



Arkansas Learning Through The Arts

November, 2015

ALTTA: A creative approach to arts-integrated learning.

PARTNERS IN ARTS AND EDUCATION

PROVIDING MORE AND MORE PROGRAMS!

Arkansas Learning Through The Arts continues to add arts-integrated programs as schools request new subjects and new Teaching Artists join the roster. The programs align with the curriculum that teachers are presenting in their classrooms and they add a boost to engage students' participation in sometimes challenging subjects. ALTTA has designed Student Journals for each student and a Lesson Planning Guide for the teacher to facilitate their planning.

One principal said of the programs, "This year we had some of the same artists back in our schools and I can see our students beginning to build relationships with these artists. They are becoming familiar with them. And, the artists are building upon the work they did last year. They are asking students to use their retrieval skills to make connections to what they have previously learned and build upon it. That is common core. That is higher order thinking skills."

This past year, **Arkansas Learning Through The Arts** introduced 21 new artist workshops for schools, for a total of 31 on this year's roster. Recent additions include:



Capturing Still Life by local artist, *Jeri Hillis*, who shows students how to capture scenes from their lives and represent them through their art, using Van Gogh and O'Keeffe as models.

Kathleen Marleneanu, a professional ballet dancer from Little Rock, delighted first grade students and teachers by teaching them how to express the emotions of characters in *Wizard of Oz* through dance.



For older students, poets *Jay McClure* and *Chris James*, poets from Little Rock, have developed a workshop called *Poems Reflect Life*, in which students write their own poetry which they recite in poetry slam sessions.

One of the most memorable programs last year involved a residency for students incarcerated at the Arkansas Juvenile Assessment and Treatment Center in Alexander; the students created and shared some truly inspiring verse. Their principal commented that, "Many students were inspired to write like [he] had never seen before."

Our goal is to provide 400 sessions this year to schools in Garland County and to expand into neighboring counties. We are halfway to our goal, scheduling first with schools that have participated and working with new schools and districts to introduce them to the program.

If you are receiving this newsletter, you have likely supported **Arkansas Learning Through The Arts** in the past or are known to be interested in the arts and education. ALTTA artists are doing important work in schools and are making a difference for our young people, whether challenged or achieving students. Garland County, specifically, and Arkansas in general are blessed with incredibly talented individuals, many of whom might not be able to survive as artists without the income they receive from ALTTA (which ranges from \$3000 to \$7,000 per year per artist depending upon number of bookings).

Our experience is that participating schools are eager to have the programs and do not question the value of the work of teaching artists. The challenge for the school district is being able to allocate funding for enrichment programs. All schools contribute to the cost of artist workshops with support from community contributions. Approximately 80% of the students we serve qualify for free and reduced lunch programs. These young people are truly having life experiences that would not be possible without your contributions.

WHAT WE DO

Arkansas Learning Through The Arts offers programming to schools that significantly improves literacy and increases classroom participation. These programs strengthen the teaching process by igniting curiosity in children and by creating excitement for learning.

- We offer resources to schools that are not easily available.
- We change the student mindset for learning.
- We create a lasting model for creative teaching.



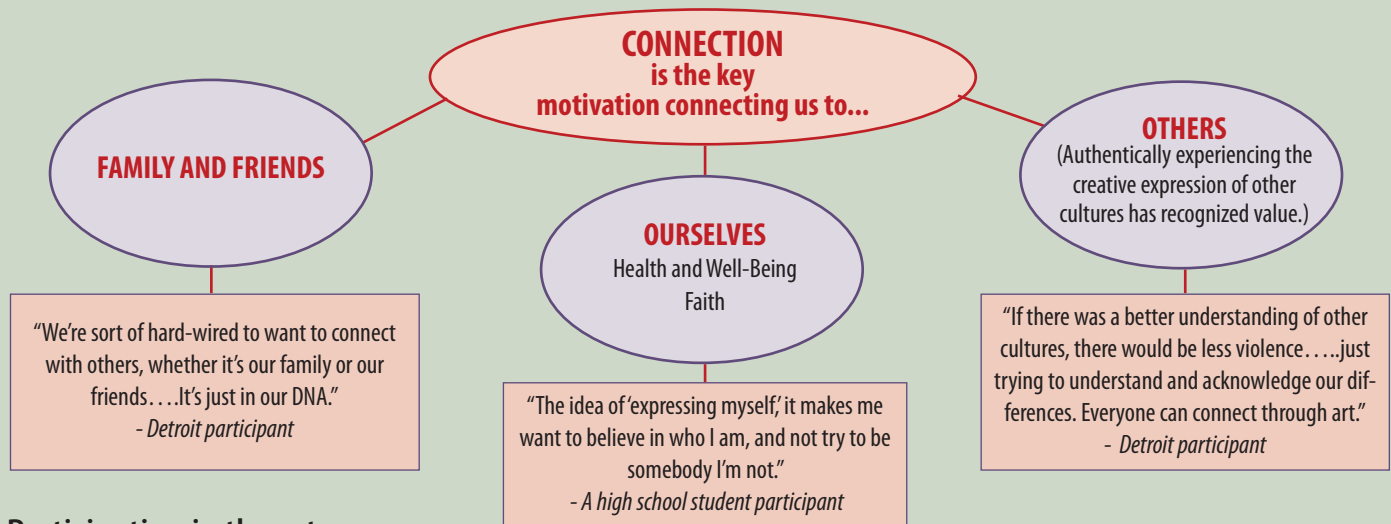
Creativity is defined broadly to include everything from problem-solving to artistic inspiration and expression.

WHY THE ARTS ARE IMPORTANT IN OUR LIVES:

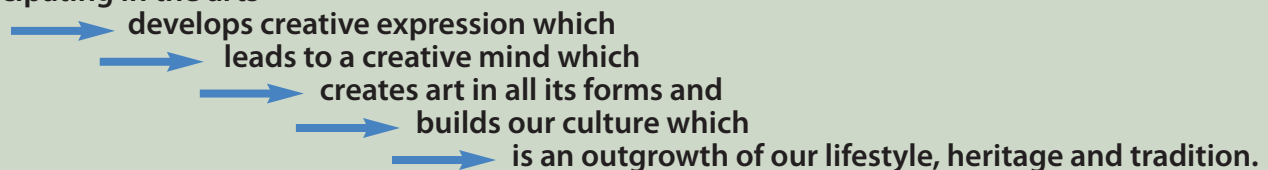
We at **Arkansas Learning Through The Arts** believe that when young people are engaged in arts experiences, they have the opportunity to express themselves creatively. They learn to think more creatively which has an impact on their ability to problem-solve, not just in their academic studies, but in all aspects of their lives.

Arts Midwest and Metropolitan Group initiated a multi-year social change effort in 2012, to advance the position of arts and culture as a recognized, valued and expected part of everyday lives. They conducted focus groups and a broad scale survey of people of all ages and backgrounds throughout the United States to discover what they value in their lives.

The highest priority was the connection to family, followed by health and well-being, and faith. They found that “connection to family and friends is the primary and most powerful bridge between arts and culture and what people care most about in their daily lives. For parents of young children, it gives them the opportunity to create lasting memories.”



Participating in the arts



We believe that arts and culture are essential to strong communities, bright and enriching lives, deeper understanding and appreciation of diverse cultures, and competitive industries. . . . Arts and culture offer significant cognitive, economic and social benefits. They're also captivating, fulfilling and pleasurable.”

Extracts from *Creating Connection: Building Public Will for Arts & Culture*, authored by Arts Midwest and Metropolitan Group. April 2015.

Arts Midwest is one of six U.S. Regional Arts Organizations created to encourage development of the arts and to support arts programs. The organization promotes creativity, nurtures cultural leadership and engages people in meaningful arts experiences.

Metropolitan Group is a social change agency that crafts and integrates creative strategic services that empower public purpose organizations to build a just and sustainable world. Notable accomplishments include promoting improvements in public health, learning and literacy, environmental sustainability, and community and economic development, as well as advancing social just and human rights.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP

SAVE THE DATE



December 1

#GIVINGTUESDAY™

Arkansas Learning Through The Arts is participating in the #GivingTuesday, a global day dedicated to giving. Last year, more than 30,000 organizations in 68 countries came together to celebrate #GivingTuesday. Occurring this year on December 1, #GivingTuesday is held annually on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving and the widely recognized shopping events, Black Friday and Cyber Monday, to kick-off the holiday giving season and inspire people to collaborate in improving their local communities and to give back in impactful ways to the charities and causes they support.

We invite you to become a new FRIEND or renew your FRIENDship with **Arkansas Learning Through The Arts** by participating on #Giving Tuesday.

You may donate by going to the SUPPORT EDUCATION page of our website which is www.altta.org. After you select your giving FRIENDship level, you are given the opportunity to make payment using PayPal or indicate that you will send payment by check. You may cut out the form in this newsletter to send with your check.

We know that there are many worthy causes, but we hope you will consider We invite you to become a new FRIEND or renew your FRIENDship with **Arkansas Learning Through The Arts** when you plan your year-end giving this holiday season. Our young people everywhere need the opportunity to learn how to express themselves creatively and be introduced to all different aspects of our culture. So many of them have limited access to arts and cultural activities due to geography and economics restraints.



What do FRIENDS mean to the program?

What do FRIENDS mean to the program? **Arkansas Learning Through The Arts** offers programs for the schools at affordable rates. The production costs include the artists' expenses (at the Arkansas Arts Council rates for their Teaching Artist Roster), development and printing of Student Journals and teachers' Lesson Planning Guides, related books and all the logistics related to planning and delivering the workshops. Without external funding, schools have to shoulder the entire expense. Most can manage a couple of workshops, but not necessarily for all grade levels. Some schools have government funding that helps, but others do not qualify.

The target for scheduling programming is to have two programs a year per grade level. Depending on whether the arts program is 2, 3 or 4 sessions (50 minutes), the cost could vary from \$200 to \$350 per classroom session, generally for 25 students. The target for **Arkansas Learning Through The Arts** is to provide some form of external funding that can defray at least half the cost. Here is an example of what your support can provide for students (if schools pay half the cost):

Picasso:	\$100	Provides a classroom 2 sessions of an arts program	25 students
Joplin	\$300	Provides 3 classrooms 2 sessions of arts programs	75 students
O'Keefe	\$500	Provides 5 classrooms 2 sessions of arts programs	125 students
Beethoven:	\$1,000	Provides 10 classrooms 2 sessions of arts programs	250 students
Shakespeare:	\$3,000	Provides 30 classrooms 2 sessions of arts programs	750 students

Schools have been enthusiastic about the programs and are eagerly scheduling as many programs as they can afford. They have been inventive in search of available funding within their budgets, but they need your support.

PLEASE CONSIDER BECOMING A FRIEND

AS YOU CONSIDER YOUR ALTERNATIVES FOR GIVING PRIOR TO THE END OF THE YEAR!

Arkansas Learning Through The Arts is a 501(c)(3) non profit organization.

BECOME A FRIEND OF Arkansas Learning Through The Arts AND SUPPORT OUR CHILDREN!

Name _____ Street Address _____

City _____ Zip _____ Telephone _____ E-mail _____

I want to be a friend at the following level:

Individual \$15 _____	Family \$25 _____	Van Gogh \$50 _____	Picasso \$100 _____
Joplin \$300 _____	O'Keefe \$500 _____	Beethoven \$1000 _____	Shakespeare \$3000 _____
Michelangelo \$10,000 _____	Other \$ _____		

Contact me about Volunteering! _____

SEND YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO:

Arkansas Learning Through the Arts, 4501 N. HWY 7, SUITE 8, #315, HOT SPRINGS VILLAGE, AR, 71909

Your membership is entirely tax deductible.

ALTTA is designated as a 501(c)(3) organization under IRS regulations.



**Arkansas
Learning Through the Arts**
4501 N. HWY 7, SUITE 8, #315
HOT SPRINGS VILLAGE, AR 71909

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND ADMINISTRATION

The Board and Staff are strategizing for the expansion to neighboring counties and along the I-30 corridor.



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