



**2014 Arts & Education Forum  
A Context of Quality: What is Quality Arts Education?**

**May 14-16, 2014, University Center, The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga**

**Presented in Partnership with**



The Arts & Education Forum convenes a national audience on the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga campus for the purpose of brainstorming ideas, disseminating research, and developing strategies that advance best practices and shape policy recommendations for increasing access to quality arts education in our schools.

**2014 Arts & Education Forum Thought Leaders**

Forum Thought Leaders serve as keynote speakers representing one of the Forum questions for this year's event. They help contextualize the Forum the topic/issue and facilitate roundtable discussions after each session. This interactive format encourages thoughtful ideas while considering implications in our own work and practice.

**Dr. Dru Davison, Fine Arts Advisor, Shelby County Schools**

Forum Thought Leader Question: How are the processes of assessing student learning and evaluating effectiveness influencing the quality of your arts programs?



Dru Davison (B.M.E., M.M.E. Arkansas State University, Ph.D., University of North Texas) is a Fine Arts Administrator for Shelby County Schools, consults for the USDOE, and also consults for the TN Department of Education. Prior to administration, Dru taught music in Arkansas, Texas, and Tennessee. In addition to K -12, he taught at Arkansas State University (adjunct-jazz and saxophone) and the University of North Texas (teaching fellow-music education). He has research published in journals such as the *Journal of Band Research* and *Research in Music Education*. His workshop and research interests include teacher evaluation and student assessment, improvisation, project-based learning, curriculum development, and leadership training. Dru is Chair-Elect of the NAFME National Council of Music Program Leaders, serves on the Bill and Melinda Gates College Readiness Advisory Council, and is an advisor for the Hope Street Group and other non-profit organizations.

**Joan Lazarus, Professor of Theatre, The University of Texas at Austin**

Forum Thought Leader Question: How have you developed critical criteria to strengthen the quality of your programs?



Joan Lazarus has taught at the university and secondary school levels and developed theatre curriculum, led professional development sessions and directed productions for programs around the U.S. Joan heads the Theatre Education program at The University of Texas at Austin (UT). She developed the Texas Theatre Educators Forum to foster communication between UT and Texas high school theatre teachers and The Drama Institute at UW-Madison offering professional development to teaching artists and teachers. She served on national arts education boards and advisory committees and as President of the American Alliance for Theatre and Education (AATE). Joan's book, *Signs of Change: New Directions in Theatre Education - Revised and Amplified Edition*, was published by Intellect in 2012. She received the AATE Alliance Award, the Campton Bell Lifetime Achievement Award and was

selected as one of the 2014 Texas 10, the ten best and most inspiring professors to teach at UT.

**Larry S. Barnfield, Director Fine and Performing Arts, Dorchester District Two**

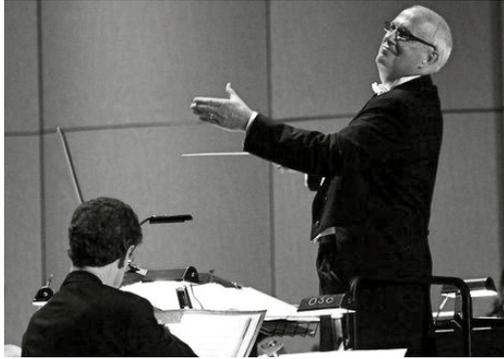
Forum Thought Leader Question: How have you addressed the challenges of access to improve the quality of your programs?



Larry Barnfield has been passionate about arts education for over 35 years. His education includes undergraduate majors in visual art and music, graduate degree in visual art, and post graduate study in art therapy. For the past 15 years he has served as the Director of Fine and Performing Arts for Dorchester School District Two in Summerville, South Carolina. With a current arts faculty of 132, the district has developed comprehensive K-12 arts programs for 24,000 students attending its 22 schools. Three schools have arts centered curriculum including an auditioned arts magnet school. Under his leadership, the Kennedy Center has recognized two Dorchester Two schools as Arts Schools of Distinction and the district has received the National School Boards Association/ Kennedy Center National School District Award for Arts Excellence.

## **Tom Stites, Coordinator of Fine Arts, Owensboro Public Schools**

Forum Thought Leader Question: How are you creating actionable opportunities for equitable access to quality arts education in your community?



Tom is a native of Hopkinsville, KY, and holds degrees from Western Kentucky University and East Tennessee State University. His thirty-one years as a high school band director included Sylva-Webster High School in Sylva, NC, The Marist School in Atlanta, GA, and twenty-two years at Science Hill High School in Johnson City, TN. In addition to his career as a high school band director, he has served twenty years as a fine arts department chair; eight years as assistant conductor for the Johnson City Symphony Orchestra; two years as Music Director and Conductor of the Johnson City Symphony; and currently serves as Associate conductor of the

Owensboro Symphony Orchestra and as Owensboro Symphony Youth Orchestra conductor. Professional highlights have included full concerts onstage at the National Concert Band Festival, National Adjudicators International, and the New York Wind Band Festival at Carnegie Hall. He has enjoyed collaborations with guest artists such as Edgar Meyer, the Ahn Trio, the Canadian Brass, Mark O'Connor, Jay Ungar, the National Symphony Orchestra and more. Serving currently as Coordinator of Fine Arts in Owensboro Public Schools, he works closely with 31 arts teachers in all disciplines and all schools. Recognized as a leading district in the arts, OPS arts programs have been chosen as a model in the state reform models for arts assessment and curriculum development.

## **2014 Arts & Education Forum Sessions**

**Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 6pm-8pm, Chattanooga Workspace**

***Arts and Education Forum Kick-Off and Reception***, presented by the Southeast Center for Education in the Arts and SouthArts.

Featured presentation: ***Developing a Unified Message for Arts Education***, presented by Jeff Poulin, Arts Education Program Coordinator, Americans for the Arts

Join Americans for the Arts' Arts Education Program Coordinator, Jeff Poulin to take a look at the intricate ecosystem of arts education in the United States. With work spanning the local, state and federal level, Jeff works with all members of our field from educators to policy makers. Together, participants will explore the question, "How do we cohesively work together to advance our field in the classroom, community and nation?"

## 2014 Arts & Education Forum Sessions

Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 8am-5pm, University Center, The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

9:00am-10:15am, Tennessee Room

**Learning in Concert: Connecting Concepts Across the Arts and Academics**, presented by Terry Wolkowicz, Education Director, New Bedford Symphony Orchestra and David MacKenzie, Music Director, New Bedford Symphony Orchestra

With the emergence of the Common Core State Standards, schools have moved beyond the accumulation of facts and toward focusing on depth and flexibility of knowledge. The “one-and-done” field trip or in-school presentation no longer supports our schools’ goals and objectives for student learning. Schools are searching for arts partnerships that support higher-order thinking skills, connection-making, depth of learning and collaboration.

Within this session, we will share the story, successes, struggles and assessments of the past year’s symmetry exploration. We will focus on how an arts organization can serve the real needs of the 21st century student and can create curriculum that seamlessly connects to classroom teachers, fine arts teachers and their students.

We will then break into groups to allow our participants to experience, first hand, how to design concept-based arts integration curriculum using a selected concept from classical music. We will then have some fun with designing and participating in interactive activities that support deep understandings, multiple representations and transfer of learning.

10:30am-11:45am, University Center Auditorium

**Arts Education Quality in Context: Emerging Research and Actionable Opportunities**, presented by Jo Anne Anderson, Allen Bell, and Mollie Quinlan-Hayes of the South Arts Research Team and Joel Baxley, Susanne Burgess, and Laurie Melnik of the Southeast Center for Education in the Arts Research Team.

This discussion centers on a new two-part study examining access to and quality of K-12 arts education in the South. The first part includes the quantitative study Arts Education in the South, which contains data from schools across the South as a region as well as at the individual state and school level. The second part includes a case study analysis of selected high quality arts education programs in K-12 schools in the South. These complementary studies will both be available to download for free from [southarts.org](http://southarts.org) following the 7th Annual Arts & Education Forum. During the session, presenters will highlight findings, suggest areas for further investigation, and explore actionable opportunities to consider.

Forum Thought Leader: Joan Lazarus

**11:45am-12:30pm- Lunch, Tennessee Room**

**12:30pm-1:45pm, Concurrent Sessions**

**Presenting in Chattanooga A:**

***From Standards to Practice: Measuring Student Growth for Arts Specialists,*** presented by Dr. Dru Davision, Fine Arts Advisor, Shelby County Schools.

With the Tennessee state law that attributes 35% of the teacher evaluation score on student growth data, teachers collaborated to create a system of student growth measurement that relies on a peer review process with purposefully sampled authentic student work products. This session will explore the logistics of creating and implementing standards-based evaluation systems that are fair for arts educators, with an emphasis on how to communicate with policy makers to make such systems possible. The session will also include demonstrations of sample student work collections and the training/scoring process for the blind peer review committee. Implications will be shared for arts policy as well as teacher professional development and support.

Forum Thought Leader: Larry Barnfield

**Presenting in Chattanooga B:**

***Luck or Design? Chattanooga's Imagine! Initiative,*** presented by Rodney Van Valkenburg, Director of Grants and Initiatives, ArtsBuild.

ArtsBuild's Imagine! initiative is attempting to design a systemic approach to arts exposure for all elementary school students in Chattanooga, TN. This session will explore the journey of this initiative and share how exposure activities can be a catalyst to support arts learning, arts integration and arts advocacy efforts.

Forum Thought Leader: Tom Stites

## **2:00pm- 3:15pm, Tennessee Room**

***Impact by Design***, presented by Kim Dabbs, Executive Director, West Michigan Center for Arts and Technology

The session will lead participants through the design thinking process and how it can be applied to arts education programs. We will address how our pedagogy creates actionable opportunities for urban teens to explore the visual arts, technology and design thinking as it applies to social justice and community engagement. During the session participants will engage in a mini design challenge and rapid prototyping activity, providing an interactive and applicable experience in design thinking. We will share our success in engaging high school students in arts and technology, partnering with an urban school district on a best-practice out-of-school time model, and empowering students through civic engagement.

Forum Thought Leader: Joan Lazarus

## **3:30pm-5:00pm, Tennessee Room**

***Creating, Performing, Responding, Connecting: An Arts Education Forecast***, presented by Jim Palmarini, Director of Educational Policy, Educational Theatre Association; Laurie Melnik, Interim Director, Southeast Center for Education in the Arts; Amy Burton, Drama Specialist, Barger Academy of Fine Arts; Felicion McMillon-Diakhate, Dance Specialist, Barger Academy of Fine Arts; Michael Jerome Mitchell Jr., Music Specialist, Barger Academy of Fine Arts; Allison Fuller-Mulloy, Visual Art Specialist, Barger Academy of Fine Arts; and Jeff Poulin, Arts Education Program Coordinator, Americans for the Arts

Participants will learn about future directions in arts education and how we can help our communities prepare. During this session, participants will be introduced to the National Coalition for Core Arts Standards and their conceptual framework for the new arts standards, experience a school's strategy for helping their community understand and embrace artistic literacy, and develop compelling and succinct messages for arts education.

## 2014 Arts & Education Forum Sessions

**Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 8am-5pm, University Center, The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga**

**9:00am-10:15am, Tennessee Room**

**The Advanced Manufacturing and Innovation Academy (AMIA): Creating Middle School eSTEAM Studios in the Northeastern NC Prosperity Zone**, presented by W. Wayne Godwin, Associate Professor, East Carolina University School of Art & Design and Dr. J. Ted Morris, Co-Founder of the Middle School Innovators Academy and Design Lab.

The eSTEAM Studio as an in-school and out-of-school framework provides 1) a technology-rich environment for designing and delivering experiential curriculum based upon the skills, knowledge and abilities desired by advanced manufacturing partners, and 2) flexible studio space supporting the creative and entrepreneurial activities of interested students. ECU's Innovation Design Lab is the first of the planned 16 eSTEAM studios. The studios are being established at the middle school level, as it is the pivotal point for changing student perceptions prior to entering high school and for developing a portfolio of work and permanent transcripts. This integration of core academic, arts and career technical courses provides relevancy of concepts to actual applications in an eSTEAM environment and in relationship to a career. It is thus expected that upon returning to school, these students will complete their own "see one, do one, teach one" cycle as mentors to their peers within the traditional classrooms and eSTEAM Studios.

Students will be introduced to masters-level Industrial Design concepts and techniques, as well as the processes of Human-Centered Design Thinking and innovation. These skills, knowledge and abilities will be reinforced through hands-on technology training using Autodesk 123D Design on the iPad to create objects that can then be produced using advanced manufacturing, rapid prototyping technology like the MakerBot. Students will work both individually and in teams on real-world challenges they identify and that they identify in collaboration with local industry partners.

Forum Thought Leader: Tom Stites

## 10:30am-11:45am, Concurrent Sessions

### Presenting in Chattanooga A:

**Building a Firm Foundation in Arts Integration: Preservice Teacher Education at CSU East Bay**, presented by Eric Engdahl, Ph.D, Interim Chair of the Department of Teacher Education at CSU East Bay.

This session will address the question: How are you creating actionable opportunities for equitable access to quality arts education in your community? It will also examine the critical criteria used to improve quality, since the effectiveness of equitable access needs continual improvement.

The session begins with a brief overview of the context of the visual and performing arts methods course for preservice elementary teachers, including demographics and how changes in teacher licensure, technology, research, educational agendas (including STEAM), and new standards drive a constant need to examine the quality and content of the coursework. Particular attention will be paid to the importance of finding a balance between arts learning and arts integration. Session participants will then explore artifacts reflecting how the coursework has evolved, changed, and improved. This will include student artwork, informational materials, and rubrics. This will be followed by a look at how new pedagogical strategies - specifically transmedia, Alternate Reality Games (ARGs) and flipped classroom strategies are used and how their efficacy is determined. Finally, the participants will have the opportunity to experience a lesson from the course. Particular emphasis is placed on discussions that occur afterwards. In order to use the arts well preservice teachers need to be taught to reflect on their own experience; how to discuss, reflect, and draw meaning from the art of their students; how to understand the metacognitive processes involved; how to adapt lessons for different grade levels; and how and when to integrate the arts.

Forum Thought Leader: Joan Lazarus

### Presenting in Chattanooga B:

**A Process for Assessing Elementary School Theater Arts**, presented by Carmine Tabone, Ed.S., Educational Arts Team.

Participants will have the opportunity to experience the process used with five hundred 2nd and 3rd grade students for three years in a USDOE Arts in Education project to assess student progress in theater arts.

Forum Thought Leader: Tom Stites

**11:45am-12:30pm- Lunch, Tennessee Room**

**12:30pm-1:45pm, Tennessee Room**

**The Arts in Basic Curriculum Project: Arts Education in Action in South Carolina**, presented by Christine Fischer, Director of the Arts in Basic Curriculum (ABC).

The ABC Project (funded by the SC Arts Commission) is a statewide collaborative initiative begun in 1987, whose goal is to provide leadership to ensure that every child in South Carolina has access to a quality, comprehensive education in the arts, including dance, music, theatre, visual arts and creative writing. The project sponsors a model sites program that provides professional development, practical support grant funds (from the Arts Commission) for the development of quality arts and arts integration programs. Learn about this powerful state wide initiative including ABC School and District Sites, the ABC Arts Infusion Continuum, the Essential Elements for Arts Infusion Programming Rubric, the ABC Peer to Peer Principals Network and more!

Forum Thought Leader: Larry Barnfield

**2:00pm-3:15pm, Concurrent Sessions**

**Presenting in Chattanooga A:**

**Quality Arts Education in a Title I Setting**, presented by Les Conley, Principal of Oak Grove Elementary Fine Arts Academy, Darby Jones, Executive Director, ArtsNow, and Jillian Nichols, Academic Coach at Oak Grove Elementary Fine Arts Academy and Reinhardt University Adjunct Professor of Behavior Management.

This session will present a case study of the rich and rewarding collaboration between ArtsNow and Oak Grove Elementary Fine Arts Academy in Acworth, GA. Presenters will demonstrate how they successfully addressed teacher effectiveness, designed and implemented internal processes to assess student learning, and promoted a positive learning environment for all students while implementing arts integration across the curriculum. The session will begin with an interactive activity led by Darby Jones of ArtsNow, focusing on critical thinking and the importance of process vs. product. The session will continue with Les Conley, Oak Grove Principal, who will provide an overview of Oak Grove with an emphasis on arts based instructional strategies, varied assessments, and teacher evaluation. Successes and challenges will be demonstrated through comparative results across the school district and throughout the community. Evaluative measures will be highlighted as a means to capture the fidelity of the partnership and implementation. Session will also include hands-on experiences proven effective in Oak Grove classrooms. These will be led by Oak Grove Academic Coach Jillian Nichols utilizing both ArtsNow and teacher-crafted lessons that have promoted the success of all students. Working together we have created a learning environment rich in positive cultural experiences by opening our students up to a world of possibilities through fine arts integration.

Forum Thought Leader: Larry Barnfield

## **Presenting in Chattanooga B:**

**Quality vs Quantity of Arts Experiences for Teacher Change and Student Growth**, presented by Michele Mummert, Director, Alliance Theatre Institute for Educators and Teaching Artists.

The forum's question will be addressed through a best practices model of professional development that integrates the performing arts with curriculum content. This approach of arts-integration, or instruction that integrates content and skills from the arts with content and skills from other core subjects, is directed towards increasing learning. The research project designed coaching/mentoring models for teacher professional development: focused on integrating standards-based English Language Arts curriculum. The teachers in the research project received a model of professional development, which reflects the research-based features shown to affect teacher knowledge and practice: duration, form, collective participation, focus on content, active learning, and coherence (Garet, Porter, Desimone, Birman & Yoon, 2001). During this session, participants will be engaged in small group activities to (1) deconstruct components of teacher effectiveness and discuss their goals or professional development as a tool to increase teacher effectiveness of their arts programs (2) address how they may apply the research and program model presented in the session to their programs.

Forum Thought Leader: Joan Lazarus

## **3:30pm-5:00pm, Tennessee Room**

***Preparing for and Embracing Change: What is our Next Step?***, presented by Jeff Poulin, Arts Education Program Coordinator, Americans for the Arts.

As the 7th Annual Arts & Education Forum comes to a close our journey towards change begins. Participants will reflect on issues and topics addressed during Forum sessions and develop strategies for the communities they serve. All of us want every child to have access to quality arts education, now let's come together and discover our unified next step.