

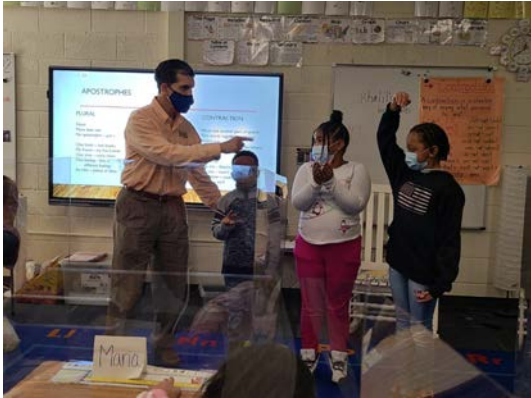


Newsletter | January 2022

Read how we have brought learning to life this month!

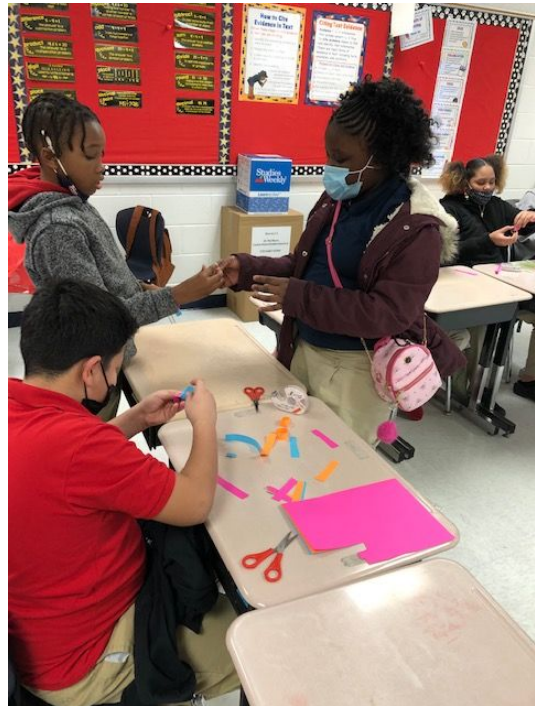
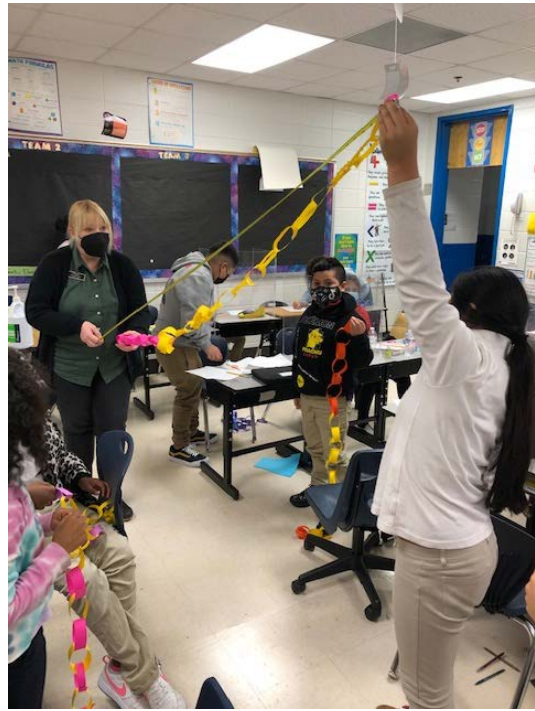
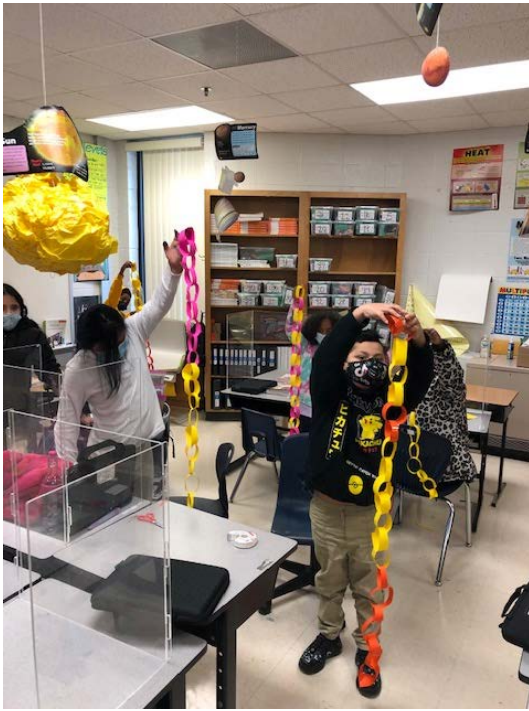
Celebrating a New Partnership at Conder Creative Arts Integrated Magnet School in Columbia, South Carolina

As part of private funding from one of our generous donors, ArtsNOW is able to serve the students and faculty at Conder, a school in Richland County School District 2. We began the partnership with an overview of ArtsNOW, explained how our professional learning is customized to meet the school's goals, and spent an afternoon with teachers as we embarked on a creative journey together. The following day, we rotated through grade level planning sessions in order to hear from each grade level and to begin building relationships. Towards the end of the month, Barry Stewart Mann, one of our drama consultants, and Crystal Collins spent two days at Conder as Barry taught model lessons in grades K-5 and all teachers and administrators process observed. The following day, grade levels met with Barry and Crystal to learn new theater and drama strategies and to plan for upcoming units and lessons. We are so excited about this partnership and we plan to build Conder Creative Arts Integrated Magnet School to serve as an ArtsNOW Leadership School in the Columbia area.



Kilpatrick Elementary School in Clayton County, Georgia

Fourth and fifth grade students at Kilpatrick Elementary School, in Clayton County, were so engaged in STEAM challenges with ArtsNOW consultant Shannon Green! In fourth grade, teams were given the same materials and time limit, and used their critical thinking skills to design and implement their plan to make the longest paper chain. The finished products then became tools to practice writing and reducing fractions! Fifth graders also worked as teams to design a sculpture prototype, inspired by the art of Anish Kapoor. They had to think about scale & measurement, as well as 21st century skills like collaboration and problem-solving. These lessons were all part of the Engaging Minds PDAE grant.



Principals of ArtsNOW's Newest Federal Grants Gather to Collaborate, Brainstorm, and Plan Together

In January, ArtsNOW embarked on the journey of a new and exciting partnership! Principals, across three school districts and two states, gathered to kick-off the REALAI grant. This five-year venture will have students and teachers **RE**imagining and **A**ccelerating Literacy through **A**rts Integration. We

were awarded this IAL (Innovative Approaches to Literacy) grant by the U.S. Department of Education.

For this Principals' Retreat, participants convened to plan for the grant that will foster students' literacy achievement across all five (5) art forms. Professional learning opportunities will equip teachers and media specialists with the tools to plan and deliver arts integrated lessons. This project will also support enhancing library collections through the purchase of developmentally appropriate and culturally relevant books for each year of the grant. United in this effort, ArtsNOW and each partner school will provide family engagement events that support each child's reading development.

The REALAI Principals' Retreat is just the first step! ArtsNOW is looking forward to sharing all the wonderful things that will be happening with these new partner schools: J.C. Lynch ES (Coward, SC); Lake City Early Childhood Center (Lake City, SC); Forest Hills ES (Walterboro, SC); Northside ES (Walterboro, SC); Cottageville ES (Cottageville, SC) and East Clayton ES (Ellenwood, GA).

We also announced in October that ArtsNOW was awarded an Assistance for Arts Education (AAE) grant by the US Department of Education. The project, **STEAM + the Art of Integrated Learning (SAIL)**, will foster students' STEM achievement; build teachers' capacity to plan and deliver integrated instruction; develop high-quality, replicable lessons integrating both math and science with national arts standards; and develop and pilot arts-based programming focused on building students' emotional resilience, social skills and conflict resolution skills.

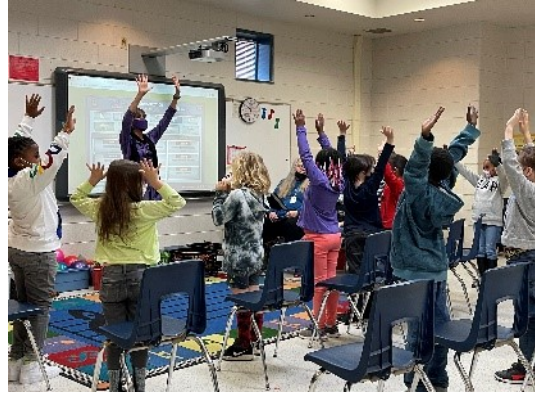
To get started on this exciting grant, ArtsNOW leadership met and planned with the principals of all six project schools. Project partners include Barrow County School System (Winder Elementary and Statham Elementary), Cobb County School District (Dowell Elementary and Mableton Elementary), and Savannah-Chatham County Public School System (Garden City Elementary and Gadsden Elementary). The retreat provided time to build relationships and plan for implementation. We cannot wait to keep going from here with kick-off training in each district during preplanning.



Goshen Elementary School in Hephzibah, GA (Richmond, County)

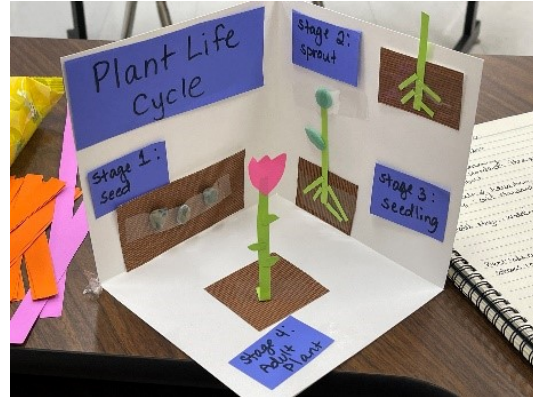
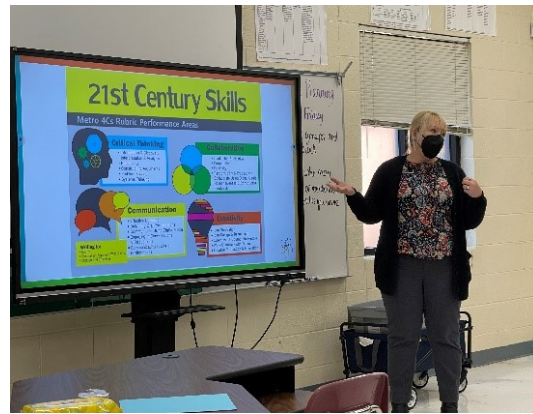
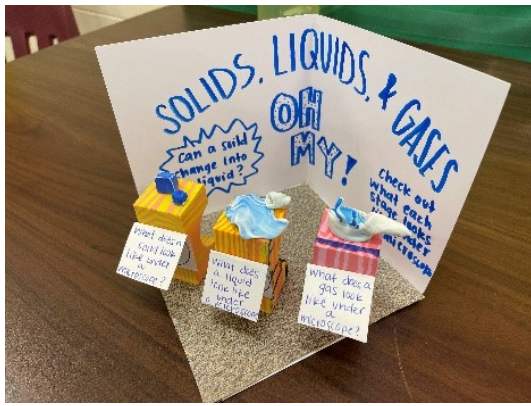
What a great way to kick-off a new year as ArtsNOW music consultant, Dr. Maribeth Yoder-White, provided music demonstration lessons to all grade levels at Goshen Elementary. The following day, teachers were able to ask questions about the arts integration strategies presented through a virtual debrief session. ArtsNOW looks forward to continuing this partnership in February with dance integration at Goshen Elementary, drama integration at Willis Foreman Elementary, and drumming residencies at Hephzibah Elementary! All of this is made possible by The Chestnut Family Foundation who has a vested interest in supporting Hephzibah, Georgia, due to the

founders being graduates of Hephzibah High School. What an incredible way to give back to the community!



Savannah-Chatham County Public School System Partnership Strengthens and Continues to Grow

ArtsNOW's partnership with Gadsden Elementary School and Garden City Elementary School in Savannah, GA continued during January 2022. Most recently, Shannon Green made the connection between visual arts, Project Based Learning, and STEAM for Garden City staff. Shannon utilized an opening activity to model arts integration strategies. Teachers created mini museums for a specific content area standard and then shared with other participants. ArtsNOW is so excited to continue our journey with both schools!



Andrea Washington Joins the ArtsNOW Team as Project Coordinator

We would like to welcome Andrea Washington to the ArtsNOW team! Andrea has worked as a professional actor and theatre educator. She thrives at finding ways to positively impact spaces with young people and to use the arts to communicate, explore and share ideas. She has integrated theatre arts into programs including the Alliance Theatre Institute, Georgia Wolf Trap and Fulton County's Teaching Museum. As a director and guest professor at Kennesaw State University, she educates undergraduates about Theatre for Young Audiences. Andrea has also performed on dozens of stages across the country and uses her deep experience in arts integration to combine storytelling, role-playing, music, and puppetry with subjects like reading, science, and math. Andrea will serve as Project Coordinator for the REALAI grant, referenced above. Please join us in welcoming Andrea to the team!



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 will be sent out soon
- Please email Crystal Collins at crystal@artsnowlearning.org for further information, or should you have questions



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