



Early Learning Through the Arts Training Workshops

The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust and its Western Pennsylvania Wolf Trap program offer a variety of hands-on, participatory professional development workshops throughout the year, specially designed for early childhood practitioners. Sessions in dance and movement, music, dramatic play, and visual arts are taught by professional teaching artists. Emphasis is on developmentally appropriate practice for children ages 3-5.

Professional Development Workshop Details



These workshops are available at your center for on-site training workshops.

Cost for 3 Hour On-site Workshop:

The workshop fee is approximately \$450 for on-site training for up to 30 participants and includes handouts. Additional fee for travel outside Allegheny County. Funding may be available.

Workshops can be adjusted for time as well as customized to specific content area.

Please contact Sarah Hamilton, at hamilton@trustarts.org or 412-456-2695, to schedule.

All workshops align with Pennsylvania Learning Standards for Early Childhood



WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA
WOLF TRAP

INSTITUTE FOR
EARLY LEARNING
THROUGH THE ARTS

Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning Through the Arts is a program of Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts

The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust | 803 Liberty Ave, Pittsburgh PA 15222

Music

JUMP OFF THE PAGE! With music and movement

Presenter: Margaret Hooton, BA



Early childhood music educator Margaret Hooton will demonstrate a developmental approach to engage the whole child in the joy of literature and the arts. Participants will learn to apply the basics of pitch, beat, singing in tune and movement to circle time activities. Simple props will be used to enhance engagement in picture books.

MAKING MUSIC WITH INFANTS & TODDLERS

Presenter: Margaret Hooton, BA



This active workshop will offer practical information on how to make infant toddler rooms more playful and exciting by including music and movement throughout the day. We will learn the basics of using steady beat, chants, rhymes, simple melodies and movement to reinforce growth in all developmental domains.

IT'S A BEAUTIFUL DAY FOR SINGING

Presenter: Margaret Hooton



Early childhood music specialist Margaret Hooton will demonstrate how music, movement, chants and games help make young children's school day more exciting and engaging. The objective of all this fun is to help children build phonological and literacy awareness, creativity, social and listening skills. Participants will practice using fingerplays to develop small motor skills and musical games to learn about using the whole body, following the rules, sequencing and being part of the group. Practitioners will identify how the inclusion of simple props during story time can spark the a child's imagination during adult-guided exploration of high quality picture books. Even the most weather-challenged Pittsburgh day can be beautiful in your classroom!

Dramatic Play

A STORY IN A BOX, A BAG OR A CAN

Presenter: Barbara Russell, BS



This workshop will demonstrate how Coffee Can Theater – a drama strategy using a container and simple props – can actively engage children in storytelling and child-directed dramatization to reinforce language development. This simple, engaging tool fosters interest, accommodates a variety of learning styles and reinforces Approaches to Learning areas such as curiosity, imagination and problem-solving. Participants will identify child-directed versus teacher-directed storytelling techniques.

S-T-R-E-T-C-H YOUR STORYTIME!

Presenter: Rebecca Covert, MS



During this interactive workshop, participants will learn to use any picture book as a springboard to facilitate dramatic play experiences that reinforce cross-disciplinary curricular goals. Participants will learn how to use the text, illustrations and overall world of the book to develop simple, arts-based experiences designed to enhance literacy instruction and enliven the story time routine.

NAVIGATING THE NEIGHBORHOOD:

Performing Arts Strategies to Teach Life Skills

Presenter: Rebecca Covert, MS



Discover how dramatic play, music, puppetry, and creative movement can help early learners independently and successfully engage with friends, family, and their community! This workshop, led by Wolf Trap Teaching Artist, Rebecca Covert, uses "Bear about Town" by Stella Blackstone as a framework to teach functional life skills and facilitate positive social/emotional development. Participants will walk a mile in Bear's shoes and offer assistance as he learns lessons in self-care, visits neighborhood businesses, and interacts with friends during playtime. In addition, participants will learn how to develop interactive role-playing experiences from nonfiction picture books, create effective visual supports and social stories to guide activities, and employ music to help students follow directions and self-regulate behavior.

Dance/Movement

DANCE, RHYTHM, AND CONSENSUS BUILDING IN THE EARLY CHILDHOOD CLASSROOM



Presenter: Celesta Hickman, BA

Young children learn best through active involvement. During this interactive workshop, participants will recognize movement as means of helping children physically experience emergent math and literacy concepts. Practitioners will explore the basic elements of movement and be able to design active, fun experiences that reinforce basic skills and keep children moving and learning every day.

Visual Art

PLAYFUL HANDS & CREATIVE MINDS:

Using Everyday Items as Artful Opportunities for Endless Creative Play

Presenter: Alison Zapata, BA

In this engaging hands-on workshop, participants will create props, puppets, and simple costume elements using everyday items and low-cost supplies. Participants will demonstrate how to support dramatic play by retelling a familiar story using these playful tools. Participants will identify how to facilitate art-making experiences with young children that allow for freely chosen experimentation, creative expression and open-ended play opportunities.

DESTINATION IMAGINATION: Recycling Everyday Items Into Fabulous Art!

Presenter: Alison Zapata, BA

This engaging hands-on workshop will illustrate the potential that art-making has to foster growth and skill acquisition in many developmental domains. Participants will tap their own creativity and learn how to use everyday household materials to make art with children. The presenter will model how to make simple puppets to encourage children's imagination, language development, and socialization. Participants will learn how to create a recyclables art station for free access by children in the classroom.

FOSTERING KIND & CREATIVE CLASSROOMS

Presenter: Lindsay Woge, BA

Come immerse yourself in this engaging workshop focused on visual art strategies that can support students' social emotional learning. During this workshop, led by Gateway to the Arts Teaching Artist, Lindsay Woge, educators will understand that both behavior and visual art-making are ways that young learners communicate while verbal-language skills are developing. Through art-making opportunities participants will explore ways to integrate visual arts into the classroom that encourage children to identify, express, and regulate their emotions. Participants will walk away with plans of their own on how to foster a kinder, more creative classroom community.

MAKING TOYS FROM RECYCLED MATERIALS

Presenter: Joann Kielar, MFA

Use a variety of recycle materials, (newspaper, plastic bottles, boxes, etc.) and variety of techniques to create several different projects. Emphasis will be on keeping an open-ended, playful approach and participants will invent situations in which the hand-made toys may be used safely and creatively in ways that are developmentally appropriate.

CREATIVE VISUAL ARTS EXPLORATIONS FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

Presenter: Joann Kielar, MFA

In this hands-on workshop, participants will identify age-appropriate art materials and recognize the value of child-directed/teacher supported creative art experiences.

PUPPET POWER!

Presenter: Joann Kielar, MFA

Discover the power of puppets to enliven your pre-K classroom and reinforce skill development. Participants will create a variety of simple puppets -- hand-puppets, finger-puppets, shadow puppets, and more -- using inexpensive materials. The instructor will model effective ways to use puppets to stimulate learning and help children use puppets appropriately as vehicles for communication and creative self-expression. Includes handouts with puppet templates.