

Newsletter | January 2025

We bring learning to life every month!









Greenville, SC: Making Music with Math

Music took center stage in Greenville County classrooms this month! At **Ellen Woodside Elementary**, fourth graders explored soundwaves and amplitude with boomwhackers. Guided by Music Consultant Dr. Maribeth Yoder-White, they created eight-beat rhythms to demonstrate pitch and volume changes. After performing, peers identified the amplitude and wave types.

At League Academy, students also worked with Music Consultant Dr. Rue Lee-Holmes. Sixth graders composed piggyback songs on Renaissance Humanism, drawing inspiration from madrigals. Eighth graders explored aleatoric music, using dice to compose chance-based pieces while connecting the concept to probability lessons. These experiences blended music, history, and math in creative ways.









Savannah, GA: Exploring Time Through Art

ArtsNOW partnered with GA Tech CEISMC Savannah for a Saturday camp exploring the concept of time. Teacher leader Lindsey Rodriguez introduced Salvador Dali's *The Persistence of Memory* to show how time is fluid and everchanging. Students connected this idea to time capsules by creating sculptures with modeling clay, textured paper, and other materials to represent personal moments. Inspired by Dali's distorted clocks, the artifacts captured the essence of time, blending visual arts with the timeless theme of memory preservation.













Walterboro, SC: Giving Books, Sparking Joy

Thanks to the REimagining and Accelerating Literacy through Arts Integration (REALAI) grant, 1,287 students in Colleton County received books, Creativity Task Cards, and arts-integrated materials from ArtsNOW. K-5 students at Cottageville, Forest Hills, and Northside Elementary Schools were thrilled to receive their books for a second year!

The REALAI grant supports literacy growth in six schools across Georgia and South Carolina. A key focus is providing families with access to books and resources that enhance reading at home. ArtsNOW selected age-appropriate books and created Creativity Task Cards with arts-integrated activities in dance, visual arts, music, and theatre.











DeKalb County, GA: Sequencing Through Movement

At M. Agnes Jones Elementary, Dance Consultant Chris Crabb guided teachers and administrators in using dance strategies to teach math and ELA concepts. During professional learning, educators observed Chris lead students in choreographing addition and subtraction equations. Students also used images to inspire narrative writing, which they expressed through dance sequences. This hands-on approach demonstrated how dance enhances learning while fostering creativity and engagement.













Upstate, SC: History, Music, and Art in Action

At Cannons Elementary, Music Consultant Dr. Maribeth Yoder-White led fourth graders in exploring the Revolutionary War through body percussion. In pairs, students created rhythmic patterns representing South Carolina battles and key events like the Boston Tea Party, Paul Revere's Midnight Ride, and the Treaty of Paris. Using steady beats and round singing, they matched rhythms to historical events, strengthening teamwork, musical skills, and historical understanding.

At Calhoun Academy of the Arts, Visual Arts Consultant Shannon Green blended art with ELA and science. Fourth graders created wave-inspired art using markers and packing peanuts, while second graders designed gingerbread self-portraits with speech bubbles explaining the author's purpose.









Cobb County, GA: Dance Integration Feud

Dance Consultant Melissa Joy collaborated with SAIL grant 3rd–5th grade teachers from Cobb County to integrate dance with science and math standards. Together, they designed engaging, cross-disciplinary lessons that combined movement with academic concepts. Teachers and students played "Dance Integration Feud," a fun review game to reinforce dance vocabulary. These strategies will be shared across classrooms to provide creative ways to enhance learning through dance.









Birmingham, AL: Bringing Lessons to the Stage

At Bryant Park Elementary, students and teachers explored drama integration with Theatre Consultant Barry Stewart Mann. Teachers learned techniques like Pantomime, Tableau, and Hot Seating to enhance subjects like alphabetical order, skip counting, and listening skills. First graders became numbers, creating dialogue to find combinations that make 10. Fifth graders embodied Renaissance figures, exploring their historical contributions through improvisation, while fourth graders acted as divisors and dividends to solve math problems.









Midlands, SC: Stories, Songs, and Discovery

At **Boundary Street Elementary**, kindergarteners explored hibernation and migration through an interactive story box with Theatre Consultant Barry Stewart Mann. Characters who refused to migrate or hibernate helped bring these concepts to life, captivating students. Barry's creative storytelling fostered imagination while deepening understanding.

At Saluda River Academy for the Arts, Music Consultant Dr. Rue Lee-Holmes guided teachers in integrating music into lessons. Kindergarteners compared stick lengths and sounds to distinguish longer and shorter tones, blending music with measurement skills. Fifth graders analyzed songs from opposing sides of WWII, connecting music to historical perspectives and cultural understanding.









Barrow County, GA: Moving, Measuring, and Mastery

At Winder and Statham Elementary Schools, Dance Consultant Chris Crabb worked with teachers to connect dance with math and science. Teachers explored dance activators and emphasized that learning occurs during the process, not just the final product. They collaborated to create rubrics and checklists to assess students' understanding of both dance and content. These tools will support creative and critical thinking in the classroom.









Register: Demonstration of Learning Days

Registration is now open for ArtsNOW Demonstration of Learning Days for 2024-2025. Join us and visit ArtsNOW Leadership Schools to see arts-integrated lessons in action. Our eight dates showcase different types of schools in Georgia and South Carolina.

Register Now

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