



Newsletter | November 2025

We bring learning to life every month!



Greenville, SC: Patterns, Prints, and Probability

This month's ArtsNOW visits sparked curiosity and creativity across Greenville schools. At **Berea Elementary**, Dance Consultant Julie Galle Baggenstoss led teachers and students through explorations of the creative process, with kindergarteners choreographing and sequencing their own patterns. At **Sue Cleveland Elementary**, Visual Arts Consultant Stephanie Lancaster introduced folk art traditions, guiding students as they designed ink prints that illustrated ecosystem roles and story events. At **Woodmont Middle**, Music Consultant Dr. Maribeth Yoder-White linked rhythm and sound to math and science through chance compositions and circuit models. Each school buzzed with energy as creativity flourished across classrooms.



Atlanta, GA: Telling Tales Through Folk Art

ArtsNOW Visual Arts Consultant Stephanie Lancaster led teachers at **Hollis Innovation Academy** in an engaging exploration of the history and defining features of folk art. During hands-on demonstration lessons, educators discovered how visual arts can strengthen literacy by connecting artistic techniques such as pattern, color, and symbolism to storytelling. Students used these strategies to create expressive artworks inspired by folk tales, representing key story elements, characters, and themes. The experience showed how folk art can spark imagination and deepen comprehension, transforming classrooms into spaces of creativity and cultural discovery.





Wando, SC: Imagine. Explore. Learn.

At Philip Simmons Elementary, teachers collaborated with ArtsNOW Theatre Consultant Susie Spear Purcell during a dynamic three-day professional learning experience focused on integrating theatre strategies into classroom instruction. The visit included student demonstration lessons with collaborative reflection and planning sessions. Teachers observed, practiced, and designed lessons using pantomime and other creative strategies, including 10-second object and story whoosh. Classroom concepts came to life as students explored ideas through movement, deepening understanding and engagement. The energy and creativity from this experience continue to inspire instruction schoolwide.



Clay, AL: Bringing Visual Arts to Bryant Park

At Bryant Park Elementary School, ArtsNOW Visual Arts Consultant Shannon Green collaborated with teachers and students to explore visual arts integration. The professional learning focused on collaborative art making and how creating together supports creativity, communication, and connection. Students designed artworks tied to math concepts such as arrays and equations, wrote from multiple perspectives, and explored themes from the thirteen colonies. Teachers developed Process Boards to showcase the creative process in arts integration, and then participated in gallery walks to reflect on progress and celebrate their collective learning.



Upstate, SC: Creative Pathways to Learning

Across Anderson and Spartanburg, arts integration is sparking curiosity,

creativity, and deeper learning in classrooms. At **Cannons Elementary**, students used Crayola Model Magic to sculpt ecosystems, plant life cycles, and animal adaptations through relief and 3D designs. Dance Consultant Julie Galle Baggenstoss guided teachers at **Homeland Park Primary** in transforming academic content into movement-based lessons. Meanwhile, at **Inman Elementary**, Music Consultant Dr. Maribeth Yoder-White helped students connect rhythm, storytelling, and math through sound and body percussion. Together, these experiences highlight how the arts bring joy, engagement, and meaningful learning to every student.



Augusta, GA: Math, Science, and Movement

ArtsNOW Dance Consultant Angela Gallo led an inspiring arts-integrated experience that connected math and science concepts through movement at **Deer Chase Elementary**. Teachers and students explored heat transfer, parts of a cell, place value, and patterns by choreographing dance sequences that represented each standard. Working in small groups, participants transformed academic content into expressive movement, building understanding through creativity and collaboration. The sessions demonstrated how dance strengthens content learning while fostering teamwork, problem-solving, and engagement. Angela's dynamic approach energized classrooms and illustrated how arts integration helps students connect knowledge in meaningful, memorable ways.



Midlands, SC: Hands On, Minds On

Teachers and students are experiencing the power of arts integration in classrooms across South Carolina. At **Kingtree Middle Magnet**, Theatre Consultant Susie Spear Purcell guided students in using tableau to depict climate zones and open scenes to illustrate sound waves. At **Newberry Middle**, Dance Consultant Simone Liberty led students in creating "mind-mapped choreography," transforming central ideas and story details into movement. At **Saluda River Academy for the Arts**, Music Consultant Dr. Maribeth Yoder-White helped students explore weather through soundscapes and represent math concepts through musical composition. These creative experiences are deepening understanding and inspiring joyful learning.





Hephzibah, GA: Academics Through Music

At Hephzibah Elementary, music filled the halls as students learned through rhythm, rhyme, and sound. Music Consultant Lyn Koonce and classroom teachers co-taught lessons that brought creativity and movement into every subject. Fourth and fifth graders used raps and rhymes to understand fractions, while third graders created soundscapes inspired by Georgia's land regions. Kindergarteners made letter sounds with matching movements, second graders practiced subtraction with rhythm sticks, and first graders composed sounds to represent animals and landforms. The school buzzed with energy as students discovered how music makes learning lively, meaningful, and unforgettable.



Greenville, SC: Creativity Meets Education at PSAE 2025!

The ArtsNOW Team proudly attended and presented at the Palmetto State Arts Education Annual Conference, themed *Where Creativity Meets Education*. Regional Director Regi Strickland shared *STEAM-Powered Classrooms*, highlighting effective strategies for integrating the arts into STEM learning. Dance Consultant Simone Liberty and Project Manager Christopher Crabb led *Get Moving with Science*, demonstrating how dance can illuminate elementary science concepts. Kristin Mumford connected with educators at the ArtsNOW table, sharing resources and information about arts integration. The event offered an inspiring opportunity to showcase ArtsNOW's impact, exchange ideas with fellow educators, and build connections that continue to strengthen arts integration across South Carolina.





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