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Innovative Ideas

from the 2014-2015 Champion
Creatively Alive Children grant winners.

CLASSROOMS AS STUDIOS

WYLANDVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL,
EIGHTY FOUR, PENNSYLVANIA

Christina Unitas, Principal

When a former art teacher became principal, she worked with the Creative Leadership Team to transform the entire school into a model of inquiry-based, hands-on learning.

CONSTRUCTION AND CURATION

PLEASANT HILL ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL, PLEASANT HILL, MISSOURI

Sue Herrera, Principal

Using the theme of Construction, the Creative Leadership Team built a depth of knowledge as students, teachers, and parents became curators of their own learning.

CULTURE, ART, AND THE COMMON CORE

THE FAMILY SCHOOL,
BRONX, NEW YORK

Pamela Lee, Principal

Professional development and student projects integrated visual art, music, dance, and folktales from three diverse cultures in their community: Hispanic, West African, and Bengali.

DESIGN THINKING: AN INVENTIVE PROBLEM-SOLVING APPROACH

YOUNG AUDIENCES CHARTER
SCHOOL AT KATE MIDDLETON
SCHOOL DISTRICT, GRETNA,
LOUISIANA

Folwell Dunbar, Principal

The inventive process of Design Thinking reshaped their professional development and curriculum.

INQUIRY-BASED CONSTRUCTIVIST CURRICULUM

COMPASS CHARTER SCHOOL,
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

*Brooke Peters, Co-Founder and
Principal*

In collaboration with the Whitney Museum of American Art and New York's renowned Studio in a School program, teachers were trained to integrate art across the curriculum.

LEARNERS AS DOCENTS

MARSHALL SCHOOL,
SOUTH ORANGE, NEW JERSEY

Bonita Samuels, Principal

This K-2 school is based on developmentally appropriate practices and the belief that children are visually literate—able to use visual clues to decode early reading and math concepts.

MAKE THINKING VISIBLE

PARK FOREST ELEMENTARY,
STATE COLLEGE, PENNSYLVANIA

Donnan Stoicovy, Principal

Art-infused education helped this school emphasize mindfulness and explore the impact of relationships with others and the environment.



Young Audiences Charter School at Kate Middleton School District, Gretna, Louisiana



MAKER SPACE WITH RIGOR AND RUBRICS

WEAVER LAKE ELEMENTARY,
MAPLE GROVE, MINNESOTA

Dennis Palm, Principal

Inspired by MIT's Life Long Kindergarten approach to creative-analytical exploring, this school created a Maker Space where students brought an artistic approach to the engineering design process.

MULTIPLE TYPES OF LITERACY

E.T. BELSAW-MOUNT VERNON
SCHOOL, MOBILE, ALABAMA

Angie Brown, Principal

Historically, this rural, Title I school had limited access to cultural and visual art resources. They established an in-depth partnership with performing arts schools and students became their teachers.



Champion
Creatively
Alive
Children



CLOCKWISE: Pleasant Hill Elementary,
Pleasant Hill, Missouri; Richard Edwards
Elementary, Chicago, Illinois



**RELATIONSHIPS: CROSS-BUILDING
AND CROSS-DISCIPLINE
COLLABORATIONS**

**EAST PALESTINE SCHOOL DISTRICT,
EAST PALESTINE, OHIO**

*Carol Vollnogle, Principal,
East Palestine Middle School*

Teachers from the district's elementary, middle, and high school formed a districtwide Creative Leadership Team that focused on visual art integration across the curriculum, at all grade levels, across three buildings.

**PARENTS AND TEACHERS ARE
PARTNERS IN TRANSFORMING
A SCHOOL**

**RICHARD EDWARDS ELEMENTARY,
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS**

Judith Sauri, Principal

This arts-rich school made a deep commitment to family engagement and transforming the school into a museum-like community center.

**PARTNERSHIPS ENRICH
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**THE STUDIO SCHOOL,
NORTHGLENN, COLORADO**

Sharla Kaczar, Principal

Weaving the arts into Common Core standards and daily teaching practices is the Creative Leadership Team's priority.

**SCHOOL CULTURE AND SOCIAL-
EMOTIONAL GOALS**

**HAMLIN ELEMENTARY,
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS**

Taina Velazquez-Drover, Principal

Arts-integration is used to foster a positive school culture and build self-awareness/self-management skills.

**TEAM BUILDING THROUGH
THE ARTS**

**MONARCH GLOBAL ACADEMY,
LAUREL, MARYLAND**



Donna O'Shea, Principal

The Creative Leadership Team provided a robust, year-long series of professional development workshops to help colleagues discover the power of the arts to enrich learning and relationships.

THE POWER OF CHANGE

**MARIETTA CENTER FOR ADVANCED
ACADEMICS, MARIETTA, GEORGIA**

Jennifer Hernandez, Principal

The theme, The Power of Change, engaged teachers in student-directed, project-based, experiential learning centered on real-life problems and the design thinking process.

**TURNING AROUND A SCHOOL
WITH THE ARTS**

**BURBANK ELEMENTARY,
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA**

Rachel Messineo, Principal

Art-integration has been key to turning around this school, previously ranked in the lowest 5 percent in California. Art has improved teacher instructional strategies, increased parental engagement, and elevated student achievement.

VISUAL LITERACY

**STEPHENS ELEMENTARY,
HOUSTON, TEXAS**

Raymond Stubblefield, Principal

The Creative Leadership Team helped teachers build visual literacy skills and link art with written literacy.

**VISUAL REFLECTION THROUGHOUT
THE DISTRICT**

**LIBBY CENTER,
SPOKANE, WASHINGTON**

Diane DeWitt, Principal

The Libby Center supports 32 Spokane Public Schools. The Center's Creative Leadership Team provided professional development for teachers on using visual journaling to identify individual learning styles and help students represent their thinking.

**WHAT IF... RELUCTANT LEARNERS
LEANED FORWARD**

**PATERSON SCHOOL #2,
PATERSON, NEW JERSEY**

Felisa VanLiew, Principal

The school's interdisciplinary approach focused on hands-on projects that motivated students to ask essential questions and transform ideas into physical form.

WHOLE SCHOOL-WHOLE CHILD

**THOMAS STREET ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL, TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI**

Chad Chism, Principal

Part of the Mississippi Whole School Institute, this school is weaving art across the curriculum on a daily basis.