

Newsletter | October 2025

We bring learning to life every month!



Augusta, GA: **Creating at Warren Road**

Warren Road Elementary explored integrating the visual arts with its academic lessons. Fifth graders worked together to create a clay museum demonstrating the classification of animals. Students in third grade created clay donuts that represented their characteristics, then manipulated them into different arrays to practice their multiplication. First graders studying plants created flower self-portraits with personality traits and plant parts. Kindergarten and second-grade students practiced math skills as they created a 2D pumpkin patch in neon pastels inspired by Yayoi Kusama. A STEAM activity challenged fourth graders to build the tallest tower after reading *Too Tall Houses*, by Gianna Marino.



Athens, GA: **ArtsNOW at the 2025 Georgia STEAM Forum**

At the Georgia STEAM Forum, ArtsNOW Curriculum and Instruction Specialist Katy Betts and Program Manager Kim Mercer led a hands-on session where teachers built art bots using motors, wires, and battery packs to create abstract art, demonstrating how to integrate ELA, science, and visual arts through the engineering design process. ArtsNOW CEO and President Pamela Walker also joined a panel discussion, highlighting the importance of arts integration within STEAM. The team enjoyed connecting with attendees at our table and sharing resources to support creativity across classrooms!



Upstate, SC: Engaging Minds through Arts Adventures

Teachers and students in upstate South Carolina explored arts integration in hands-on, inspiring ways. At **Inman Elementary**, Visual Arts Consultant Shannon Green guided second graders in creating number-themed artwork inspired by Jasper Johns. At **Woodmont Middle**, Dance Consultant Simone Liberty modeled lessons, then supported teachers in applying the arts-integrated strategies. Theatre Consultant Susie Spear Purcell led **Centerville Elementary** teachers in drama circles, mirroring, and tableau. At **Sue Cleveland Elementary**, she engaged students and teachers using "ten-second objects" to explore circuits. Each experience sparked creativity and offered fresh ideas for bringing the arts into everyday learning.



Savannah, GA: Powered by Creativity

In partnership with Georgia Tech CEISM Savannah, ArtsNOW hosted a dynamic Saturday STEAM camp where students fused the arts and technology to create light-up stained glass. Campers followed the engineering design process to research, plan, sketch, and construct illuminated works of art. After painting their stained glass designs, they used conductive filament, LED lights, and 3D pens to bring them to life. The hands-on experience fostered creativity, collaboration, and problem-solving while highlighting real-world STEAM connections.



Newberry, SC: Kind Notes, Dramatic Moves, and Creativity Everywhere

Arts integration is blooming across the Midlands in South Carolina as music and theatre bring creativity and connection into classrooms. First graders at **Boundary Street** and **Reuben Elementary** explored kindness through music with ArtsNOW Consultant Dr. Maribeth Yoder-White. After reading *How Kind*, students practiced steady beat and dynamics, then composed original class songs. At **Newberry High**, Theatre Consultant Barry Stewart Mann led games like "Word Passing" and "What Are You Doing?" to energize a world history lesson. Students improvised scenes from the French Revolution, deepening understanding through performance.



Georgetown, SC: Creative Connections

ArtsNOW recently partnered with Brown's Ferry and Carvers Bay to strengthen arts integration. At **Brown's Ferry Elementary**, Consultants Susie Purcell, Simone Liberty, Stephanie Lancaster, and Dr. Rue Lee-Holmes collaborated with teachers to design STEAM units, craft driving questions, and apply arts strategies across disciplines. At **Carvers Bay Middle STEAM Academy**, Music Consultant Dr. Maribeth Yoder-White introduced vocabulary and music strategies to support project-based learning and guided teachers in planning their quarterly showcase, where students will share their learning with families and the community.



Hall County, GA: Theatre in STEAM

ArtsNOW joined educators from **DeVinci Academy**, **North Hall Middle School**, and **Flowery Branch High School** to explore theatre strategies for STEAM integration. Teachers engaged in hands-on learning, connecting the engineering design process with strategies such as tableau, improvisation, pantomime, and open scenes. The session focused on how these strategies can support middle and high school math, science, and engineering standards —bringing learning to life through movement, creativity, and collaboration.



Moncks Corner, SC: Thriving through Arts Integration

At **H.E. Bonner Elementary**, the arts are thriving through joyful, creative learning. Theatre Consultant Barry Stewart Mann led teachers in a hands-on professional learning session focused on deepening integration through improvisation and drama strategies. Music Consultant Dr. Maribeth Yoder-White built on this work by guiding teachers and students in composing story soundscapes and writing original jazz-inspired lyrics that captured the spirit of the genre. These experiences reflect how Bonner teachers are integrating the arts into daily learning, sparking creativity and enriching classroom experiences for every student.





Douglasville, GA: Making Learning Sing

ArtsNOW Music Consultant Lyn Koonce partnered with teachers at **Youth Villages** to design a dynamic week of hands-on music integration. Students explored topics such as Earth's systems and the skeletal structure through rhythm and beat, strengthened peer connections through body and vocal percussion, and composed original pieces to demonstrate their understanding of math concepts. The week was filled with creativity, collaboration, and meaningful learning. Music helped students connect academic content with joy, expression, and deeper understanding.



Greenville and Lowcountry, SC: Igniting Learning

ArtsNOW is igniting imagination through new and ongoing school partnerships across South Carolina. At **Philip Simmons Elementary** in Berkeley County, teachers explored arts integration using strategies like tableau and choreography, leaving inspired to bring more creativity into their classrooms. At **Stone Academy** in Greenville, Theatre Consultant Susie Spear Purcell guided students in pantomimes to model circuits and themes while teachers reflected on ways to deepen learning through drama. At **Johns Island Elementary**, Visual Arts Consultant Shannon Green led STEAM challenges inspired by artist Tom Fruin, modeling creative problem-solving through the engineering design process.



Aiken, SC: Demonstrating the Power of Arts Integration

East Aiken School of the Arts hosted an ArtsNOW Demonstration of Learning Day to highlight the impact of arts-integrated teaching. Educators visited classrooms across all grade levels and experienced how creativity and content come together in engaging, meaningful ways. East Aiken administrators and teachers shared their approaches, offering insight into the rhythm and energy of a typical school day. The event left visitors inspired by how the arts can enrich learning, spark student joy, and energize instruction.

Join us at the next ArtsNOW Demonstration of Learning Day at Dowell Elementary School in Cobb County, Georgia on Tuesday, December 9. [Register now](#)





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10 Glenlake Parkway, Suite 130, Atlanta, GA 30328

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