted an additional year to continue the work of implementing best practices and disseminating how arts integration brings learning to life!



## SAIL (STEM + the Art of Integrated Learning) Grant: Focus Institutes, Demonstration of Learning Days, and Fine Arts Educator Support

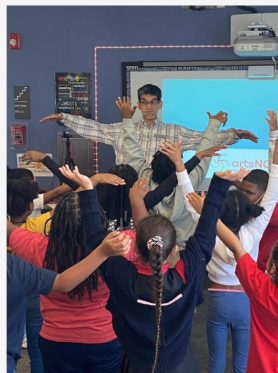
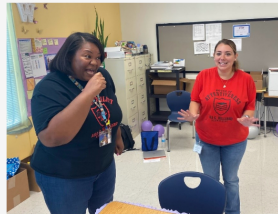
ArtsNOW was very busy supporting and leading our SAIL grant with partner schools in order to meet the goals and objectives for increasing student achievement. Garden City Elementary and Gadsden Elementary, in Savannah, GA, were the first SAIL grant schools to take a deep dive into theatre integration. ArtsNOW Theatre Consultant, Susie Spear Purcell, equipped teachers with many theatre strategies to integrate into their math and science lessons. Following a full day of professional learning, Susie provided classroom demonstration lessons to model the strategies with students. Next month, we will visit our Barrow County and Cobb County grant schools to share how theatre integration can make learning fun and meaningful! As well, fine arts educators from our SAIL project schools spent a day of learning together at Youth Villages Inner Harbour. Through observation and collaborative conversations, the incredible team had time to reflect on ways to focus teaching on the whole child, thanks to Visual Arts Consultant, Shannon Green. We are grateful for our partnership with both Youth Villages Inner Harbour, and Hillside Conant School in Atlanta, as we work together to meet the goals of SAIL; but most importantly as we strive to change lives through the power of arts integration!





## Learn4Life Partnership at Asa G. Hilliard Elementary School: Fulton County (GA)

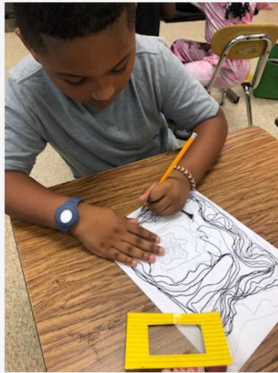
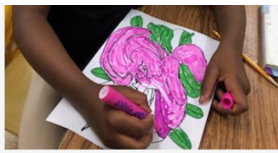
**Regional Director, Shawn Williams, and ArtsNOW Drama Consultant, Barry Stewart Mann,** spent two (2) days at Asa G. Hilliard Elementary School in Fulton County. Barry provided professional learning for all teachers, and demonstration lessons at each grade level. The focus of the project is improving literacy skills through authentic arts integration strategies. This work is made possible through our partnership with Learn4Life and is funded by the Chestnut Family Foundation.



## Willis Foreman Elementary School: Richmond County School System

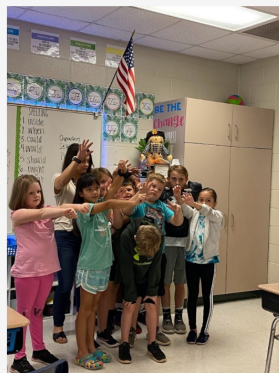
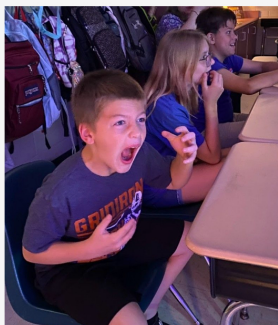
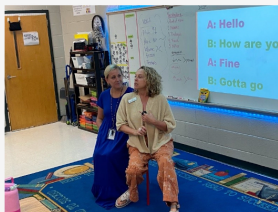
**Visual Arts Consultant, Debi West,** taught students at Willis Foreman through engaging demonstration lessons, as teachers process observed as part of their job-embedded professional learning. Thanks to the generous funding provided by the Chestnut Family Foundation, ArtsNOW is entering our fourth year of support for four (4) schools in Hephzibah, Georgia. Willis Foreman provided current content standards teachers were teaching, and Debi was able to create integrated lessons through the lens of visual arts. Students learned about geometric shapes, landforms, plant life, math facts using addition and subtraction, and geographic terms such as country, state, city, and county. It was an exciting day in Hephzibah, as students and teachers were creative and collaborative!





## Lula Elementary School: Hall County Schools

**ArtsNOW's partnership at Lula Elementary School, in Hall County (GA),** began with professional learning and student demonstration lessons with Susie Spear Purcell. Teachers learned theatre strategies that can effectively engage students and increase literacy skills. Students used their bodies, voices, imaginations, and hearts to bring life to stories and poems. Lula is a new partner school with ArtsNOW and we look forward to our growing partnership!



---

### 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!*

---



---

Copyright © 2020 ArtsNOW, All rights reserved.

**Our mailing address is:**  
10 Glenlake Parkway, Suite 130, Atlanta, GA 30328

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).