

Call for Classrooms 2017 - 2018 School Year *Adaptation, Integration, and the Arts*

New: Applications may be submitted for consideration at any time.

Program Overview

Adaptation, Integration, and the Arts (AIA) is a program of VSA Ohio, a nonprofit, statewide organization focused on arts and disability (www.vsao.org). AIA provides creative learning opportunities in and through the arts for students of all abilities. The program contracts teaching artists to partner with classroom teachers and lead artist residencies in inclusive classrooms. By bringing together artists, classroom teachers, and students with and without disabilities there is a unique opportunity to experience the power of the arts to support student achievement, creativity, innovation, and effective teaching and learning.



What is an Arts Residency?

- **Creative.** Students and educators utilize a variety of art forms to engage with academic material in unique, unexpected and impactful ways.
- **Student-focused.** Residencies place student needs at their core and adaptations are made throughout in order to reach learners of *all* abilities.
- **Inclusive.** Classrooms should include students *with and without* disabilities, as equal learners and where peers support academic and social advancement.
- **Enhanced Learning.** Students increase knowledge and skills in the arts, academics, and socializing.
- **Enhanced Teaching.** Classroom educators learn new instructional strategies and gain confidence meeting the varied needs of students of all abilities.
- **Academic Content Standards-focused.** Residency plans address Ohio and/or national academic content standards for art and integrated subjects to advance classroom goals, and are supported by Universal Design for Learning strategies.
- **In-depth.** Research confirms that sustained access to arts and arts education opportunities have a greater impact on learners. AIA supports long-term residencies.
- **Flexible.** Every school and classroom has different needs. Considerations for the scheduling of the residency will be made, and may mean an intensive 2-week residency with the artist or sustained, weekly visits over a period of several months.
- **Team Effort.** Educators work with the teaching artist to develop a meaningful residency plan then actively participate in its implementation. Administrators provide conducive spaces, and the community may be involved in culminating events.
- **Free.** Funders allow VSA Ohio to offer this program completely free of charge to schools, a value of approximately \$5,000.

Timeline & Expectations

1. School submits Call for Classroom to VSA Ohio for review. Notifications are made 4 – 6 weeks after application. **All residency agreements are dependent on funding.
2. Scheduling of Introductory Meeting. Includes all parties: teaching artist, educators, administrator, and VSA Ohio representative. Includes project overview, expectation setting, and initial planning for residency theme, goals, and logistics.



3. Teaching Artist visits the classroom to observe, become acquainted, and understand classroom synergies.
4. Planning sessions between teaching artist and educators to develop a final schedule and curriculum plan that aligns with academic content standards and Universal Design for Learning strategies.
5. Site Coordinator approves Residency Plan and schedule.
6. Residency begins and includes opportunities for students to learn, create, and discover through the arts in a safe, adaptive learning environment.
7. Site Coordinator visits school for residency observation and evaluation.
8. Residencies may include a culminating event such as performance or exhibition that involves families, the community, and/or the rest of the school.
9. Evaluation completed by Teaching Artists, Educators, Students, and Administrators.

The [best part of the residency for me was the] reinforcement of geometry concepts learned in the classroom. It helped some students who needed a visual reminder of the terms. – Heidi, 4th Grade teacher

The best part was the opportunity for students with and without disabilities to learn/dance together. I saw opportunities for peer teaching and guidance, and many students took the lead to help one another. – Bridget, Principal



Fine Print

- This AIA residency is a program of VSA Ohio, made possible through funding from the Ohio Department of Education, Office for Exceptional Children, and a contract with The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.
- Due to the mission of the program and funding, at least one-third (1/3) of participating students must have a documented disability, such as an IEP.
- Schools and Agencies in the state of Ohio serving students with disabilities are eligible to apply. Non-public, non-chartered schools are ineligible.
- School Administrators must be aware of any classroom educator/s submitting an application and supportive of making the time and space for an arts residency.
- There are no direct costs to hosting an AIA residency, aside from school and individual time and space commitments.
- VSA Ohio pays the teaching artist for services and materials. No funds should be exchanged between the artist and the school/teacher.
- All documentation of the AIA residency becomes the property of VSA Ohio and may be used for evaluation, reports to funders, and educational marketing materials for the organization.
- Acceptance into the AIA program is 100% funding dependent, and may be amended at any time.

Direct Questions & Return Application Form to:

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