

## 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

**Welcome Back!** This marks the start of year two for implementing your school arts plan! The focus of this month's newsletter is on building autonomy and sustainability for arts in the schools this year.

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- ◆ New Arts Team Coordinator Role
- ◆ CA Roster: New Partners
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### Year Two Creative Advantage Supports

This marks the start of year two for implementing your school arts plans. This year, the schools in the Central Arts Pathway will receive these supports:

- 6 schools will receive additional K-5 general music FTE so that this is the year EVERY K-5 student in the Central Arts Pathway will have academic assurances for music!
- Funds for community arts partnerships - \$7500/school to hire partners from the [Creative Advantage Partner roster](#). These are to support arts residencies in classrooms and professional development in integrated arts for school staff.
- Facilitation of your year 3 school arts planning meetings with your Arts Leadership Coach.

Know that while the support for music FTE will continue, this will be the final year for partnership funding and arts planning facilitation. This means that you should think of this year as a year to build Arts Autonomy. Consider activities that will show your community (staff and families) the value of arts education for your students so that they want to allocate resources to the arts.



This summer, Lowell Elementary visual art teacher and art team member, **Robyn Jordan** published a "solutions journalism comic strip" about the Creative Advantage on [Bright—Medium.com](#)'s publication about innovation in education. It even got picked up by the Huffington Post! Please share with your staffs and families. She makes explicit the connection between arts learning, jobs in Seattle's creative industries, and why arts education is a social justice issue.

### Arts Team Coordinators

This year, we are starting a new role in the Central Arts Pathway and encouraging arts teams to select an **Arts Team Coordinator** who will act as a liaison to the district and to arts partners and schedule and help the school leader facilitate arts team meetings.

In 2015-16, thanks to a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Creative Advantage will offer a stipend for the first year of this Coordinator position. The coordinator will need to attend a required training on programming and contracting school partnerships and will have the opportunity to attend a training to learn the Consensus Workshop facilitation method used in arts Vision and Action Planning.

The coordinator position must be SPS staff and we will ask principals to decide the right way to select the coordinator for their team. It is likely that that there is already someone on your arts team that has been filling this role over the last year.

### Creative Advantage Arts Partners Roster – New Artists!

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. This year, the roster has over 20 new teaching artists and organizations, including:

- Dance:  
**danceDaigre** (African, Latin, modern), **Extraordinary Futures** (Breakdance)
- Music:  
**Jah Breeze Rhythms** (steel pan), **Seattle Symphony**, **Seattle Opera**
- Theatre:  
**James Lapan** (Spoken Word), **Red Eagle Soaring** (Native artistic traditions)

- Visual Arts:  
**Gage Academy**, **Gregory Stump** (Comics), **Youth in Focus** (photography)

*NOTE: We want to improve the user interface for the roster this year. If you have ideas for making the roster website easier to use, please email [Lara Davis](mailto:Lara.Davis).*

### Central Arts Pathway 2015-16 Calendar

Month	Principal and Arts Team Activities
September, 2015	Principal fills any empty roles on arts team - -e.g. parent or staff that has moved on.  Principal or arts team select an arts team coordinator for the year.  Arts Team meets to review plan and meeting schedule for the year.
October, 2015	Arts Team Coordinator attends trainings on CBO programming and Consensus Workshop facilitation
November	All Central Art Teams attend Annual Arts Team Workshop to share ideas, challenges and successes, participate in art-making activities, and (3 hours)
December	Schools schedule year 3 action planning meetings with their coaches.
January	School Action Planning
February	School Action Planning  Consider putting your arts plan in C-SIP
March	Budget for school arts plan
April	Share arts plan with staff  Decide on community-based arts partnerships for next school year.
May	Year-end School Arts Inventory
June	
August	Consider kicking off the school year with an all-staff arts PD.

Questions or suggestions regarding the Newsletter? Please email me at [akquerns@seattleschools.org](mailto:akquerns@seattleschools.org)

