



ARKANSAS LEARNING *through the* ARTS

affiliated with the national Young Audiences Arts for Learning network
June, 2017

PARTNERS
IN
EDUCATION

REPORT CARD FOR 2016-2017

- * Learning Through The Arts (ALTTA) workshops and residencies reached 5300 students and 221 teachers in 11 elementary and intermediate schools in Garland, Pope and Saline Counties.
- * Eight new programs were added and one new Teaching Artist joined the Artist Roster.
- * Contributors this fiscal year included eight foundations, two government entities, two endowments, two businesses, one service club and 110 individuals. ALTTA moved up to 10th place in the small nonprofit category of Arkansas Gives.

TEACHERS EMBRACE ALTTA PROGRAMS

"The students expressed themselves amazingly in response to the creative activities from the speakers/musicians."

"Students love to learn about reading through dance and Ms.Kathleen does a wonderful job with the students."

"Students loved the stories read and told. This helped with comprehension, inferencing and engagement."

"I loved watching their transformations from 'awkward instrument holding' to confident drummers!"



"Kids were able to internalize and act out their opinions and understand. The lessons were creative and gave students an opportunity to explore talents/skills that they may have never been exposed to."

"I saw all of my students engaged and learning in a way that they were not used to (even those who struggle daily were learning and proved that at the end of the lesson)."

"I appreciated the way the artist tied the songwriting into writing a story with a beginning, a middle and an end."



"I always feel like I learn some techniques in grasping my students' attention after she visits."

"Standards from across the curriculum were met. The students were actively engaged in all aspects of the sessions and were so proud of their finished piece."

"Seeing my students write and explore poetry at a deeper level was amazing"

"I am pleased to see that 'Speaking/Listening Skills' are considered with these activities."





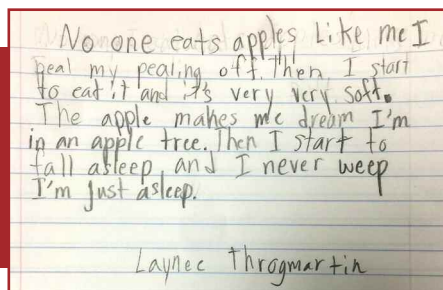
3rd Grade teacher, Tracy Pratt, reads "Langston's Train Ride" in preparation for McClure's visit.

Student Journals are distributed to each student.



Jay McClure at Cutter - Morning Star Elementary An example of how an ALTTA artist works with students

Jay portrays Langston Hughes, reciting poetry and answering questions about his life and times. He shares poetry-writing techniques and works with the classroom teacher to help students write their own poems and share them with the class.



Laynee Throgmartin shares her poetry.



HOW THE ARTS IMPROVES ACHIEVEMENT IN LITERACY

"The arts can encourage and motivate kids in all aspects of their school lives, including teaching academic skills.

- * When kids act out a story, discuss a painting, or perform a play, they improve their reading and writing skills.
- * Noticing musical patterns and rhythms can help them with math because they're organizing information quantitatively.

The arts not only give kids a creative, expressive break in their school day, but also provide a multi-sensory approach to learning, incorporating three major learning styles: visual, auditory, and physical. Most people learn best through one of these three different styles."

Source: How the Arts Build Academic and Social Skills: Grades 3 – 5
www.ArtsEdge.Kennedy-Center.org

ALTTA WORKSHOP RESULTS

- * Artists capture students' attention through their art and they become interested in learning.
- * Student imagination is sparked, leading to active participation.
- * Opportunities for sharing opinions – orally and in writing – are fostered via arts-integrated learning.
- * Students are motivated to do additional reading and research.
- * Interest in and attendance at school increases.
- * Teachers are inspired to further engage students through the arts.

FACTS AND FIGURES FOR ARKANSAS and GARLAND COUNTY

- * On average, Arkansas students score the lowest on the state writing assessment compared to other subjects.
- * 'Met Proficiency' level for students tested in grades 3 – 10
Reading 38.9% of students
Writing 30.7% of students
- * In only four (of ten) elementary schools in Garland County do the 3rd and 4th graders score better than the state average.
- * For 3rd grade, one school scoring "Needs Improvement" two years ago has the highest score for the county.
ALTTA has been working in that school for four years.
- * ALTTA has worked with four of the five schools that now have the top 4th grade writing scores.

Information derived from the Arkansas and Garland County 2015-2016 Aspire Writing Scores.

HOW THE ORGANIZATION HAS GROWN

In 2012, Arkansas Learning Through The Arts (ALTTA) was initiated with the vision of improving learning through using the arts as a mechanism for inspiring students. The workshops and programs were patterned after *Big Thought*, a successful and award-winning program in the Dallas area school systems. The “big thought” is, inspiring ***imagination in everyday learning.***

A small group of volunteers developed an organization, raised funds, consulted school administrators and teachers and recruited professional teaching artists. A professional arts educator with experience in the Dallas area schools and with Big Thought was recruited to assure the quality of the programs.

Initially serving one school in Garland County, Arkansas Learning Through The Arts now serves over 5,000 students with over 580 workshops in three counties and ten school districts. As you can see from the comments by teachers on the first page, the reception has been very positive and administrators have been quick to schedule programs year after year to assure their schools have ALTTA programs that align with their curriculum.

Your volunteer support would help our young people achieve greater success!

Michelangelo

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Arkansas Community
Foundation!



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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.



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through the **ARTS**

**4501 N. HWY 7, SUITE 8, #315
HOT SPRINGS VILLAGE, AR 71909**

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CONTACT INFORMATION

4501 N. Hwy 7, Suite 8, #315, Hot Springs Village, AR 71909

Craig Welle 214-676-0222 cmwelle2@gmail.com
Martha Smither 501-922-2743 marthasmither@aol.com

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