

South-Southwest Arts Teams Newsletter

A newsletter for the South-Southwest Arts Pathway School Arts Teams who share the Creative Advantage vision of a city where, through the arts, youth have voice to influence positive change in their schools and develop skills for work and life.

Resources for Arts Partnerships

Congratulations to all the school arts teams on creating your school arts visions and year one action plans! As soon as they are all complete, they will be posted on the [Creative Advantage website](#) so that you can see what all the schools developed.

One resource that you will have next school year is funds for arts partnerships. Each SSW school will receive \$7500 to spend. Here are few guidelines:

The arts partners can be selected from a [vetted list](#) developed by the Office of Arts and Culture.

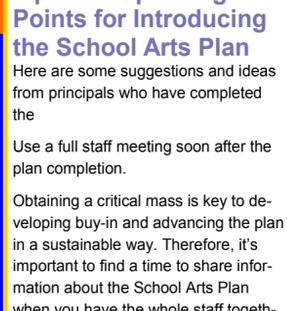
The funds can be used for 3 types of partnerships:

1. **Staff PD on integrated arts** (This could even start this summer if you like)
2. **Teaching artist residencies** in integrated arts
3. **Culturally-relevant arts teaching artist residencies**

Go here for more details on the partnership guidelines: <http://www.creativeadvantageseattle.org/toolkit/>. [Lara Davis](#) and [Audrey Querns](#) will be available this spring and fall to help you navigate selecting the right arts partners and the SPS contracting process.

In this Newsletter:

- ◆ Resources for next year
- ◆ Final Media Arts Workshop, April 30th
- ◆ Sharing your arts vision with school staff
- ◆ Mariachi Revival
- ◆ Help shape the next Families and Ed Levy
- ◆ CA Yr 2 Evaluation Highlights



STEM K-8 Arts Team with their new school arts vision

Tips and Speaking Points for Introducing the School Arts Plan

Here are some suggestions and ideas from principals who have completed the

Use a full staff meeting soon after the plan completion.

Obtaining a critical mass is key to developing buy-in and advancing the plan in a sustainable way. Therefore, it's important to find a time to share information about the School Arts Plan when you have the whole staff together.

Provide staff with an initial arts experience. Then have staff debrief or reflect on the experience as a group so that the value of the activity becomes clear.

Have each Arts Team member who is a point person for an Arts Plan goal speak briefly about what they will be doing. Following the presentations, ask for volunteers from the staff to help with each area or project so that there is a small committee established for each goal.

Acknowledge that it will take time. It may be that not everything in the plan gets done in the first two years.

Encourage everyone to work together, as well as to do the things each can do individually, so that collectively, the school can ensure that the important work is completed or advanced.

Last Media Arts & Tech Workshop

Creative Advantage Media Arts for EVERY Secondary Class Series

Last chance! The Media Arts for Every Secondary Classroom Series is for **ANY district middle or high school teacher, in ANY subject**, who'd like to integrate more media arts and digital literacy into their classroom. Teachers will walk away with hands-on understanding of the specific technology, a concrete piece created during the workshop, and lesson plans for implementation.

April 30, 9:00 to 3:30 at Amazon: Concurrent Sessions of All Three Media

At this final session in the series, all three media—iMovie, graphic design, and podcasting will run in concurrent sessions. You can continue your learning in a media you've done in the past or take something new. The learning will be differentiated for novice to advanced users. Integrate media arts in your classroom through...

- ◆ Graphic Design—make a poster using Canva
- ◆ Film—make a movie using iMovie
- ◆ Podcasting—make a podcast using Garage Band

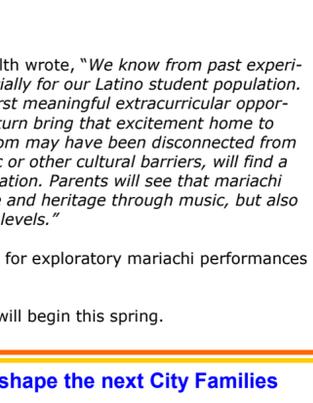
Clock hours are available, PLUS raffles for iPads.

Sponsored by *The Laird Norton Family Foundation* as part of the *Creative Advantage—a partnership between SPS and the Office of Arts & Culture.*

Please sign up on ESS. In the "Find" field, enter "Media Arts".

Mariachi Growing the South-Southwest Schools

Each region of the Creative Advantage includes a "Targeted Arts Partnership" to build capacity in a new or emerging arts program. **In the South-southwest region, this will be the restoration of an after school mariachi program at Chief Sealth International High School and Denny International Middle School.** Students will learn how to sing and play violin, trumpet, guitar, guitarrron, or vihuela. In addition to the after-school programming for students, the teaching artist will co-teach in the mariachi class four days a week.



Expected Outcomes for Students:

Noah Zeichner, social studies teacher at Chief Sealth wrote, "We know from past experience that Mariachi provides a cultural outlet especially for our Latino student population. Some students will discover that mariachi is the first meaningful extracurricular opportunity that has been available to them and will in turn bring that excitement home to their parents and guardians. Parents, many of whom may have been disconnected from their children's schools in the past due to linguistic or other cultural barriers, will find a reason to become involved in their children's education. Parents will see that mariachi not only is a way for kids to celebrate their culture and heritage through music, but also motivates students to achieve at higher academic levels."

Creative Advantage will also support opportunities for exploratory mariachi performances and lessons at the feeder elementary schools.

After-school programs at Chief Sealth and Denny will begin this spring.

Join Community Conversations to help shape the next City Families and Ed Levy

The City of Seattle will be re-authorizing the Families and Education Levy next year, and is hosting a series of community meetings this month to seek community input. They will take place in schools, community-based organizations, and businesses across Seattle. Three meetings are at SPS schools, including **Garfield High School this Tuesday, 3-5 pm.** This is a great way to let the City know that your community values art, music, dance and theater as core to a well-rounded education.

The ideas and findings from all these conversations and gatherings will be recorded and presented at the **Mayor's Education Summit Event on April 30.** You can find a calendar of all of the conversations [here](#).

If you cannot make it to a meeting, there is also a [survey](#) that you can take to share your perspective.

CA Year 2 Evaluation Highlights

Our outside evaluator for the Creative Advantage recently completed our evaluation for 2014-15 school year. The purpose of the year two report is to evaluate the progress of the Creative Advantage in the Central Arts Pathway (13 schools in year 3 of initiative) and present baseline data for the South-Southwest Arts Pathway (10 schools) during their regional planning year.

Outcomes for 2014-15 include:

- ◆ **An increase in access to the arts** – At the elementary level, the total number of arts instructional minutes increased across the entire district and growth was the greatest in the Central arts pathway, increasing by 200% from 2013 to 2015.
- ◆ Increase by 34% from 2014 in **student demonstration of 21st Century Learning Skills** in Central Arts Pathway classrooms.
- ◆ **Increase in integrated arts professional development for teachers** (9 sessions at 5 schools)
- ◆ **Increase in student learning from professional artists** (26 residencies at 12 schools)
- ◆ **Evidence of culturally-responsive teaching and learning** observed in 55% of classrooms at Creative Advantage schools versus in 28% of non-Creative Advantage schools.



Creative Advantage Resources

As you get started on implementing your school arts plans, here are a few websites and people you can look to for help:

[Creative Advantage website](#)

[Creative Advantage Arts Partner Roster](#)

The *Community Arts Partner Roster* is a vetted list of teaching artists and community arts and culture organizations approved to work in Seattle Public Schools through the Creative Advantage.

Also, like Creative Advantage on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#) to learn about arts education events and news.

SPS' Visual and Performing Arts website

Here you can find an overview of the Creative Advantage as well as resources related to the *Naramore student art show, summer music, and for teachers, arts curriculum maps and cornerstone assessments.*

If you can't find what you need on-line, **contact Creative Advantage staff:**

[Audrey Querns](#)—SPS project manager for Creative Advantage (for questions about arts teams and planning, arts partner logistics like contracts and funding)

[Lara Davis](#)—Seattle Office of Arts and Culture Arts Education Manager (for questions about the Arts Partner Roster and working with teaching artists and arts organizations)

[Gail Sehlhorst](#)—SPS Visual and Performing Arts Manager (for questions about arts staffing, curriculum and assessment)

Creative Advantage 101:

What are the GOALS of the Arts Plan?

- ALL K-5 students receive 120 mins/week in visual arts and music
- EVERY school uses arts integration as a learning strategy
- High quality K-12 Arts Learning Pathways are in ALL regions of the City

- Arts partnerships with community-based artists at every school, every year
- Opportunities to connect arts to careers at the secondary level through media arts skills centers

- Arts Instruction that teaches sequential arts skills and techniques and develops students' 21st Century skills of creativity, critical thinking, communication, collaboration, growth mind-set and perseverance.

Questions or suggestions regarding the Newsletter? Please email me at akquerns@seattleschools.org

Central Arts Pathway 2015-16 Calendar

Month	Principal and Arts Team Activities
Jan	All Art Teams attend Orientation Workshop to prepare for arts planning by learning about the planning process, engaging in arts-making activities, and hearing from colleagues who have already engaged in the process. (3 hours) Schools schedule vision and action planning meetings with their coaches.
Feb-Mar	School Vision Planning School Action Planning
April	Share arts plans with staff. Decide on community-based arts partnerships for next school year.
May	Fill out the Year-end School Arts Inventory Survey
Jun-Aug	Attend any summer arts professional development you've signed up for (Arts Impact, Bringing Theatre to the Classroom, EMP and SAM all have great, inexpensive programming in the summer)
Sept	Consider kicking off the school year with an all-staff arts PD. Schedule Arts Team meetings for the year

