



Welcome to the ArtsNow Newsletter!

AUGUST EDITION

A Message from Our President and CEO

March 2020 will forever be remembered in our lives, as this was the month education changed for all students, educators, families, communities, and education partners.

I have a daughter who had senior activities disrupted, who planned for a different college experience than the one she is currently living through, and I am trying my best to help her navigate these unusual times. Being that I have first-hand, personal experience for these changes please know my thoughts have been with all of you throughout these past months. As President and CEO of ArtsNow, it is equally as important to ensure that the organization is able to pivot and to continue being a strong partner with each of you. This newsletter will outline the successes ArtsNow has had this last quarter (I don't dare use the term "summer", since this all started mid-March!) Please know we continue to learn, navigate, refine, and implement new plans right along with you. I am confident that we will come out of this pandemic together as a stronger, more adaptable support for teachers and students! We are here, with you, leading into the unknown.

CEISM Project for the Washington Cluster in Atlanta Public Schools

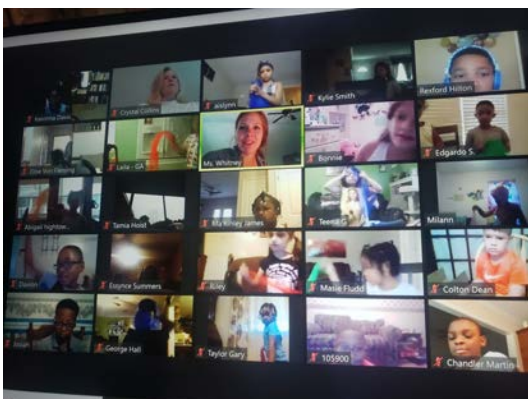
The Arthur M. Blank Foundation funded a STEAM Camp for students of the Washington Cluster, in partnership with CEISM (Center for Education Integrating Science, Mathematics, and Computing) at Georgia Tech. Due to Covid-19, the camp could not be facilitated in person. CEISM reached out to ArtsNow to discuss how we could partner in order to create a quality hands-on, engaging, STEAM Camp. Together, we designed STEAM activities based on three (3) different texts per grade band (K/1), (2/3), and (4/5). CEISM's innovators and ArtsNow's consultants collaborated and created a visual arts, music, dance, and STEAM activity for each of the three weeks. Students received a STEAM Kit that contained all necessary materials and a printed booklet of all activities that was designed and built using grade-appropriate Lexile (reading) levels. Washington Cluster staff and volunteers, CEISM leadership, ArtsNow leadership and staff all worked at the Atlanta Mission to create the kits! It was a wonderful day, in the midst of crisis in Atlanta, to see people come together for the benefit of children.

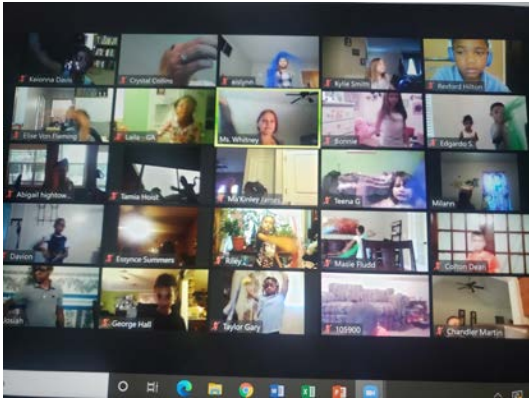




The Chestnut Family Foundation

The Chestnut Family Foundation continues to support the Hephzibah, GA region. As soon as Covid-19 altered delivery of arts-integrated services ArtsNow was providing the schools, The Chestnut Family Foundation reached out to inquire as to how to help support the students who were switching to a virtual learning model. We explained the STEAM Camp that we designed with CEISMC, and began thinking of how to increase those services. ArtsNow quickly added components to the STEAM Camp that included the addition of theater for the already designed K-5 booklets, the design and development of a 6th-8th grade full STEAM Camp, instructional video vignettes for both teachers and parents to accompany each lesson, printed parent tips for how to support the virtual lessons, and the inclusion of our consultants teaching the three week camp via Zoom. Pam and Crystal delivered the STEAM Kits to each of the schools, parents picked up the kits, and students had the arts and STEAM materials needed for each lesson. This was such an incredible opportunity for the families of Hephzibah, and the exit surveys indicated a strong desire and need for continued hands-on lessons in a virtual setting.

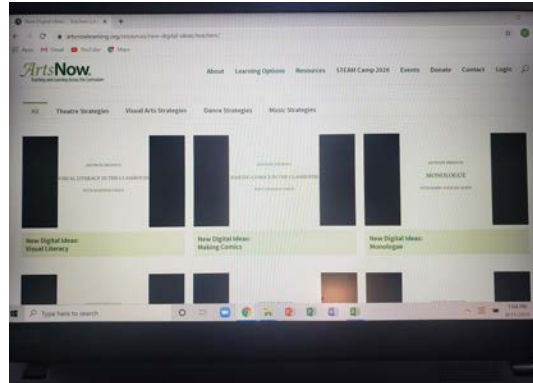




Wells Fargo Covid-19 Funding

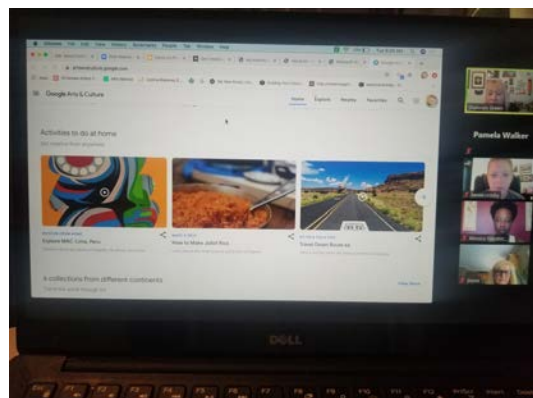
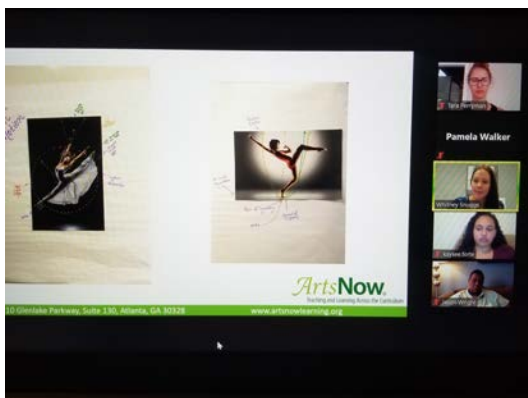
Long time supporter of ArtsNow, Wells Fargo, offered grant funding

opportunities to organizations during the pandemic. We applied for, and received, \$10,000 to develop more instructional videos to help support teachers and families with virtual teaching and learning, based on our success with the Chestnut project. Wells Fargo wanted to support as many families as possible, so ArtsNow was able to upload these videos to our website under "New Digital Ideas" within the "Resources" tab so that the public has full access to them.



Professional Learning Via Zoom

ArtsNow was able to continue offering professional learning via Zoom with online planning sessions in each art form, supporting our PDAE grant in **Clayton County**, facilitating cross-school unit planning in **Henry County**, and curriculum mapping in **Florence School District 3**. As well, we continued full support for our schools in **Savannah, GA** and **Charleston, SC**, who are part of our AAEDD grant.



Teacher and/or Student Created Choreography

- Choreography can illustrate ideas/concepts or stories. For example, retelling a event in history, demonstrating a science topic, expressing traits of a character, solving a word problem

Tips & Tricks

- Give students parameters- beginning, middle, end
- Provide a model
- Warm-up – dance improvisation- freeze dance
- Borrow movements from students

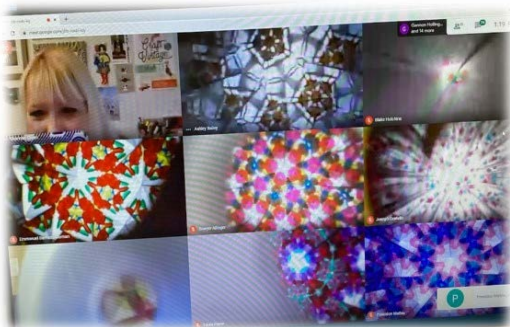
ArtsNow
Teaching and Learning Across the Curriculum

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Barrow County School System

At the onset of Covid-19, ArtsNow worked closely with Barrow County leadership to determine the best ways to continue supporting teaching and learning. ArtsNow immediately shifted our in-person arts-integration residencies to online, virtual support, allowing our team to continue engaging with, and supporting, both teachers and students. In addition, ArtsNow was able to deliver an after school program and a summer "camp" experience directly to students as a result of strong collaboration among ArtsNow consultants and Barrow County lead teachers.





Atlanta Braves Foundation

ArtsNow was awarded a grant from the Atlanta Braves Foundation prior to the onset of Covid-19. We had a plan of support for integrated learning to occur within the school setting. Once schools switched to an online delivery model, we revised the plan to include the virtual delivery of the STEAM Camp for the 6th through 8th grade students at Hillside Conant-a 24 hour residential school that is a part of the Atlanta Public School system. Students at this facility struggle with emotional and social skills. Our consultants "Zoomed" with the students over the course of three weeks to deliver the lessons, and the Atlanta Braves Foundation funded the students receiving all materials in the kits, the virtual lessons, and the development of additional social/emotional units to accompany the already created lessons.





2020 Annual Foundational Seminar

Due to Covid-19, ArtsNow transformed our annual professional learning seminar in to a virtual learning opportunity. We were able to support 50 educators from Savannah, GA, Henry County, Barrow County, and Charleston, SC. Our sessions were hands-on, with consultants using state-of-the-art digital learning platforms. Any materials needed were shipped to the participants prior to the beginning of Foundational Seminar. Exit surveys demonstrated that the sessions were high-quality, engaging, and provided many strategies for use in a virtual learning environment.



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