Youth Art for Healing

Lisa Stuart Whitehead

This school year, PGCPS Youth Art For Healing (YAFH) student artists are creating paintings for our caring and courageous frontline healthcare workers. Students from Charles H. Flowers HS and Gaywood ES are working on their sketches and will have paint brushes in hand soon! While at home, Charles H. Flowers HS students are creating 11 paintings for frontline healthcare workers at MedStar Montgomery Medical Center and Children's National Hos-

pital in addition to seven paintings for MedStar NRH Rehabilitation Network-Dundalk. A Gaywood ES student is creating a painting for a frontline worker at Children's National Emergency Department at United Medical Center. The images seen here are from work created during the 2019-2020 school year.











Hyattsville Middle School Students Create Ornaments for the National Christmas Tree Display

Fatima Esparza's students at Hyattsville Middle School were selected to display their work in the 'America Celebrates' National Christmas Tree display in President's Park!

Students Marilyn Phan, Jackson Fassler, Emily Natalia Blanco, Corey Schmick and Camila Aguayo have their one-of-a-kind Maryland themed ornaments featured. Ornaments are also be displayed inside the White House. 56 schools nationwide designed ornaments for the 2020 display.

Please see the National Park Foundation's press release at the link below.

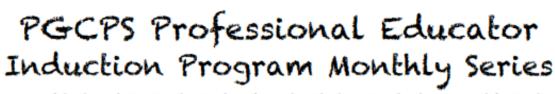
https://www.nationalparks.org/ about-foundation/newsroom/students-across-country-create-ornaments-national-christmas-tree-display

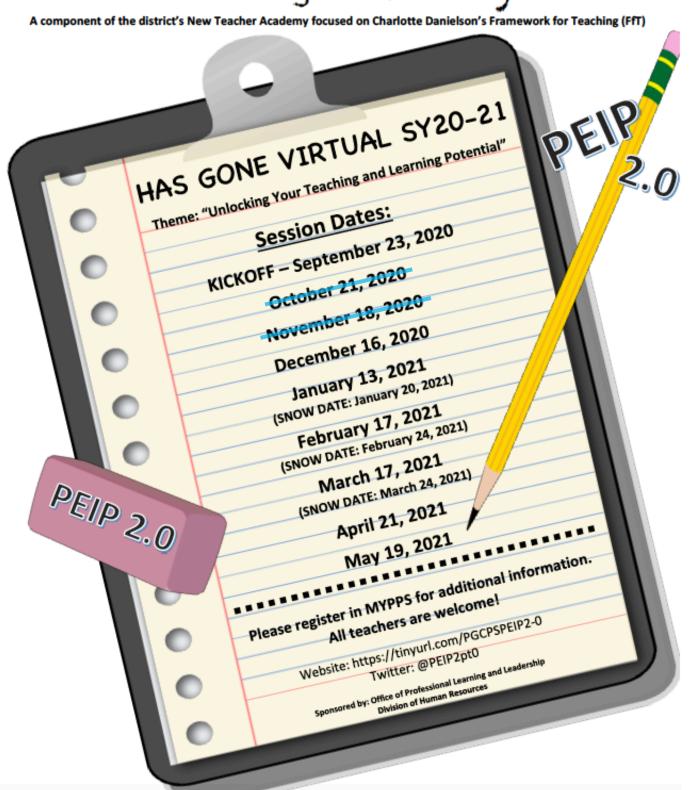


Above Photos by Melvin Twine











We GATI Teach from the HeART – PGATI Art Seminar Leads the Way

By Sara Levi, Calverton Elementary School

We danced. We sang. We played. We shared personal moments. We took pictures. Some party, right?

Though there was plenty to celebrate, this was not your average ice cream social. Instead, 100 PGCPS educators (along with a robust team of tireless leaders from multiple PGCPS departments) united online for a 3-day professional development summer seminar. Prince George's Artist and Teacher Institute (PGATI) 2020 invited educators and teaching artists to experience arts integration across content areas and exchange strategies to bring back to their schools and classrooms.

Marlo Castillo, PGCPS Arts Integration Resource Teacher and PGATI organizer, greeted the group each day and said adieu in the afternoon. Staying true to the purpose, each day Marlo initiated our instruction by introducing a guest artist to lead us through an engaging warm-up with a unique art form.

After our morning meetings, we transitioned to different previously assigned workshops in Visual Art, Music, Theatre, Media Arts and Dance. Teaching Artists (including artists from local art education organizations like Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts) led the



Virtual Prince George's Artist-Teacher Institute 2020

Arts Integration is
an APPROACH to TEACHING
in which students
construct and demonstrate
UNDERSTANDING
through an
ART FORM.
Students engage in a
CREATIVE PROCESS
which CONNECTS
an art form and another subject area
and meets
EVOLVING OBJECTIVES
in both.









participating educators in animated activities, demonstrating how their art form can inform and activate the curriculum. Regie Cabico, Teaching Artist for the "When I Say Poetry, You Say Rocks" – Intro to Slam Poetry/Drama workshop, described PGATI: "I'm leading a three day residency rolled into one afternoon."

In light of recent events and our current atmosphere of social distancing, all workshops illustrated another value underlying art integration. Providing art as an outlet and resource to study oneself and one's place in society is a powerful tool for social emotional learning.

Arts Integration has been a part of education for decades. Previous PGCPS CEO Dr. Kevin Maxwell was a strong advocate and started the PGCPS Art Integration Initiative. Over 80 schools already implement arts integration, showcasing how the arts improve student engagement, behavior and achievement.

Still, many teachers are not familiar with the push for the arts. Marlo shared a powerful video to use in promoting arts integration with others. Created by The John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts, it highlights the importance of arts

Continued on page 5



Continued from page 4

Integration as an essential teaching model for student success. Through research based data, it is clear that that the arts naturally facilitate crucial 21st century learning skills such as critical thinking, how to work in teams, and creative problem solving.

With distance learning returning in the fall and students struggling to be connected, PGATI provided a powerful message: A curriculum infused with arts integration engages all learners in a safe environment and allows students to create dialogue for social action.

For more information about arts integration in PGCPS and getting your school involved contact Marlo Castillo at marlo.castillo@pgcps.org



One of Our Own on the News

A shout out of praise for Rashaun Bass, former art teacher now art mentor, for co-running the virtual New Teacher Boot Camp. He was featured on ABC 7. See the story: https://wjla.com/news/local/prince-georges-schools-teachers-being-trained-online

This is YOUR Newsletter

Share your art news with other PGCPS Art Teachers.

- Did your school do a special installation or mural?
- Do you have an exciting collaborative project to share?
- Did you attend an art exhibit on your own or with your students?
- Are you showing your own art anywhere?*
- Are your students showing their art anywhere?*
- Is there an art event that you think others might like to attend?*
- Or any other Art Teacher related stories you would like to share?

Please submit stories in a Google Document using the button below. Include photos in the document if you wish.

Please keep stories to a half page, single spaced, 12pt type. (Exceptions may be made for length if needed).

*Keep the date in mind if your news has a deadline or specific time frame that may have passed by the time we distribute. Email Monique Connealy (monique.king@pgcps.org) to confirm newsletter deadline.

CLICK HERE TO UPLOAD STORIES