

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, options are available for workshops addressing infants and toddlers.

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

PQAS and Act 48 Credit Available



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

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.

OPEN WIDE THE CIRCLE! Musical Games for Early Learning Fun Presenter: Margaret Hooton, BA

Musical games can provide so many rich benefits to children's social and cognitive development! This interactive workshop will model how educators can integrate musical games in their early childhood classrooms to support their students at various levels of play. During this engaging workshop, educators will participate in a variety of musical games, including parallel play games, circle and line games. There will be plenty of fingerplays, too! Educators will be able to identify connections to early literacy and math concepts.

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.

HOW DO I FEEL? HOW CAN I COPE? Music Integration Strategies for Early Childhood

Presenter: Amber Fantini

How can children identify and cope with their emotions? Young children naturally respond to and communicate through music! Teaching Artist, Amber Fantini, will model strategies using music, chants, and movement to help young students explore emotions and coping strategies. During this engaging workshop, participants will learn strategies that they can bring into their classrooms to help students recognize their emotions and learn healthy ways of expressing and coping with them.

Dramatic Play

DRAMATICALLY MINDFUL STRATEGIES FOR THE CLASSROOM

Presenter: Meredith Hoppe



Take deep breaths. Be present. Listen and Observe. Feel your emotions. Let's play and explore together, using creative dramatics to experience the world around us in a more mindful way! In this workshop, participants will learn how to support their own teaching practices with creative approaches, mindfulness strategies, and explore connections between mindfulness and creative dramatics through interactive activities. These strategies will allow teachers and students to experience their own social and emotional landscape in safe and creative ways.

Dance/Movement

DANCING OUR WAY THROUGH STEM

Presenter: Joanna Abel



Providing children opportunities to explore creative movement can spark so many natural connections to STEM concepts. During this interactive workshop, educators will participate in a variety of dance focused strategies that will deepen understanding in science, math, ingenuity, and other fundamental STEM concepts. Participants will have the opportunity to demonstrate their own creative movement techniques that can support student's STEM learning.

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

Presenter: Celeta 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.

JOYFUL TRANSITIONING FOR TODDLERS WITH MUSIC& MOVEMENT



Presenter: Celeta Hickman, BA

Transitioning into a classroom for the first time can be a big challenge for young toddlers. Ease the transition and even make it joyful by using music and movement! In this workshop you'll experience a variety of soothing songs and rhythmic movements that can be incorporated into your daily practice to support children's social emotional development.

PROMOTING SELF-AWARENESS THROUGH DANCE

Presenter: Taylor Couch, MA



Dance offers children a way to explore their environment, engage with peers, and express their unique selves. During this workshop you will learn dance strategies that will foster all of these experiences by promoting children's self-awareness. You will learn ways to bring these ideas into your center to create a classroom of students with strong self-control and body-awareness!

Visual Arts

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.

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.

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.

ESPAÑOL + ARTE = FUN

Presenter: Veronica Lopez

Young children are quick learners and avid to explore. This workshop focuses on developing visual art strategies to engage children in a fun and playful way when introduced to a second language. Through exploration of Spanish and bilingual stories, collaboration with peers, and making connections to real life experiences, educators will be able to develop their own visual-arts strategies and activities to teach a second language to young children.

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.