

Central Arts Teams Newsletter

A monthly newsletter for the 13 schools in the Central Arts Pathway who are changing systems to ensure that arts are a part of *every* Seattle student's education

Partnerships: An Arts Team Guide

Each Central Arts Pathway school has \$7500 to spend this year on arts partnerships with teaching artists and community-based arts organizations. Wondering what to do now?

1. Meet as a team and develop an arts partnership plan based on your arts plan goals. Also select a point person for arts partnerships.
2. Use the Creative Advantage Partnerships [roster](#) to see the 50 qualified artists and organizations.
3. Contact the partners and decide on the scope, timeline, and budget. Create a personal service contract. Use the attached contracting guidelines. This must be done at least two weeks BEFORE services begin.
4. Document through photos and reflections and share the great stories with your staff, your families, and us.

Share with your staff...At a staff meeting or through a survey, find out what types of arts professional learning and arts residencies they would like for themselves and their students...STEAM? African drumming? Dance in PE? The possibilities are endless.

Arts Teams Winter Workshop Dates— [Poll](#)

Central Pathway Arts teams will get a chance to meet on December 18 or January 8. This will be an optional meeting for the 13 school arts teams to:

- Give school arts teams a chance to share their arts plans and progress with each other.
- Prepare schools for updating their Year 2 arts plans
- See updated regional data on arts access and equity and revisit the regional vision

Take this [Doodle Poll](#) to select the date for the meeting.

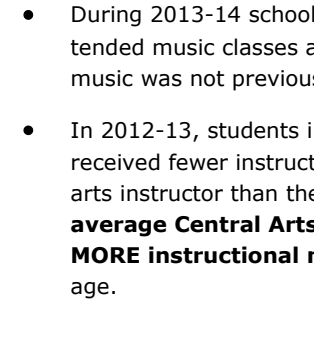


School Spotlight

To introduce John Muir Elementary staff to Creative Advantage, the entire staff placed themselves in the shoes of their students during an integrated arts lesson led by Powerful Schools Teaching Artist, Gary Reed. Through a lesson called "Dance and Language" that supports literacy and language development, staff collaborated in groups of four to create and choreograph unique dances that they then shared with their peers. High and low, big and small, above and below, straight and curved... language concepts reinforced through creativity and movement!

Contributed by John Muir visual arts teacher, Julie Trout.

Meet Gail Sehlhorst, Visual and Performing Arts Manager



You can reach Gail at ghsehlhorst@seattleschools.org. There will be opportunities to meet Gail at the Arts Team Winter Workshop and at a Meet-and-Greet to be announced soon.

Gail Sehlhorst starts this week as our new Manager for Visual and Performing Arts, filling the position formerly held by Carri Campbell, who is now our Director of School-Community Partnerships.

As Visual and Performing Arts Manager, Gail will lead the development, implementation and evaluation of visual and performing arts programs. She will work closely with the Seattle Office of Arts & Culture and the SPS Office of School-Community Partnerships to implement The Creative Advantage arts program to ensure all students in all schools have the opportunity to learn through the arts.

Ms. Sehlhorst comes to Seattle Public Schools with 16 years of experience as an arts education professional. Her specialties include arts integration models; curriculum and assessment design; and professional development for teachers. She has most recently served as the Director of Education for Book-It Repertory Theatre's Arts & Education Program.

Creative Advantage Year One Evaluation

The Year One Creative Advantage Evaluation will be complete next week. This year, the evaluation was primarily a collection of baseline data, but we have already seen some growth!

- During 2013-14 school year, **1659 students** attended music classes at 6 schools where general music was not previously available.
- In 2012-13, students in the Central Arts Pathway received fewer instructional minutes from a certified arts instructor than the district average. **Now, the average Central Arts Pathway student receives MORE instructional minutes** that the district average.

Yearly Arts Specialist Minutes, 2012-2014



Share with your families...Access to arts in your school is improving every year.

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

