



Newsletter | June 2021

Read how we have brought learning to life this month!

ArtsNOW Hosts Two Foundational Seminars: Georgia Tech-Savannah Campus and Barrow County's CFIT Campus

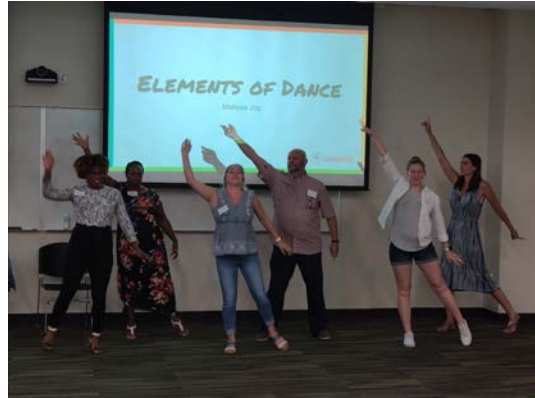
ArtsNOW provided two (2) opportunities for educators to attend our annual Foundational Seminar this year! Due to overwhelming interest, and support from key partners, we expanded our bandwidth to accommodate a huge demand! In Winder, Georgia, we welcomed over 130 educators from across Georgia who attended Foundational Seminar at our Center for Innovative Teaching (CFIT) campus. Participants learned strategies in all five (5) art forms that they could immediately take back to their classrooms and begin integrating in the core content areas. We would like to thank visual arts consultant, Shannon Green, dance consultant Melissa Joy, theater consultant Susie Purcell, music consultant Dave Holland, and CEISMC representative Tim Cone for making this such a huge success. Being back together, face to face, allowed for collaboration, communication, creativity, and critical thinking with our peers...all 21st Century Skills! We learned so much together about authentic arts integration!

Savannah's Foundational Seminar provided the opportunity for approximately

50 educators from the southeastern region to attend and participate in high-quality arts integration strategies. The consultants in Savannah included visual arts consultant Shannon Green, dance consultant Melissa Joy, theater consultant Susie Purcell, music consultant Dr. Maribeth Yoder White, and CEISMC representative Heidi Turcotte. Together, this team designed, created, and implemented lessons with participants that included Georgia and South Carolina standards so that they, too, could immediately implement arts integrated strategies in their classrooms.

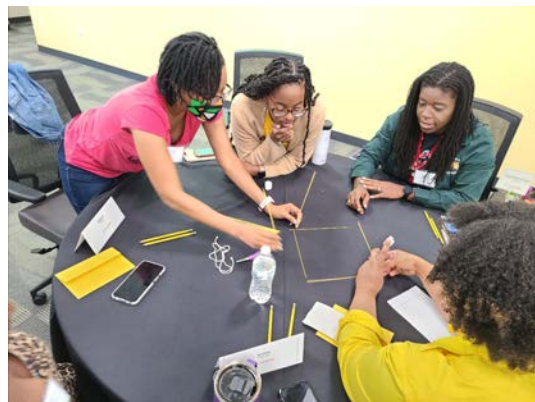
We would be remiss not to thank our ArtsNOW team for making these two seminars possible! Executive Vice President Crystal Collins, Project Manager Whitney Snuggs, Administrative Assistant Lane Hall, Business Manager Delores McDaniel, and Regional Directors Jim Heater and Shawn Williams worked tirelessly to ensure the organization was prepared and ready to welcome educators to a great three days of learning. Without careful planning, strategizing, organizing, and implementing, none of this would be possible. Pamela Walker, ArtsNOW's President and CEO, lead each seminar ensuring connections were made throughout each session. She provided the foundation for why arts integration is critical in education, explained the differences between arts for arts sake, arts enhancement, and arts integration. Each break out session was hands-on, active, and engaging! We look forward to next year's Foundational Seminars to be held in June 2022.





ArtsNOW's Assistance for Arts Education Development and Dissemination Grant: **SmART Literacy**

For many SmART Literacy grant teachers, the month of June brought the opportunity to attend ArtsNOW's Foundational Seminar and to disseminate grant findings to other schools. Teacher teams from Heard Elementary, Garrison School for the Arts, Marshpoint Elementary, and Angel Oak Elementary were able to collaborate and share best practices learned from the grant with teachers from Olanta Creative Arts and Science Magnet School, J. Paul Truluck Creative Arts and Science Magnet School, Shuman Elementary School, School of Humanities at Juliette Low, and Garden City Elementary School. All of our SmART Literacy teams enjoyed participating in the engaging sessions and benefited from strategic planning time. We are looking forward to meeting with our SmART Literacy principals next month for additional planning and reflection time as we embark on year four of the grant. The upcoming school year promises to be one of creativity, collaboration, and growth through arts integration.



Chestnut Family Foundation's Ongoing Support for Hephzibah, Georgia

The 2020-2021 school year posed some unique challenges for all **students**, and it is through our incredibly generous donors who wanted to change that for the students at several schools in Hephzibah, Georgia. ArtsNOW was able to follow Richmond County's summer school calendar, and provided arts integrated literacy enrichment experiences for elementary and middle school students. We created lessons based on grade-level appropriate texts that included a dance, theater, visual arts, STEAM, digital arts, and music activity for each book. As well, we used three weeks for this fully integrated experience, so students received arts-integrated literacy instruction every day!

We were so excited to see the engagement, joy, and active learning the students demonstrated. The Chestnut Family Foundation has supported this community through multiple projects. What is important, too, is that the students were able to keep each book from each week. Hopefully, they will be able show siblings, cousins, friends, and family how arts integration works through sharing their books and lesson ideas at home! Like last year, our team worked tirelessly to create new content, order supplies, and drive a U-Haul to deliver the materials to each of the schools. We are so grateful for the support from the Chestnut Family Foundation, our partnerships with each of the schools, their staff, and leadership teams, as well as the relationship we have built with Richmond County School System.





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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