Implementing Year 3 Arts Plans

Fall Activities for Central Arts Teams

As we all get settled into the new school year, it’s a great time for school arts teams to get started on implementing the your year three arts plans that you created last spring.

Here are some actions to get you started this fall:

**Principals**, update your arts teams with new members - replace teachers, parents and community members who have left the school since last year. Please email your updated teams.

**Arts teams**, select an arts team coordinator for the year. More details on this position in the story below.

**Principal or coordinator**, please email your updated teams.

Creative Advantage This Month:

Complimentary registration for EMP Professional Development Day

Skills for 21st Century Educators: Power of the Arts: STEM and Project-Based Learning, Oct 29th

EMP would like to warmly invite the first 12 Creative Advantage pathway teachers who respond to attend their Oct. 29 Teacher PD.

Elementary and MS/HS learning targets addressed in each workshop. Seven clock hours available.

Choose one of the following full-day class sessions:

- **Media Storytelling and Video Making for iPad** (teaching artist: Scott Macklin)
- **Oral Presentation Skills through Voice-Over for All Subject Areas** (teaching artist: Ali el-Gasseir)
- **Paper Engineering: Visual Art/Sculpture Wearable Art Fused with Math and Engineering** (teaching artists: Nicole Appell and Alisha Dall'Osto)
- **World Rhythm Games and Breakthrough CBPA Strategies for Music Teachers** (teaching artist: Paul Meehan)

Saturday, October 29; 8:30am-4:00pm; EMP Museum
Partnerships

For the last two years, the Creative Advantage has provided funding to schools for arts partnerships. We are pleased to be able to provide another year of funding, though at a smaller amount.

Cost is normally $50 per person (includes seven WA state clock hours)

Teachers should respond directly to Bonnie Showers at EMP - BonnieS@empmuseum.org and she will give you the COMP code to register.

---

Creative Advantage Arts Partner Roster Improvements

Last spring, the Central Arts Pathway arts team coordinators convened as a focus group to review the year. The coordinators shared suggestions for improving the usability of the Creative Advantage Arts Partner Roster.

The Seattle Office of Arts & Culture is making those changes now. Improvements include:

- Filtering capability
- More information on specific skills and experience, such as instruction with English Language Learners and Special Education students
- Program fee information

Please continue to provide feedback on how we can make the Arts Partner Roster easier for schools and artists.

---

21ST CENTURY ARTS COMMON ASSESSMENTS

On August 29th, 151 teachers in dance, media arts, music, theatre, and visual art gathered to launch the 21st Century Arts Common Assessments. For five years, teachers have been working on curriculum that incorporates 21st century skills. This marks the achievement of one of our Creative Advantage goals: High quality arts instruction that teaches sequential arts skills and techniques, develops students' 21st century skills, and is culturally responsive. This year all arts teachers will bring these assessments into the classroom for engaging, student-centered arts making experiences.
Each school currently has $2500 loaded into their Creative Advantage account. Remember that there is also an expectation that each school will make a $1000 match to support arts partnerships.

In addition, there will be a 500 for a stipend for the arts team coordinator with a $250 match from the school.

**CONNECT**

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

- [Sign up for the Creative Advantage Central Arts Pathway Newsletter](#)
- [The Creative Advantage Website](#)
- [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.
- [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.

**Why assess students in the arts?**

**Student Learning:** These assessments teach and assess what's most important in the arts and 21st century skills - creativity, critical thinking, communication, collaboration, growth mindset, and perseverance-what we want students to be like. We are intentionally teaching these habits so that students can transfer them to other areas of school and life; to give them practice with competencies that are needed in today's creative economy.

**Teacher Practice:** These have been written by teachers for teachers. They have been tested over 3 years to ensure quality and flexibility. They provide a way for teachers to come together talk about how students are doing and how to improve their practice.

**Quality & Equity:** To align our teaching so that no matter where a student lives, they can be guaranteed the same quality and experience as any other neighborhood in the district.

---

**The Creative Advantage Arts Partner Summer Institute**

The Creative Advantage kicked off the 2016-17 school year with its third annual Summer Institute in partnership with Seattle Art Museum. Over 100 teaching artists, administrators, classroom teachers, and youth development workers gathered for a day of learning, community building, and practice. Sessions were facilitated by local artists, instructors, and national partners with topics ranging from Healing Justice in Arts Education (inspired by the work of Shawn Ginwright), [The Entrepreneurial Teaching Artist](#), to [Trauma-Informed Practice](#). Participants also had opportunities to creatively engage and reflect by art discipline.

The morning plenary centered the role of racial equity and social justice in curriculum and approach. This included a deeply moving poem on structural barriers within education by Carlynn Newsome the 2016 Youth Speaks Seattle grand slam champion, followed by music and a story from Shontina Vemon, a mentor teaching artist with 4Culture's Creative Justice program. Robyne Walker Murphy, Cultural Access Program Director at Cool Culture in Brooklyn,
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)

gave a stirring keynote entitled, "Empower, Create Connect: A Framework for Liberatory Education."
The institute put front and center the values of practitioners working for creativity and justice in education, calling for narratives that position student voice and perspective as fundamental to high quality teaching and learning.
Next up: The Creative Advantage Professional Learning Series, beginning in January 2017. For more information, sign up here.