



Newsletter | October 2023

Read how we have brought learning to life this month!

Florence, SC: Family Book Distributions

ArtsNOW's Reimagining and Accelerating Literacy through Arts Integration (REALAI) grant kicked off our Book Distribution Events with J.C. Lynch and Lake City Early Childhood Center of the Arts. ArtsNOW team members gave each child a developmentally appropriate and culturally relevant book, which was funded by the grant. Families can spend time together to complete activities in the Creativity Task Card booklets, from visual arts to drama, dance, and music. We look forward to the same opportunity with our remaining REALAI grant schools.



Spartanburg, SC: ArtsNOW Partners with PSAE for Annual Conference

ArtsNOW was honored to partner with Palmetto State Arts Educators (PSAE) in hosting their annual conference for arts educators, integrators, and advocates. This year's theme was JOY, and joy was evident throughout the two-day event.

ArtsNOW team members in attendance enjoyed networking and connecting with current ArtsNOW school partners and partner organizations, as well as making new connections from around the state. We were thrilled to facilitate five different presentations supporting arts integration, arts integration

administrators, and STEAM initiatives. We were also proud to support our partner schools as they presented sessions.

We look forward to continuing our partnership with PSAE and collaborating on next year's conference!



Demonstration of Learning Day: Powder Springs Elementary

ArtsNOW Leadership School Powder Springs Elementary in Cobb County, Georgia, opened its doors for a Demonstration of Learning Day. Powder Springs Principal Kenyatta Frederick and ArtsNOW President & CEO Pamela Walker kicked off the event with an overview of the multi-year partnership and journey to becoming an ArtsNOW Leadership School.

Educators, parents, and community members visited academic and fine arts classrooms to observe and experience engaging arts-integrated lessons. Students in every classroom clearly articulated learning objectives and processes in the arts and content. Process boards and curriculum maps showcased learning connections in art and academics throughout the building.

>> [Register now for our upcoming Demonstration of Learning Days](#) to experience a day of inspiration for yourself and your team!



Savannah-Chatham County: THRIVE Professional Learning

ArtsNOW's Arts Integration Specialist Whitney Snuggs and Program Manager Kim Messer led the day of professional learning for teachers in Savannah.

Kim Mercer led two days of professional learning for teachers in Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools at the THRIVE Conference.

New teachers were introduced to Artful Thinking routines and worked in cooperative groups to analyze images and engage in collaborative conversations. Through discussions, teachers made connections between their curriculum and works of art to strengthen student thinking.

Second-year teachers applied the creative process to create choreography and paint a visual work of art to express an idea. Everyone walked away with new ideas and strategies to motivate and inspire students!



Spartanburg, SC: Rhythmic Speech Sparks Learning

Music Consultant Rue Lee-Holmes led instruction in grades K-5 at Holly Springs-Motlow Elementary School in Spartanburg, SC. Rue used informational text as a basis for a lesson on sound, and students used rhythmic speech to summarize the text. To demonstrate sequence, Rue also utilized boomwhackers and the literary text "The Day the Crayons Quit."



Barrow and Cobb County: SAIL's 30 Color Mixing Challenge

Our SAIL (STEM + The Art of Integrated Learning) participants delved into the art of color mixing with a STEAM-focused challenge for this month's Visual Art Focus Institute in Barrow and Cobb Counties. After collaborating in groups to recreate the color wheel, teachers were challenged to create 30 distinct colors using only primary colors (red, yellow, blue), black, and white. We followed up with small group discussions and reflections on the Principles of Design.

To further understand these principles, each group explored a design element within a particular work of art. During shareback, teachers could find math and science connections through basic color theory and color mixing.





Berkeley County, SC: Bonner Brings Learning to Life with Theatre Integration

H.E. Bonner Elementary started their ArtsNOW partnership by engaging with Theatre Consultant Susie Spear Purcell. Susie built upon the staff's knowledge of statues and tableaux by exploring the strategy of pantomime. Through pantomime, participants begin to think more deeply about concepts to portray understanding through silent gestures.

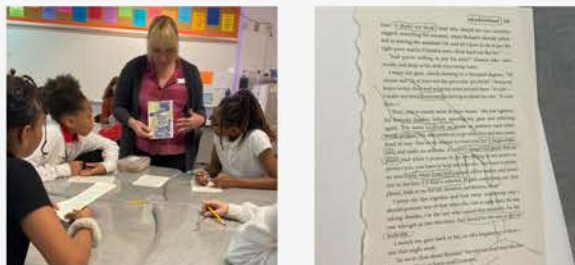
Next, Susie demonstrated pantomime with grade-level examples in reading content. The students were enthralled with using their faces, bodies, and gestures to share their understanding of concepts like sequencing, inferring, identifying themes, and others.



Beaufort, SC: Creating Visual Arts

Visual Arts Consultant Shannon Green worked with teachers and students at Beaufort Middle School. Shannon introduced teachers to Artful Thinking routines and made connections to their content standards. Another group produced blackout poetry using pages from an old book.

In another class, students described a piece of artwork, and their partner had to interpret it. Students and teachers at Beaufort Middle School had a great time integrating English with visual arts to create beautiful pieces of artwork.





Johns Island, SC: Arts Integration at Angel Oak Elementary

New teachers at Angel Oak Elementary participated in professional learning with ArtsNOW music consultant Rue Lee-Holmes and Arts Integration Specialist Whitney Snuggs. Teachers uncovered the meaning of arts integration and learned strategies from various art forms for different content areas. Teachers were dancing, creating music, and digging into Artful Thinking routines.

ArtsNOW continued our partnership with demonstration lessons and planning with all teachers. Dance consultant Julie Baggenstoss designed lessons targeting math standards as an approach to teaching math through dance. We look forward to continuing our partnership through Demonstration of Learning Days and professional learning with teachers!



Hephzibah, GA: Integrating Visual Arts, Content, and Hispanic Heritage

ArtsNOW Visual Arts Consultant Katy Betts brought content and Hispanic heritage to life at Hephzibah Elementary School. Over three days, Katy facilitated demonstration lessons with students and collaboratively planned arts-integrated lessons with teams of teachers. During this visit, Katy integrated visual arts, content, and Hispanic heritage into lessons. With most classes, she shared the book [Frida Kahlo and Her Animalitos](#) by Monica Brown. Students learned about Frida Kahlo, her heritage, math, social studies, and ELA standards, as well as elements of visual arts.





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