



Early learning students demonstrate mirroring with whole body shapes.
Photo credit: Turner Cagle, Multicultural Child and Family Hope Center

Arts Uplift!

Arts, Access, and Inclusion in PreK-Grade 3

A FREE virtual conference for educators, teaching artists,
and leadership across Washington State

August 2-4, 2022

Conference Partners



WASHINGTON STATE
ARTS COMMISSION



Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION



WASHINGTON STATE
TEACHING ARTIST TRAINING LAB

We acknowledge that we are on Indigenous land. We thank the caretakers of this land, who lived, and continue to live here Since Time Immemorial.

[Learn more about
The Since Time Immemorial: Tribal Sovereignty
in Washington State curriculum](#)

Schedule at a Glance

August 2-4, 2022

9:00am-1:45pm PST

Attendees will have the opportunity to attend all sessions. You won't miss a thing!

	AUGUST 2	AUGUST 3	AUGUST 4
	15-min pre-event playground	15-min pre-event playground	15-min pre-event playground
9 am	Welcome & Announcements	Welcome & Announcements	Welcome & Announcements
	A 'Fresh' Approach... with James Miles	Ensuring Their Sounds Remain In Our Ears: Joy, Healing, and Love Through the Arts with Mike Browne & Dr. Amir Gilmore	Reaching Every Student: Strategies for Teaching Students with Disabilities and Diagnoses in Arts Classrooms, Studios, and Rehearsals with Rhoda Bernard
10 am	Art Snack with TAT Lab! ~5-minute screen break~	Art Snack with TAT Lab! ~5-minute screen break~	Art Snack with TAT Lab! ~5-minute screen break~
	Transform Your Instruction - Implement Universal Design for Learning Now with Liz Byron	Art Snack with TAT Lab!	Integration of Art and Literacy for Early Learners with Disabilities with Rebecca Lynn, & Ryan Guzman
11 am	Art Snack with TAT Lab!	Living Literacy Out Loud: Acting, Speaking, Comprehending with Khaleshia Thorpe-Price <i>Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning Through the Arts</i>	Art Snack with TAT Lab!
12 pm	~20-minute screen break~	~15-minute screen break~	~20-minute screen break~
	Visual Art and Computational Thinking in Early Childhood with Priyanka Jayanthi & Lauren Appel	Arts Integration Strategies for Early Educators with Lauren Jost & Kim Strelchun <i>Young Audience of OR & SW WA</i>	"I Belong Here": Inclusion, Belonging, and Restorative Approaches in Music and Arts Facilitation with Ray Soriano
1 pm	Closing & Appreciations	Closing & Appreciations	Closing & Appreciations
1:30-1:45pm	15-min post-event playground	15-min post-event playground	15-min post-event playground

Schedule at a Glance

Tuesday, August 2, 2022

8:45-9:00 am	Playground
9:00-9:10 am	Welcome & Announcements
9:10-10:10 am	A 'Fresh' Approach... with <i>James Miles</i>
10:10-10:30 am	Art Snack: Sensory Drama with <i>Maddie Zdeblick, TAT Lab Teaching Artist</i>
10:30-10:35 am	Screen Break for all!
10:35-11:35 am	Transform Your Instruction-Implement Universal Design for Learning Now with <i>Liz Byron</i>
11:35-11:55 am	Art Snack: All Bodies in Motion with <i>Marion Reader, TAT Lab Teaching Artist</i>
11:55-12:20 pm	Screen Break for all!
12:20-1:20 pm	Visual Art and Computational Thinking in Early Childhood with <i>Priyanka Jayanthi and Lauren Appel</i>
1:20-1:30 pm	Closing & Appreciations
1:30-1:45 pm	Playground

Wednesday, August 3, 2022

8:45-9:00 am	Playground
9:00-9:10 am	Welcome & Announcements
9:10-10:40 am	Ensuring Their Sounds Remain In Our Ears: Joy, Healing, and Love Through the Arts with <i>Michael Browne and Dr. Amir Gilmore</i>
10:40-10:45 am	Screen Break for all!
10:45-11:05 am	Art Snack: Object Search and Sort with <i>Lauren Appel, TAT Lab Teaching Artist</i>
11:05-12:05 pm	Living Literacy Out Loud: Acting, Speaking, Comprehending with <i>Khaleshia Thorpe-Price</i>
12:05-12:20 pm	Screen Break for all!
12:20-1:20 pm	Arts Integration Strategies for Early Educators with <i>Lauren Jost and Kim Strelchun</i>
1:20-1:30 pm	Closing & Appreciations
1:30-1:45 pm	Playground

Thursday, August 4, 2022

8:45-9:00 am	Playground
9:00-9:10 am	Welcome & Announcements with <i>Chris Reykdal</i>
9:10-10:10 am	Reaching Every Student: Strategies for Teaching Students with Disabilities and Diagnoses in Arts Classrooms, Studios, and Rehearsals with <i>Dr. Rhoda Bernard</i>
10:10-10:30am	Art Snack: I Spy Textures with <i>Adriana Wright, TAT Lab Teaching Artist</i>
10:30-10:35am	Screen Break for all!
10:35-11:35am	Integration of Art and Literacy for Early Learners with Disabilities with <i>Rebecca Lynn and Ryan Guzman</i>
11:35-11:55am	Art Snack: Storybook Story Adventure with <i>Adriana Wright, TAT Lab Teaching Artist</i>
11:55-12:20pm	Screen Break for all!
12:20-1:20pm	"I Belong Here": Inclusion, Belonging, and Restorative Approaches in Music and Arts Facilitation with <i>Ray Soriano</i>
1:20-1:30pm	Closing & Appreciations
1:30-1:45pm	Playground

Conference Notes and FAQs

Accessibility Features:

All sessions will have **automated captioning, ASL interpretation, and Spanish language interpretation.**

To **view captioning** click on the “Live Transcript” CC button on the bottom of your Zoom screen and clicking on “Show Subtitle”.

To **listen to Spanish** language interpretation, click on ‘Interpretation’ globe button.

As a way of maximizing accessibility for everyone, we’ve asked all our speakers to provide visual descriptions of themselves and their surroundings. The organizing team will be monitoring and reading the chat/Q&A out loud to benefit everyone.

Joining Instructions:

The Zoom link is provided in your registration confirmation email. The link for each day is the same. We encourage you to create a calendar appointment as a reminder. Registration must be completed before the event starts.

Your Participation:

We invite you to participate as your full self and to the best of your ability. We acknowledge that conference participants are likely attending from homes or other personal space. Attendees may activate or deactivate their cameras as needed. We request you mute your microphone unless you are speaking.

Session Materials:

Before the conference, registrants will receive a link to a Dropbox folder which will contain presentation materials for each session. The link will be provided via email and shared in the chat during the conference. Materials may include slides, handouts, or other documents that presenters would like to share with participants.

Breakout Rooms:

Some session presenters may use breakout rooms. *ACCESSIBILITY NOTE:* Breakout rooms will not have captioning or language translation. If you need captioning or language translation, we ask that you stay in the main room during any breakout room use, to ensure you can participate fully.

Recording:

Conference sessions will not be recorded for viewing later. Small segments of the conference may be recorded for archival and marketing purposes. Attendees will be notified before any recording occurs.

Playground:

Join us on the playground. The Zoom meeting will open 15-minutes before the start of each conference day and 15-minutes after each day adjourns. Attendees are welcome to join the meeting early (8:45-9:00am) to check technology and get settled, and to stay online afterwards (1:30-1:45pm) to network or ask questions.

Art Snacks with TAT Lab Teaching Artists:

Each conference day attendees will be invited to participate in some Art Snack activities led by faculty and alumni from Washington State Teaching Artist Training Lab (TAT Lab). These are opportunities for joyful, connective, and reflective art experiences. You will learn a variety of art forms that you could use with early learners in your own settings. Write ups for each Arts Snack activity are posted in the Dropbox Folder.

Art Supplies:

A few Art Snacks have materials you may want to have on hand so you can fully partake in their planned activities. Materials are not necessary to participate.

Art Break material lists:

- 8/2 10:10-10:30am **Art Snack: Sensory Drama** with *Maddie Zdeblick*
 - **Materials:** None required. Any objects and materials present in one's space may be used to enrich the experience.

- 8/2 11:35-11:55am **Art Snack: All Bodies in Motion** with *Marion Reader*
 - **Materials:** Optional - scarves and/or ribbons

- 8/3 10:45-11:05am **Art Snack: Object Search and Sort** with *Lauren Appel*
 - **Materials:** A space with access to a lot of different objects with a wide range of colors. Space to sort materials into different groups. A device on which to photograph the sort and, if possible, upload to a shared online gallery.

- 8/4 10:10-10:30am **Art Snack: I Spy Textures** with *Adriana Wright*
 - **Materials:** Random safe objects found around the room

- 8/4 11:35-11:55am **Art Snack: Storybook Story Adventure** with *Adriana Wright*
 - **Materials:** n/a

Clock Hours / STARS Hours:

Continuing education credits are available for Washington State educators attending this conference at no cost. Registrants who indicated they would be requesting continuing education credits for attending:

- Up to 9 Clock Hours are available:
 - Conference coordinators will report which sessions you've attended after the conference.
 - Following the event, you will be prompted to fill out the PD Enroller survey to receive your Clock Hours.
- Up to 9 STARS Hours are available:
 - Conference coordinators will report which sessions you've attended after the conference.

Contact Alexis Sarah, alexis.sarah@arts.wa.gov or 360-228-6359, if you have any questions about the conference or need technical support.

Program Details

Tuesday, August 2, 2022 -----

8:45-9:00am **Playground**

The playground will open early so you can check your technology and get settled.

9:00-9:10am **Welcome & Announcements**

9:10-10:10am **A 'Fresh' Approach...** with James Miles

There have been dramatic shifts in education since schools first opened in the USA in 1647. From educational priorities to classroom sizes to demographics to technology, schoolhouses look wildly different than Horace Mann's original design. While innovation catapulted schools into the 21st century, it has minimized the importance of learning connected to the arts, critical thinking, social emotional learning, and civics, causing our youth and communities to suffer.

It's time for new approach to education.

The pandemic has presented us with the possibility to reimagine education and build a system where every student feels seen, heard, and valued, and where creativity is fomented and cultivated. Though we haven't fully capitalized on that opportunity yet, our time is coming. It involves a shift in mindset that allows ourselves to be more creative, compassionate, and critical. And it all boils down to just two words: Hip Hop.

10:10-10:30am **Art Snack: Sensory Drama** with Maddie Zdeblick, TAT Lab

10:30-10:35am **Screen Break for all!**

10:35-11:35am **Transform Your Instruction - Implement Universal Design for Learning Now**
with Liz Byron

Universal Design for Learning (UDL) is a powerful framework that offers a roadmap to reduce learning barriers and achieve expert learning regardless of your teaching circumstances. Learn what UDL is and how to apply it to your arts curricula; you will expand your instructional toolkit and transform your pedagogy while providing all your artists with options to be more motivated, resourceful, and goal-directed.

11:35-11:55am **Art Snack: All Bodies in Motion** with Marion Reader, TAT Lab

11:55-12:20pm **Screen Break for all!**

12:20-1:20pm **Visual Art and Computational Thinking in Early Childhood**
with Priyanka Jayanthi and Lauren Appel

As educators, it seems like we hear about different thinking and learning frameworks every day, which makes sense since learning is not just about what we learn, but HOW we learn. Being able to recognize and articulate our thinking strategies supports early learners in becoming protagonists in their own learning, and fosters inclusivity. In this session we will delve into the framework of computational thinking and share some examples of "unplugged" activities that support developing these important thinking strategies through visual arts that increase access for all learners. The session will include a brief hands-on example, breakout groups for participants to share with and learn from each other, and additional sharing of examples and resources from the presenters.

1:20-1:30pm **Closing & Appreciations**

1:30-1:45pm **Playground**

Attendees are welcome to stay online afterwards to network or ask questions

Wednesday, August 3, 2022 -----

8:45-9:00am **Playground**

The playground will open early so you can check your technology and get settled.

9:00-9:10am **Welcome & Announcements**

9:10-10:40am **Ensuring Their Sounds Remain In Our Ears: Joy, Healing, and Love Through the Arts** with Michael Browne and Dr. Amir Gilmore

What can be said about the beauty and brilliance of the arts? Aesthetics are the integration of the flesh, spirit, and material world that provide a space and place for self-expression, agency, transcendence, criticism, and deep intellectual engagement. For children, aesthetics are invaluable because they are vital for stimulating, nurturing, and sustaining their self-explorations, joys, pleasures, curiosities, creativities, overall social-emotional well-being, and love of learning.

In a space dedicated to nurturing our souls, this session led by two Black male educators, Amir Gilmore PhD (he/him) and Mike Browne (he/him), will discuss how the arts can be utilized to explore and center culture, stories, and tradition in our early learning spaces. As we reflect together on how our ancestors moves through us to create unbounded futures, we'll explore the relationship between aesthetics, joy, education, power, and the precious time we live in. Join us as we continue our journey in reclaiming art and joy as our birthright as BIPOCs - Black, Indigenous, People of Color.

10:40-10:45am **Screen Break for all!**

10:45-11:05am **Art Snack: Object Search and Sort** with Lauren Appel, TAT Lab

11:05-12:05pm **Living Literacy Out Loud: Acting, Speaking, Comprehending**
with Khaleshia Thorpe-Price

Discover creative new ways to build language and literacy with your students! Participants will explore how creative movement, physical storytelling, and character exploration strategies can be used to help strengthen letter recognition, vocabulary acquisition, and reading comprehension in the classroom. By introducing activities that explore the theatrical concepts of body, voice, character, and setting, this physical workshop prepares participants to take words off the page and onto their classroom "stage"!

12:05-12:20pm **Screen Break for all!**

12:20-1:20pm **Arts Integration Strategies for Early Educators**
with Lauren Jost and Kim Strelchun

In this session with arts integration specialists, attendees will learn two arts-integration strategies that are effective with early learners. These strategies are part of the foundation of The Right Brain Initiative's 15-year old program that focuses on helping teachers gain new skills to bring interdisciplinary learning to their classrooms. Together, we ignite a culture of creativity by moving, playing, discovering and making.

Attendees will observe Snapshot (a theater strategy) and Songwriting (a music strategy). Integration is at the center of Right Brain strategies, and this session will give participants the opportunity to try these strategies hands-on and brainstorm adaptations and modifications for different classrooms and settings.

1:20-1:30pm **Closing & Appreciations**

1:30-1:45pm **Playground**

Attendees are welcome to stay online afterwards to network or ask questions

Thursday, August 4, 2022 -----

8:45-9:00am **Playground**

The playground will open early so you can check your technology and get settled.

9:00-9:10am **Welcome & Announcements** with Chris Reykdal

9:10-10:10am **Reaching Every Student: Strategies for Teaching Students with Disabilities and Diagnoses in Arts Classrooms, Studios, and Rehearsals**
with Dr. Rhoda Bernard

As our student population becomes increasingly diverse, it can be a challenge for arts educators to meet the needs of every learner. In this session, you will gain an understanding of new ways to think about learning differences that you encounter, and you will learn how to adapt and apply evidence-based practices from special education in your arts teaching. You will be able to use what you learn in this session right away to make your arts classroom, studio, and rehearsal more accessible to all learners.

10:10-10:30am **Art Snack: I Spy Textures** with Adriana Wright, TAT Lab

10:30-10:35am **Screen Break for all!**

10:35-11:35am **Integration of Art and Literacy for Early Learners with Disabilities** with Rebecca Lynn and Ryan Guzman

Young children with disabilities are often delayed in early literacy skills, which can impact progress in reading and expression in primary grades. Participants will see examples of how to adapt early literacy instruction and integrate the arts to promote connections and build skills in artistic expression and storytelling, and ways to extend those activities to home environments.

11:35-11:55am **Art Snack: Storybook Story Adventure** with Adriana Wright, TAT Lab

11:55-12:20pm **Screen Break for all!**

12:20-1:20pm **"I Belong Here": Inclusion, Belonging, and Restorative Approaches in Music and Arts Facilitation** with Ray Soriano

Music and the arts are for all children (and adults!) to enjoy, explore, and engage in with their full selves. As educators, teaching artists, facilitators, therapists, and caregivers, we have the power and obligation to create learning and play experiences where marginalization is reduced and children truly belong. Drawing from extensive background in trauma-work and restorative approaches, centering the experiences of children and youth with disabilities, and emphasizing anti-racist and de-colonizing practices, Ray will share ideas for facilitating music and art exploration that fosters belonging, healing, and shared joy. We will also tap into the deeper wisdom of the group for further shared learning.

1:20-1:30pm **Closing & Appreciations**

1:30-1:45pm **Playground**

Attendees are welcome to stay online afterwards to network or ask questions

Conference Presenters



Dr. Amir Gilmore, PhD. (he/him) is a professor of Cultural Studies and Social Thought in Education and Associate Dean of Equity and Inclusion for Student Success and Retention at Washington State University. Amir's interdisciplinary background in Cultural Studies, Africana Studies, and Education allows him to traverse the boundaries across the social sciences, the arts, and the humanities. His interests in Black Critical Theory and Black Masculinities ground his scholarship on Black Boy Joy, and he is well versed in areas such as Critical Race Theory, feminisms, and social theory.



James Miles worked as an educator in the New York City public schools for almost 20 years prior to moving to Seattle in 2016. Before joining the faculty of Seattle University as Assistant Professor, James served as the Chief Executive Officer of MENTOR Washington and the Executive Director of Arts Corps, prior to that. Originally from Chicago, Miles has worked internationally as an artist and educator, and his work has been featured in magazines, books, on podcasts, in newspapers. Miles is a Mayoral Appointee to the Seattle Arts Commission, and on the advisory board of SXSW EDU.



Khaleshia Thorpe-Price is the Owner and Master Teaching Artist of Dramatic-Play. She has worked in the field of arts education for over 20 years. She is a Master Teaching Artist with Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning through the Arts and she is a Maryland State Arts Council Roster Artist. In addition, she has facilitated residencies and workshops for children and adults throughout DC, Maryland and Virginia. Khaleshia is the Maryland Director for Teaching Artists of the Mid-Atlantic (TAMA), a network that advocates for, empowers, and supports Teaching Artists throughout the Mid-Atlantic region.



Kim Strelchun has devoted the last 20+ years to education and arts advocacy. Prior to her role as the Director for Right Brain, Kim worked as an Arts Integration Coach supporting educators and teaching artists with arts-integration residencies and professional development. Her journey with Right Brain began in 2008 as a Parent Advocate volunteer. She currently serves as Chair of the Hillsboro Schools Foundation. Kim has worked closely with educators and parents in her roles as Parent Director of Creative Children's Center (a Reggio Emilia inspired cooperative preschool), Stand for Children, and Oregon PTA.



Lauren Appel (she/her/they) has worked at many educational and cultural institutions in Washington and New York. She is currently an Elementary Art/MakerSpace Specialist with Seattle Public Schools, a faculty member of the Washington State Teaching Artist Training Lab, and an educational consultant. Previously she worked with Arts Corps, Hilltop Artists, Seattle Children's Theatre, Youth Theatre Northwest, Rubin Museum of Art, Henry Street Settlement's Abrons Arts Center, and the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum. Lauren holds a BA in theatre from Smith College and a MEd in Museum Education from Bank Street College of Education.



Lauren Jost is an artist, educator, and administrator serving as the Executive Director of Young Audiences of Oregon and SW Washington. She has worked for the past 15 years in New York City, and is the former Founding Artistic Director of Spellbound Theatre, New York's award-winning theatre exclusively for the very young. Additionally, Lauren has worked as an arts educator with New Victory Theater, Lifetime Arts, Seattle Children's Theatre, the Brooklyn Public Library, the Arthur Miller Foundation, and New York University, and provided professional development for a variety of cultural and educational institutions.



Liz Byron strives to be a compassionate and culturally responsive art educator. She is a dynamic presenter, author, and the K1-8th Grade Visual Art, Special Education, and ESL Teacher at a Boston Public School where her students describe her as kind and strict. She has presented on Universal Design for Learning (UDL) at numerous conferences, professional development workshops, and taught graduate-level courses on UDL, most recently as a teaching fellow for the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Liz shares some of her experiences in her book, *Art for All: Planning for Variability in the Visual Art Classroom*.



Mike Browne (he/him) serves as the Senior Director for Community Engagement at Cultivate Learning at the University of Washington where he organizes culturally responsive professional development workshops and opportunities for leaders working with young children. Prior to that he served as Community Engagement Manager at Hilltop Children's Center and Educator Institute. Following 3 years of working and living in London and Spain, he found his way to Seattle where he has been building bridges between communities to help create a city where the voices of the marginalized are heard.



Priyanka Jayanthi (she/her) has been an early childhood educator for 8 years. Originally from Columbus, Ohio, she received her degree in Early Childhood Education from Indiana University and has taught grades K-3. She has been a kindergarten teacher in Seattle for the past 4 years with Seattle Public Schools. In addition to teaching, Priyanka has served on her school's Race + Equity Team, been a Teacher Leader, and a Union Representative. While she is new to presenting, Priyanka is thrilled at this opportunity to share more about arts integration in the early years and to showcase the talent, creativity, and capability of our youngest learners.



Ray Soriano, MSW (he/him) strives to create a safe, inclusive, healing, just, and joyful world for children and youth. Ray is a passionate teaching artist who enjoys facilitating children's exploration of music and rhythm in communities of belonging. He draws from his deep background in early childhood development, trauma-responsive care, and healing-centered practices, and emphasizes anti-racist and de-colonizing approaches to facilitation and teaching. Ray has had the privilege of singing, drumming, dancing, and engaging with diverse groups of young people for nearly 30 years.



Rebecca Lynn has a long career in education advocating for the inclusion of students with disabilities in schools and society. She has a background in early childhood, speech and language development, education leadership, and as faculty and coordinator in teacher education. Currently, she is a Special Education Program Improvement Supervisor with the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) in Washington state. She was an early childhood special education teacher and consultant for many years, then an associate professor in education teaching child development, special education, and inclusion.



Dr. Rhoda Bernard is the Founding Managing Director of the Institute for Arts Education and Special Needs and the Assistant Chair of Music Education at Berklee College of Music. She holds a Bachelor of Arts cum laude in government from Harvard University and a Bachelor of Music with academic honors in jazz voice from New England Conservatory. She earned both her Master of Education and Doctor of Education degrees from the Harvard Graduate School of Education. An active arts education advocate, she is the immediate past chair of the Arts Education Advisory Council of Americans for the Arts, and she serves on their speakers bureau.



Ryan Guzman, M.Ed., is the Washington state Early Childhood Special Education Coordinator. She is also leading the Preschool Inclusion Champions Network, which has aligned early childhood and K-12 inclusionary practices and MTSS implementation across Washington state to increase access to high quality learning experience for all children regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, ability or zip code.