

Welcome to the ArtsNowNewsletter!

BACK TO SCHOOL EDITION

Everyone at ArtsNow Learning would like to welcome you back to another school year! We have been very busy this summer, and have many updates. ArtsNow Learning has tripled our impact this year, and it is all thanks to people like you who are supporting the vision of arts integration in classrooms across Georgia, Florida, and South Carolina!

Foundational Seminar

We would like to thank Georgia Tech for hosting our Foundational Seminar again this year! More than 100 educators from across Georgia and Florida attended this hands-on, highly engaged professional learning. Teachers and administrators participated in music, visual arts, theater, and dance and STEAM opportunities in order to deliver authentic arts integration strategies to their local schools. Representative Mike Glanton came to Georgia Tech in order to support all teachers, and specifically those of Clayton County, who are citizens within the district he represents. Representative Glanton shared his support of arts integration for all students in Georgia. His leadership is greatly appreciated! As well, Jessica Booth, Fine Arts Program Specialist with Georgia Department of Education, provided updates and words of support to all attendees. Ms. Booth is a huge supporter of arts in education, and educators across Georgia are truly thankful for having such an advocate at the state level.









Pamela Walker was a guest speaker at the Governor's Office of Student Achievement's 2018 Innovation Summit, hosted at the Loudermilk Center, June 13th and 14th. This year's focus was "The Truth About Innovation". Pamela did an excellent job of representing ArtsNow Learning, while also motivating other educators to embrace resourceful approaches to innovative strategies.





We have a new partnership with Richmond County School System in Augusta, Georgia. We will be working closely with Goshen Elementary School, Willis Foreman Elementary School, Hephzibah Elementary School, Hephzibah Middle School and Hephzibah High School over a multi-year project as the leadership strives to provide arts-integration to the students of each of the schools. The teachers and administrators will participate in high-level professional development opportunities in the areas of STEAM, arts integration, and 21st century skills. ArtsNow Learning is extremely excited about this new partnership!





Scintilla Charter Academy

Our partnership with Scintilla Charter Academy in Valdosta, Georgia continues to grow. Scintilla has recently highlighted the partnership with ArtsNow Learning in print and video segments with local news outlets. Scintilla leadership continues to expose arts integration to the community and has become a true advocate for their students and arts in education through ArtsNow. After attending Foundational Seminar, staff went back so inspired that the administrators purchased a drum for each staff member. We followed up by providing professional learning for how to incorporate drumming in the classrooms. As well, ArtsNow Learning consultant, Dave Holland, created a drumming residency for each student at Scintilla.













We have begun a new partnership in Charleston, South Carolina that we are incredibly excited about. Thanks to Catherine Middleton's leadership and support, Angel Oak Elementary, North Charleston Creative Arts Elementary, and Jennie Moore Elementary have teachers and administrators who are participating in professional development throughout this school year in each art form. Jessica Espinoza, Melissa Ditmar Joy, Pamela Walker, and Crystal Collins lead the first day of training during pre-planning. Attendees were able to experience theater and dance strategies and learned how to integrate the strategies in to the core curriculum

areas. Thank you, Angel Oak and Judy Condon, for hosting all schools for this fabulous kick-off!









We would like to welcome Gracepoint to our growing network of schools! Gracepoint is located in Cobb County, in the metro Atlanta area. Several staff members attended Foundational Seminar and then Pamela Walker and Crystal Collins presented for their pre-planning workshops.



Goshen Elementary School provided staff with dance and theater workshops as part of their pre-planning schedule. Melissa Joy, Susie Purcell, and Crystal Collins were in Augusta for two full days of professional learning.



Jessica Espinoza and Crystal Collins lead curriculum mapping with the teachers of LaBelle Elementary in Cobb County. Teachers worked over the course of several days to find the connections between all art forms and the core content areas.

Other Updates

- Congratulations to Crystal Collins, former Director of Innovation. The Board unanimously agreed to promote Ms. Collins to Executive Vice President of ArtsNow Learning! ArtsNow Learning thanks Crystal for all she has added to the growth of the organization and for her incredible leadership!
- Join us October 10th at Powder Springs Elementary School, in Marietta, Georgia, for their Showcase Day. We will visit classrooms, discuss best practices, highlight our partnership, and learn from one another. This is a great day of learning and educators from across Georgia will be in attendance. Following the school visits, principals, please plan on attending our first Principals' Network Meeting. Lunch will be provided. Please contact crystal@artsnowlearning.org for more information.
- Pamela Walker, Crystal Collins, Board Chair Carol McGrevin, and Board Secretary Sherry Cohen had a leadership retreat over the summer to

- review, revise, and prepare ArtsNow Learning's next five year strategic plan. This was an exciting opportunity to highlight all of the good work we are doing and to build upon those successes.
- November 14th will be an exciting day at Scintilla Charter Academy in Valdosta, Georgia. We will tour the school, observe arts integration in action, and highlight this successful partnership. Members of the Valdosta community will be guests of Scintilla, and lunch will be provided. Principals, this will be our second Principal's Network Meeting following the luncheon. Please contact crystal@artsnowlearning.org for further information.
- We are beginning the second year of our three year matching challenge grant! We met the \$100,000 goal last year. For every dollar that is donated to ArtsNow Learning, we have a generous donor who has agreed to match the amounts up to \$100,000. As a supporter of ArtsNow Learning, please help us get the word out!
- Hasty Elementary School, in Cherokee County, will host their Showcase
 Day October 25th. Hasty has had a long-standing partnership with
 ArtsNow Learning, and we are excited to share best practices with
 visitors. Please contact crystal@artsnowlearning.org for more
 information.

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