Washington Performing Arts Teaching Artists
Concerts in Schools (CIS) and In-School Artist Residencies (ISAR)

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*Offers Sensory Friendly CIS
Music

Bruce Hutton

Appropriate For: Grades Pre-K—12
Content Areas: Music, English, History, Geography

Bruce Hutton is an American Folk Artist and multi-instrumentalist who is proficient on autoharp, ukulele, banjo, mandolin, lap dulcimer, jaw harp, mouth bow, and guitar. He has been performing traditional folk music professionally since 1971, and performs solo as well as with several groups. Groups he performs with include Double Decker Stringband which he is founding member, Hesperis which creates a style mixing medieval and Renaissance music with American folk music, and Roustabout which is an old-time string band. In 1990 he recorded two solo albums on cassette for the Marimac label, For Kids and Kin and Roll Back the Carpet. Bruce has also recorded with the Double Decker Stringband and Hesperus. He has performed in the U.S., Canada, Europe and Asia at noteworthy places such as The Kennedy Center, the Lincoln Center, and the Smithsonian Institute, including the Folklife Festival.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

As a solo performer Bruce does folk concerts for all ages and specializes in education programs for schools from elementary level to colleges. As an instructor Bruce has taught group classes in guitar, banjo and jug band at the Augusta Heritage Workshops in WV and at Pinewoods Camp in Massachusetts. Bruce currently teaches at the House of Musical Traditions in Takoma, Maryland. He has also taught group lap dulcimer lessons to music teachers at the National Orph music conventions. Website: [http://www.huttonfolkways.com](http://www.huttonfolkways.com)
Cantaré, Latin American Music

Appropriate For: Grades Pre-K—12
Content Areas: Music, Health and Physical Education, History, Geography

Cantaré is lead by vocalist Cecilia Esquivel and guitarist Dani Cortaza, both from Argentina. The artists are very active in the Washington area music scene and have extensive training in performance and music education. Vocals are accompanied by string and percussion instruments from Latin America with bass, percussion and keyboard backing tracks.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
Cantaré, Latin American Music performs songs in Spanish and Portuguese, while sharing the music’s cultural background. Cantaré introduces a variety of string and percussion instruments from different Latin American countries. Audiences learn about geography and history of Latin America and about the different cultures that shaped its music – Indigenous, European and African. In this highly interactive bilingual performance, audiences are invited to sing, play percussion and dance a basic Latin rhythm such as salsa.
Imani Gonzalez

Appropriate For: Grades K-12
Content Areas: music, culture

Imani Gonzalez is an international and national and professional jazz/world vocalist. Her voice is featured on many of the National Geographic Television’s Explorer Series soundtracks, including the Emmy-nominated film The Jane Goodall Biography. Imani has had the honor of performing, touring, and recording with renowned artist, Wynton Marsalis and the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra for eight years. She is a 2016 - 2019 grant recipient of the DC Commission on the Arts & Humanities. Since 1989, Imani has held the distinction of being the first and only American woman who tours with the traditional Ghanaian ensemble ODADAA. She has written two children world music books entitled, Dhimiki and Iyipo Ayé with sing-a-long compact discs, which have received raved reviews from teachers, students, universities and libraries.

PROGRAM OPTIONS

World Music Program
This performance gives a tremendous new way to bring young people into the living, breathing vitality of other cultures. Students learn about the lifestyles and values of children in these faraway countries and come to appreciate the similarities and differences between these cultures and their own.

Jazz Program
This fun and interactive performance features an introduction to Jazz music. Students learn songs through call & response and feel the richness and importance of this American culture.
An “outstanding voice,” according to the Washington Post, soprano, Karin Paludan works in opera, recital, operetta, cabaret and musical theater, and also works extensively in educational and community outreach through Washington Performing Arts, the National Symphony Orchestra and Music For Autism. Performing as a soloist in opera and recital she has performed throughout the United States with such companies as Community Concerts, New York City Opera, the Utah Festival Opera and the Lyric Opera of Kansas City, at The Kennedy Center, The Library of Congress, The National Gallery of Art and the Smithsonian. Karin is also a past regional Metropolitan Opera National Council award winner. An artist committed to connecting communities through the power of music, she believes we all have the potential to raise our voices and change the world. Karin is dedicated to reaching and connecting to audiences of all abilities, and specializes in inclusion and collaboration. She works with teachers to ensure that her performances meet the needs of every student.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Singing is My Superpower!
A joyous, inspiring and interactive program celebrating the power of the human voice. We all have a voice we can use to change the world! Join soprano, Karin Paludan, as she introduces students to the magical world of classical vocal music and inspires them to discover and celebrate the strength and power of their own voices. Through vocal exercises, storytelling, collaborative singing, guided imagery and audience participation, students will gain tools to explore and celebrate their “super power” within - learning and discovering ways they can strengthen and use their voices to empower themselves and change the world. Singing can be your “super power” too!

Karin is dedicated to reaching and connecting to audiences of all abilities, and specializes in inclusion and collaboration. She works with teachers to ensure that her performances meet the needs of every student.
Luis Garay was born in Cordoba, Argentina. He is a Classical, jazz and Afro-Latin multi-percussionist, composer, recording artist and educator. (Percussion Professor at Cordoba State Conservatory of Music, Master of Music from The Catholic University of America, advanced studies include the Escola de Musica de Brasilia) He is a former principal timpanist of The Cordoba Symphony Orchestra, founder of the Cordoba Jazz Quartet and former director of Youth Percussionists of Cordoba, and former instructor and director of the percussion ensemble of the Cordoba State Conservatory of Music in Argentina. During his 40 year career, he has performed throughout the Americas and Europe at venues such as the Kennedy Center, Wolf Trap, Department of State, Smithsonian Institution, The Argentine Embassy and Strathmore Music Center. Percussion soloist: Luis Garay Percussion World. Albums “Sacumba” and “Humanity” is a collection of his original Afro-Latin compositions performed by his group Percussion World: www.luisgaray.com, Lead percussion director at Latin Strings and Percussion at The Music Center at Strathmore. http://www.luisgaray.com/video.htm

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
Luis Garay’s blend of spicy, undulating South American, Caribbean, and African rhythms is a highly educational and entertaining musical journey, introducing the audience to many exotic instruments such as the balofone, djembe, and talking drum, and also to the more familiar congas, bongos, timbales, and drum set. The audience participates throughout the performance as they learn to clap authentic rhythms from different cultures.
**Quintango**

*Appropriate For: Grades K-12*

*Content Areas: English, Social Studies, History*

**Eva Cappelletti Chao, violinist,** performs with the Kennedy Center Opera House Orchestra, the National Symphony, the Baltimore Symphony, and the Baltimore Chamber Orchestra. She is the Concertmaster for Concert Opera of Washington as well as for many of the choral groups in the DC area.

**Jon Nazdin, bass,** is a native of Washington DC. A graduate of The Berklee College of Music, he plays all genres of music on double bass and electric bass. Noteworthy highlights include working with Barbra Streisand, The Three Tenors, George Benson, Doc Severinson, YoYo Ma and his Silk Road project, Denise Graves, Branford Marsalis.

**Joan Singer, violin,** is the founder and director of QuinTango. She has performed in concert in England, France, Mexico, Italy, Holland, Germany, Costa Rica, Guatemala, India, Sikkim, Uruguay and Argentina, as well as throughout the United States. Since founding QuinTango, she has become a record producer, tour manager, grant administrator, arts panelist, Master Teaching Artist, and international lecturer on tango, realizing her dreams of combining music performance, travel, and writing.

**Lukasz Szyrner, cello,** Born in Poznan, the musical capital of Poland, Szyrner began his studies at the age of seven and at age ten was performing in the Poznan Philharmonic Orchestra, where he made his solo debut at 14 performing the Saint-Saëns cello concerto. He is the recipient of the Glos Wielkopolski "Medal of Young Art" award for his artistic achievements in Poland and abroad. Mr. Szyrner has performed solo and chamber works throughout Europe and the United States.

**Jeffery Watson, piano,** has appeared as soloist with the Honduran National Symphony, Pan American Symphony, Rosario (Argentina) Chamber Orchestra, Alexandria Symphony and the Kennedy Center Opera House Orchestra, with additional performances in Croatia, Alaska, Uruguay and Peru. Dr. Watson was associate conductor for the Kennedy Center’s award-winning production of “Sunday in the Park with George” as part of the Center’s 2002 Sondheim Festival and music director and coach for the Maryland Opera Studio at the University of Maryland. He is on the faculty of the Washington Conservatory of Music in Washington, D.C.

Website: [http://www.quintango.com/](http://www.quintango.com/)

**PROGRAM**

“Long ago - so long ago that your great great grandmothers were little girls - the Tango was born in an immigrant neighborhood on the banks of the Rio de la Plata, the River of Silver, in faraway Argentina.. High society ignored the poor Tango, until one day....” And so begins the Cinderella-like story of Tango’s rise from humble beginnings to international stardom - a story of immigrant dreams, power of music, and importance of geography -- all with sizzling live performance and audience engagement in Spanish and English by music group QuinTango (2 violins, cello, bass, piano). **Piano or keyboard required from school.**
Reverb

Appropriate For: Grades K-12
Content Areas: Music, English, History

Reverb is a Wammie Award-winning a cappella vocal group who sings an uplifting blend of soul, pop and Gospel classics and original songs written and arranged by group members. Reverb has performed along the East Coast and toured East and Southern Africa, the Persian Gulf and the Caribbean. In addition to Black History in Harmony, Reverb teaches choral music to K-6 pupils in DC Public Schools through Capital Voices and performs for senior citizens through Enriching Experiences -- both programs sponsored by Washington Performing Arts. Reverb is a Washington-area, award-winning a cappella vocal group who sings an uplifting blend of R&B, Gospel and pop classics as well as original songs written and arranged by group members. Since its birth in 1991, Reverb has performed along the East Coast and toured East and Southern Africa, the Persian Gulf and the Caribbean.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
The five male singers of Reverb take students on an a cappella musical journey through African-American history, focusing on the social issues of 1619, 1866, the 1960s, and today. Students participate by answering and asking questions, singing, and playing hand-held percussion instruments. Reverb’s repertoire engages students and provides insight into issues that are still thought provoking today.
Since 1969, Steve Bloom has performed and/or recorded in over a dozen countries. His work in Afro-Cuban folklore, Celtic music, and in Persian percussion has taken him to the Lincoln Center, to top-tier folk festivals around the U.S., and in 2006 Bloom performed for the United Nations General Assembly, presented by Ban Ki-Moon. He has been engaged for the last four years as "Resident Creative" at the National Building Museum. For information about concert and workshop offerings visit his website: www.musicbyhand.com. John Peiffer played French horn with the Washington Opera for 17 years, is currently an instructor at the Landon School, and leads an innovative and eclectic jazz group called Peiffer’s Corner, featuring renowned bassist John Previti and Steve Bloom.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
The Rhythm Wranglers duo presents a participatory lecture/demonstration throughout which the artists perform short works on a wide variety of instruments, whose origins and sonic properties are compared and contrasted. The program is adaptable for all audiences, features segments on Persian drum rhythms, Cuban conga rhythms, and even a spotlight on the phenomenon of the hybrid drum set in such styles as jazz, and Samba. Peppered with units of vocal call-and-response, rhythm games, and the like, this rapid-fire program challenges audiences of all ages, and entices them with insights into such musical domains as meter, melody, syncopation and polyrhythm.
African Heritage Dancers and Drummers

Appropriate For: Grades K-12
Content Areas: Music, Physical Education, History, Geography

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
Through dances and drumming, students learn about cultural aspects of the African Sene-Gambian people. Colorfully costumed, performers introduce and perform on a variety of African percussion instruments, and even dance on stilts. Students are invited to learn an authentic African dance.

Coyaba Dance Theater

Appropriate For: Grades K-12
Content Areas: Physical Education, Music, History, Geography

Coyaba Dance Theater was founded in 1997 by Founder/Artistic Director Sylvia Soumah. The mission of Coyaba Dance Theater is to present traditional and contemporary West African dance and music focusing on the diverse ethnic groups and various humanitarian themes of West African culture. Coyaba Dance Theater performs throughout the year and has been featured at The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, The Public Playhouse, the Lincoln Theater, the Lisner Auditorium, Dance Place, the Chicago Theater and the World Culture Open in Seoul, South Korea. Website: [http://www.danceplace.org/coyaba-dance-theater/](http://www.danceplace.org/coyaba-dance-theater/)

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
**OH’ Africa: Africa is Continent not a Country**
Oh’ Africa, is a 45 minute, high energy, interactive performance highlighting the music dance and culture from the Mali Emperor (Mali, Senegal, Guinea). Students will experience their rich history and culture from these amazing countries and diverse their ethnic groups. Program will include: Drum Call (Calling of the Ancestors) Harvest Dance, Drum History Dance Of the Griot, and audience participation and closing Mantra LOVE-PEACE-RESPECT for EVERYBODI’. Coyaba looks forward to you taking this journey with us.
Contradiction Dance Theater

Appropriate For: Grades K -12
Content Areas: Physical Education

We are creators. We generate movement, dialogue and joy. Like many artists, we thrive in community. We often choose to work collaboratively as directors, cast-members, choreographers, teachers, and friends. Together we:

- Build community and create safe, supportive spaces our community to explore contemporary social issues
- Put dance in unexpected places like crosswalks, offices, living rooms, and... you get the idea.
- Engage the community through conversations, pop-up events, delight and curiosity. Often these engagements look like workshops, performances, residencies, and partnerships
- Create and present works that blend several dance forms with multimedia elements, storytelling, and theater
- Provide a broad scope of dance and theater education classes for people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities

CIS PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
A modified version of Contradiction Dance Theatre’s performance: "Making Space : Taking Place :: Making Place : Taking Space". We will focus on how we choose to share spaces and places with our community. How do deal with challenging people - like bullies - in our everyday lives? The concert will include audience participation activities including:

1. Guided discussion/reflection of theme and performances integrated throughout
2. Dance the B.E.S.S.T. (Body, Effort, Shape, Space, Time). Definition of Dance (stationary exercise, full assembly):
3. Locomotion Across the Floor (15 student volunteers dance in groups across the floor)
4. Dance your feelings (stationary exercise, full assembly): Sometimes our emotions are bigger than we are; dance is a great way to examine them and find ways from one emotion to another.
5. Create a Dance (stationary exercise (full assembly), with student volunteers and company on stage): The company builds a dance, based on suggestions from the audience. The audience learns a stationary version. The whole room dances it together, with the student volunteers and company providing variation to the theme.

ISAR PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
Contradiction Dance Theatre builds creative artistic experiences with and for the students, exposes the students to professional dance and performance, and works to integrate dance and movement into the core curriculum. Contradiction Dance Theatre’s Artistic Director Kelly King works with teachers to build a personalized curriculum to suit the needs of the students, teachers, and the school culture. Kelly works to build a common vocabulary for movement within the classroom setting, so that each member of the community can contribute and help create the physical content with confidence.
Footworks Percussive Dance Ensemble

Appropriate For: Grades K -12
Content Areas: History, Social Studies, Physical Education, Geography

Celebrating 40 years as a performing arts ensemble, Footworks Percussive Dance Ensemble is an internationally recognized, roots-based music and dance company showcasing the cultural diversity of percussive dance. Footworks maintains a reputation for exceptional performances, bringing the joy and energy of percussive dance and music to audiences all over the world. The ensemble always performs with its own highly accomplished award-winning musicians and is dedicated to teaching and working with youth, recognized for over 39 years in Arts-In-Education. Footworks offers a wide range of services including theater productions, festival performances, workshops, arts-integrated school assemblies and residencies, and youth and community outreach programming. All of Footworks programming is a celebration of the cultural diversity found in the United States. The Washington Post declares, "The eruptive joy of Footworks dancers is as contagious as laughter!"
Website: http://www.footworks.org

CIS PROGRAM OPTIONS

Keeping the Beat: Multicultural Influences in American Music and Dance
Footworks conveys the power and joy of percussive dance while illuminating the multicultural roots of American music and dance, including African, European, and Native American traditions. Live music and an exciting array of percussive dances are performed, including step dance, gumboot dance, tap, clogging, and hamboning, along with inspiring audience participation.

Irish Roots and American Branches
Performing live Irish music and dance with their descendant American styles, Footworks illuminates the American story of traditions coming from the Old World and meeting others here, resulting in new traditions. Students learn the powerful role the Irish played in the shaping of the United States, and American culture.

Build A Better World
Footworks Percussive Dance Ensemble presents "Build A Better World", a family-friendly show for all ages that includes live music, dancing, audience participation, and lots of fun that will inspire students and audiences of all ages to do their part to build a better world. Come join world class artists as they perform an interactive and uplifting show that is sure to get you smiling, toe tapping, singing and clapping!
ISAR PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Roots and Rhythm: Exploring Cultural Diversity through Traditional Dance
This arts-integrated residency explores the diversity and commonality of the people of the United States. Dances and their histories from different cultures are taught in a fun and inviting way, bringing students together in rhythms and songs that build community and connect participants to each other and to their shared American heritage.

KanKouran West African Dance Ensemble

Appropriate For: Grades K-12
Content Areas: Music, Health and Physical Education, History, Geography

KanKouran was formed in 1983, in Washington, DC, by Artistic Director and Senegalese native, Assane Konte. The Company’s success is perhaps best judged by its longevity and the large number of company members who are involved in diverse academic, professional, and entrepreneurial pursuits, who credit KanKouran with instilling within them the discipline, pride, and commitment to self and community which have made their life pursuits meaningful as well as successful. Throughout the last 36 years, KanKouran has established itself as a premier center for the study and performance of traditional West African dancing and drumming. Weekly classes for adults and children have been a key component of furthering the Company’s mission and establishing an appreciation for African performing arts. The Company has worked extensively to bring African dance and drum to children of all ages through various in-school and extra-curricular programs. KanKouran also performs concerts based on the traditions and rituals of West Africa and has showcased at numerous national and international venues, local and federal government agencies, civic and private organizations, and educational institutions throughout the U.S. www.kankouran.org

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
KanKouran showcases the dances and instruments of Senegal, Guinea, and Mali. Students explore nonverbal means of communication and participation through dance and percussive instruments, and learn African cultural traditions through the arts. Accompanied by the djembe and doundoun drums, the dancers also use such instruments as the balafon and shekere. The program objective is to increase the audiences understanding and appreciation of African culture via the presentation of traditional African dance and music.
ReVision Dance Company

Appropriate For: Grades K-12
Content Areas: Physical Education, English, Social Studies

ReVision is a contemporary modern dance company committed to artistic excellence and community building. Through performances, workshops and teaching residencies, ReVision works with diverse populations of professional dancers and novice movers. A unique aspect of our work is our dedication to engaging people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Artistic Director Shannon Quinn has spent her career developing effective ways to introduce students and audiences to modern dance and its relevance to our everyday lives. ReVision dancers share Shannon’s personal mission of bringing the joy of dance to everyone. Website: http://www.danceplace.org/revision-dance-company/

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
Revision dance company's educational and interactive performance focuses on humanitarian themes such as self-development and community awareness, through the lens of modern dance. ReVision dancers engage, entertain and inspire audiences with movement, dialogue, and audience participation. Students will learn how the arts can be a vehicle for self expression by experiencing a professional dance performance and contributing their own ideas which enhances comprehension and communication skills.
Step Afrika!

Appropriate For: Grades K-12
Content Areas: History, Geography

Step Afrika! is the first professional company in the world dedicated to the tradition of stepping. It promotes an appreciation for “stepping” and its use as an educational, motivational and healthy tool for young people. We accomplish this mission through arts education activities, international cultural exchange programs and performances world-wide. Over the past 19 years Step Afrika! has grown to become one of the top 10 African American Dance Companies in the US based upon Dance USA’s survey of African American dance companies by budget size. Step Afrika! began as an exchange program with the Soweto Dance Theatre of Johannesburg, South Africa, and has expanded to become a national and international touring company. Step Afrika! reaches tens of thousands of Americans each year through a 50-city tour of colleges and theatres and performs globally as a cultural ambassador.

www.stepafrika.org

CIS PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
Stepping with Step Afrika! is a highly interactive 45-minute performance for K-12 students that highlights the rhythm, physicality and history of stepping, and culminates in a group activity to get students on their feet. The program introduces the ties between stepping, college life and academic achievement. It introduces the concepts of teamwork, discipline and commitment. Performers incorporate world traditions, demonstrated through the lively South African gumboot dance. Students enjoy learning basic step choreography and discover how dance brings people and cultures together.

ISAR PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
Step Up to College is a weekly residency program (in school or after school) for 4-12 grade students. The curriculum covers stepping, its history, tradition and meaning, preparation for college life and simple health and fitness. Participating students receive an age-appropriate activity journal that will supplement in-class discussions. Students learn the core values of stepping: teamwork, commitment and discipline as a part of their own “step team” by working together to create choreography and seeing how every member of the team adds value to their performance. Students also gain self-confidence through creating their own steps and performing at a culminating performance for family and friends.
Ziva’s Spanish Dance Ensemble

Appropriate For: Grades K-12
Content Areas: Dance, History, Social Studies

Ziva's Spanish Dance Ensemble engages students of all ages with dances that were inspired by the culture of Spain’s Andalusia region. A skilled professional dancer and instructor, she blends traditional Spanish and modern dance, resulting in unique neoclassical choreography. Her ability to connect with students through creative expression while educating them about the historical influences of dance, has made Ziva one of the most sought-after teachers in the Washington, D.C., area.

Guest artists have come from a variety of dance and musical fields such as jazz, modern, tap, Indian, African, and Moorish. The Ensemble has appeared in venues throughout the Washington, DC, area including the Kennedy Center’s Millennium Stage, Corcoran Gallery of Art, George Washington University’s Lisner Auditorium, Alden Theatre, Jack Guidone Theater, Dance Place, and the Atlas Theater. Ziva’s Spanish Dance Ensemble provides programs for diverse audiences, including embassies and numerous private engagements throughout the region.

Ziva also teaches Israeli folk dance with a focus on the origin and roots of cultural song and dance movements. A certified yoga instructor, she hosts special sessions for students focused on ways to combat bullying by improving mental and physical health as well as improving a student’s body image and increasing self-esteem.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
Teaching Artist Ziva Cohen guides students through a historical journey of the roots of flamenco Spanish dance. Using footwork, hand movements and basic choreography, students are led through an authentic flamenco routine. Participants learn about the influences that led to the creation of these unique dances. Through dance and positive energy, Ziva teaches students the importance of leadership, teamwork, and collaboration, helping build students’ confidence in many aspects of their lives. Residency activities conclude with the students performing an authentic Spanish dance, including costuming and accessories.
Karen O. Brown

Appropriate For: Grades Pre-K-5
Content Areas: Visual Arts, History, Geography, Math

Karen is a professional artist with extensive experience as an arts educator. She draws students into the learning curriculum as they discover the joys of artistic expression. She conducts 30 to 40 workshops and residencies a year in DC, MD and VA for organizations such as The Kennedy Center, Washington Performing Arts (WPA), The National Museum of the American Indian, Teaching for Change, Inner City Inner Child and numerous public libraries. Karen recently led professional development workshops for 20 Native American Elementary Education Teachers in North Dakota for the Smithsonian Education Outreach Program.

She has permanent art installations at the DC Commission for the Arts, Children's National Medical Center and the DC Convention Center. In 2010, she completed a 23’ mural based on the painted house designs of the Ndebele women of South Africa with help from first through fifth graders at Ideal Academy Public Charter School. Karen has also created artwork for six annual meetings of The Washington Area Grantmakers Association. Each year she has made 25 sculptural centerpieces and 250 individual pieces of artwork for attendees including flying birds, articulated puppets and hand-painted houses and chairs! Her international travels in Asia, Europe, Central and South America and South Africa inform and enrich her creative and imaginative approach to teaching, leading workshops and creating public art. Ms. Brown’s education includes graduate studies in textiles, ceramics, sculpture, 3-D and surface design, bookmaking and photography. Karen's teaching methods reach all types of students and their individual learning modalities. Content is deepened as art is infused into every aspect of classroom curriculum. She is passionate about her work with students and teachers and loves bringing creative and culturally enriching residencies to all.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS
Hands-on workshops explore the best of children’s literature with a focus on East and West Africa, India and Mexico. Karen O. Brown’s workshops begin with an accurately written children’s book, highlighting a person’s life and accomplishments, or a part of life from a specific culture. Students read the book and create related artwork during hands-on workshops. Bookmaking and other arts workshops are also available! Examples are:

Wangari’s Trees of Peace, the True Story of Wangari Maathai, the first woman from Africa to win the Nobel Peace Prize for planting millions of trees in Kenya and beyond and the effect this had on the land and its people!
A Library for Juana: The World of Sor Juana Ines: The amazing true story of a childhood prodigy from the 16th Century and how she became one of Mexico’s most revered poets and treasures! In our workshop, we create a beautiful, 3-dimensional book illustrating Sor Juana’s childhood, her Father’s library, her sister’s school - where Juana couldn’t attend, and the natural world around her home where she spent so much time learning about the natural world.

Galimoto by Karen Lynn Williams: Students participate in a strong STEAM project creating vehicles - with moving parts - made of recycled materials based on the popular toys made by children in West Africa.

Matatu by Eric Walters: Kenya is the home to an amazing array of trucks, vans and cars - all individually decorated to highlight the life of a musician, music genre or a popular product. Students use cereal boxes to create funky trucks and vans in their own contemporary style.

The Boy Who Harnessed The Wind by William Kamkwamba: A true story of a child who invented a wind-powered machine to bring electricity and water to the land in his parched village - restoring crops and in turn, the lives of it’s population. Students create windmills from recycled materials in this strong STREAM based project.

Baby Goes to Market by Antinuke: An exciting book by the author of the Anna Hibiscus books - combines math with a cultural lesson for young children. Students delight in embellishing fabric to use as Nigerian head wraps and baby wraps. Everyone learns how to tie the wraps as well as use them in curriculum based lessons.

Aani and the Tree Huggers by Jeannine Atkins tells the true story of a young women in India who organizes women to protest deforestation in her village. She is successful in stopping the destruction and leads a movement to plant thousands of trees - allowing the natural habitat to regenerate and crops to grow successfully in her region. A number of tree and ecology related programs can ‘sprout’ from this story for students of all ages.

Bookmaking for Every Subject: Infuse art into your classroom with books made from simple, inexpensive materials. Book structures taught can be used for all ages, curricula and learning modalities. Curriculum content comes alive with each book structure - as we cut and fold paper and recycled materials into 3-Dimensional structures, and ‘Think Outside the Book’ to create fun, age appropriate projects inspiring students with the subject matter of your choice. Strong emphasis on literacy and creative self-confidence. Workshops address all learning modalities as we learn Maze books, the Japanese Accordion, Pop-Ups, the French Fold, and lots more. Teachers learn new ways to teach any curriculum.

Going Green for the Environment and Our Future: Colorful birds and fish are just a few examples of meaningful projects created by students of all ages. Karen, widely recognized “Green’ artist, emphasizes not only creativity, but, how to be an “Artist Activist”! We learn details of specific animals, including habitat and how they exist within their ecosystem and the varying levels of endangered species and how we can help make our environment healthier to counteract negative trends.
Diane Macklin, Master Storyteller engages audience with a “dynamic” style – whether as a performing artist, keynote speaker, or workshop/residency leader. Her background in theatre, dance, and cultural mediation join together with her focus on storytelling as a transformative and healing art form to elevate humanity. She has performed from Massachusetts to California for venues such as Cincinnati’s Playhouse in the Park, National Association of Black Storytellers, Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, International Storytelling Festival’s Exchange Place, National Docent Symposium, and many more. As a performer, certified educator, and teaching artist, Diane believes in “Making a Difference, One Story at a Time!”

PROGRAM OPTIONS

Each Program has a corresponding residency that involves retelling the stories and cultural background about the folktales/legends/fables, as well as storytelling in general. Maximum audience size is 50 for high school, and 75 for middle and elementary school.

**Cosmic Connections** (Head Start-Grade 12, Language Arts/English and Science)
An interactive program shining with folktales that highlight our relationship with the sky and one another. Each story is bursting with peace, friendship, and wisdom.

**Fables Rule** (Head Start-Grade 9, Language Arts/English, Math, and Science)
A celebration of classic tales with a curious twist in honor of a centuries old tradition of living and learning through stories bubbling over with humor, good sense, and valuable lessons. Fables are "the food of the ear" that nourishes the mind and heart.

**Succotash Tales** (Head Start-Grade 12, Language Arts/English, Science, and History)
Explore the richness of African American stories and traditions in a program simmering with tasty stories about family and culture. This program also emphasizes that everyone has a story and ancestors from all over the world.

**Courageously Free!** (Grades 3-12, Language Arts/English and History)
Honor the courage and with of those who supported the freedom of other or sought it for themselves through fiction and non-fiction tales connected to the 19th century America.
Story Tapestries: Arianna Ross and The Ensemble executes performances and residencies that uses the arts as a means to bridge barriers and help individuals foster a deeper connection to what they are learning and teaching. Story Tapestries creates international, dynamic programs that weave the power of dance, music, theatre, hip hop, rap, written word, visual art and spoken word with any school subject. For over 20 years, Arianna Ross and her ensemble of artists have performed across the United States in festivals, concert halls, colleges, libraries, and schools. They believe in the power of the arts to Empower, Educate and Engage.

Main Artists Available, offering customized arts integration programming:
- Arianna Ross (Dancer, Writer, and Theatre Artist)
- Regie Cabico (Hip Hop Performer, Slam Poet, Spoken Word Poet)
- Bomani Armah (Poet, Songwriter, Producer, and Performer)
- Jamaal Collier (Hip Hop, Poet, Writer, and Performer)
- Suzanne Richard (Theatre Director, Writer)
- Ashlee McKinnon (Hip Hop Dancer, Choreographer, Jazz Dance, Musical Theater, Modern Dance)
- Valerie Baugh-Schlossberg (Director, Devising and Movement Artist, and Musical Theatre)
- Steven Barker (Designer and Design Educator, Director of Classic and Devised Theatre)
- Noa Baum (Storyteller and Theatre Artist)
- Theresa Cunningham (Playwright, Theatre Artist, and Musician)
- Sandra Kammann (Theatre Director/Playwright, Choreographer, Anthropologist and Cultural Activist)

CIS PROGRAM OPTIONS
Story Tapestries is also able to offer the below options as Sensory Friendly

Magic of the Sea (Arianna Ross or Valerie Baugh-Schlossberg)
Travel around the world with only your imagination, voice, and body. Discover the many magical, mysteries of water and a culture of Indonesians who live off of the water. An exploration of life above and under sea level told through song, story, and dance, students will listen and participate in folk tales and true stories from Indonesia. Leave the program knowing a bit of Marine Biology and World Culture.
Giggling Wiggling BookWorm (Arianna Ross or Valerie Baugh-Schlossberg)
Dance through the streets of Indonesia, Brazil, Mexico, India or the United States. This multilingual program is an entertaining, international, dynamic program that weaves the power of dance, theatre, music and storytelling together. Students will leave the program with the knowledge of what a folk tales is and the ability to say “hello” in Spanish, English, Portuguese and Hindi.

Immigrant Quilt (Arianna Ross)
Hear historical stories of immigration to the United States from the 1600’s to present day told through Dance, Music and Story. Discover how each community adds another square to the quilt of America with their different stories, culture, and traditions. Students are encouraged to learn more about their family history and the stories of those in their community.

Rise and Rock: The Story of a Poet and Teller (Arianna Ross and Regie Cabico)
In The Story of a Poet and Teller, Arianna and Regie will take us on a journey back in time and across the world. Dream images with them as they weave story, poetry, music and movement together in this interactive show. Hear how you too have the talent to rise up and become anything you want. Discover how two distinct nationally renowned artists found their path and rocked their career as a professional storyteller and world-renowned poet.

My Hoprah (Regie Cabico)
How does a young Filipino American boy, growing up in Southern Maryland escape the silver queen cornfields and hold of his Catholic immigrant mother. After seeing the movie Fame, Regie is determined to get to New York City. With sharp character dialogue and comedic timing, the NPR Storyteller and spoken word artist blends slam poetry into the coming of age story My Hoprah.

When I Stepped on a Lego, a Mermaid Discovered a Chicken Sandwich (Regie Cabico)
A poetic monologue of surreal dreams unfolds as Mr. Regie discovers a magical lego block of poetry and a kaleidoscopic array of poetic devices and magical creatures emerge. This solo plays dazzles young audiences with Cabico’s quicksilver delivery and comedic character work. Inspired by bedtime stories told to his nephew, Kieran, the play connects generations of Filipino warriors and wordsmiths to the art of creative language and rhythm.

Rapping with Mr. Root - Get Involved! (Jamaal Collier)
This interactive and engaging Hip Hop based assembly is challenging, fun and entertaining! Each member of the audience has an opportunity to ‘GET INVOLVED’ with call-and-response, steady beat chants, beat production and even some group dancing! Jamaal 'Mr. Root' Collier explains the importance of expressing yourself and explains how some legends of the culture such as DJ Kool Herc and Afrika Bambaataa have done the same.

Open Mic (Bomani Armah)
This multimedia presentation explores the fun process of hip-hop song writing while comparing it to the practical skill of essay writing. Bomani has had videos featured on BET and MTV2, and has performed as venues such as Washington National Cathedral and the Fillmore in New York City.

Pharaoh's Secrets- Myths and Mysteries of Ancient Egypt (Noa Baum)
Discover the rich culture of ancient Egypt, one of the worlds most fascinating and important
civilizations. Myths and timeless stories of magic and adventure come alive as students learn about customs, Pharaohs and famous inventions.

**Ancient Glories- Stories from Greek Mythology (Noa Baum)**
Journey into the world of ancient Greece, travel with Odysseus, meet Perseus and the gorgon, Medusa, learn the lessons of King Midas, rejoice in the return of Persephone to her mother, and so much more.

**ISAR PROGRAM OPTIONS**
*Sample choices as all of the artists custom design a program to fit the needs of the classrooms*

**A Customized Arts-Integrated Residency: Learn the Standards through dance, spoken word, writing and drama (All Grades, All Curricula, All Artists)**
Design your own residency. Match your curriculum with the artists’ strengths as an artist and teacher. Begin by selecting the common core standards you want to integrate with arts strategies. Through a series of arts integrated exercises, students deepen their understanding of curriculum. The end result of the residency is a piece of writing and/or a performance ready to be shared with their community.

**Stories-in-Motion= Fiction and Non-fiction plus Dance and Story, which brings to the end goal of Comprehension (All Grades, Arianna Ross, Valerie Baugh-Schlossberg)**
Embodied Storytelling, which combines elements of Dance and Storytelling will motivate the students who normally shun reading and challenge the students who love to read. The strategies taught during this workshop enhance and motivate student understanding of new vocabulary words, build self-confidence, strengthen literacy skills, develop self-respect, create positive group dynamics, build inference and prediction skills and foster appreciation of the written word. Discover new strategies that the students and teachers can use to tell a story, demonstrate a scientific concept, or give a speech. Students end the residency by performing their own “Story in Motion” as a reflection of their understanding of the subjects.

**Open Mic and Creating Rhyme Through Engineering (All Grades, Bomani Armah)**
A solo interactive performance, featuring music videos, multimedia presentations, call and response, as well as rhythmic movement with the audience. Students will rap along to original, professionally released music by Bomani, as well as songs highlighting his tips on how to be a better creative writer. Students will also learn historical facts about the birth and development of hip-hop culture and its elements. In his residencies, Bomani works with the students to write lyrics using rhyme tree, lyric rhyming template, and lyrics rhythm measuring worksheet and by the end of the residency, build a set of lyrics explaining one aspect of the Engineering Design Process. General education teachers will become familiar and comfortable with teaching the components of the Engineering Design Process through this interactive and accessible workshop.

**Rap-Flavored English (All Grades, Jamaal Collier)**
As an avid student and fan of Hip Hop Culture, 'Mr. Root' utilizes the art forms of rapping and beatboxing to differentiate and appeal to a variety of learners while maintaining the integrity of the curriculum. Mr. Root leans on his mastery of performance art with poetry and music to aid in focusing on key details of a chosen subject area. Working with students and professors, a cohesive product is
crafted with modeling, group practice, and independent practice. Professors can assess what is being learned by how the key details are applied by student participation throughout the workshop. This model is malleable throughout all topics of study including but not limited to: Math, Social Studies, English, Geography, Science,

**Wonderfully Ridiculous Adventures: Using Creative Writing, Drama, Movement, and Storytelling to Motivate and Improve Literacy (Grades K-2, Arianna Ross, Valerie Baugh-Scholssberg)**
Adventures, comic characters and mishaps—silly stories are a perfect genre for encouraging students’ language development. This residency helps students recognize and hear the different phonetic sounds and the dolch while discovering how to tell, create and ultimately write a short story. Together, we write and dramatizing, moving and drawing a story targeting specific language and sounds to improve students’ literacy development. The result: A comic adventure ready to be shared with another class about perhaps a Green Giant named Gita who grabs big bagels.

**Discovering the Power of the Written Word: Using Creative Writing and Storytelling to Motivate Students to Become Authors (Grades 3-12, Arianna Ross, Regie Cabico)**
This residency creates an atmosphere where students may redefine and/or polish their own written voice. Through a series of creative writing exercises, and storytelling, students discover the power of their own words to tell a story, change someone’s opinion or create an imaginary place. Students at this age not only need to be able to write a story but an essay be it one of personal nature or factual. The end of the residency will be a selection of writing ready to be displayed at the school and/or published. She will coordinate a special writers’ event where the students have the opportunity to share the stories they wrote with their peers and community members. Join professional storyteller, author and arts educator, Arianna Ross as she guides students to write and prepare their own creative stories to be published.

**Math+Arts Integration=Empowered Math Understanding (Grades K-8, Arianna Ross, Valerie Baugh-Scholssberg)**
Many students need support when the time comes for them to synthesize their math learning and respond accurately to a question. Arianna uses all forms of storytelling to teach math including: Dance, Creative Writing, Drama and Visual Arts. Movement based storytelling and visual arts can both enhance and motivate children’s understanding of specific math concepts such as sequencing for our new learners and integers for our older students. Automatically we will increase their higher order thinking, build self-confidence, strengthen literacy skills, develop self-respect, level the learning and create positive group dynamics. They will learn a series of specially designed techniques to explore a variety of math concepts in line with the Common Core Standards. Join Arianna in a residency that will leave the students with an increased love of math and the ability to perform their understanding effectively.

**Explaining Science Through Story: (Grades K-8th, Arianna Ross, Valerie Baugh-Scholssberg)**
Demonstrate and Create techniques that will teach your students complex scientific vocabulary and processes in an engaging visual, audio and kinesthetic manner. Storytelling, drama, dance and creative movement can both enhance and motivate their understanding of high level vocabulary words, build self-confidence, increase critical thinking skills, develop self-respect and create positive group dynamics. Furthermore by dramatizing the scientific material they read, they discover the excitement in synthesizing complex information and becoming experts on a new subject. As a result, educators should be able to immediately apply these strategies to design their lessons to be more effective.
**Rise and Rock: The Residency (All Ages, Arianna Ross, Regie Cabico)**
Spoken Word, poetry, storytelling, movement, and creative writing can enhance and motivate children’s understanding of the vocabulary words, increase their ability to use figurative language, build self-confidence, strengthen literacy skills, develop self-respect and create positive group dynamics. The artists will use elements of poetry, movement, and storytelling to teach students valuable creative skills. As a result of the residency the students will dream in images and ideas as they weave story, poetry, and movement together in this interactive residency that creates writing results. They will discover how they too have the talent to rise up and become a writer, a poet and a storyteller.

**Language of Dance (Grades 2-5, Ashlee Mckinnon)**
Dance and language arts are connected in this residency to support literacy and creative writing skills in children. Creative movement is used to explore and make English language skills come alive for the student. Students will explore making sentences using prepositions properly, creating alphabet letters and punctuation marks with their bodies, creating transitions between sentences to create short stories, rhythmic patterns and more.

**Building Shapes (Grades 6-9, Ashlee Mckinnon)**
Dance and geometric shapes are connected in this residency. This residency will support student’s learning and understanding of how mathematical skills are used to create structure, become aware of space, and how to move as a unit. Students will explore geometric shapes, the element of space, mathematical skills such as finding area and perimeter, and how to create structures of function with their body.

**High Wattage: Elements of the Slam Poem (Grades 6-12, Regie Cabico)**
In these Hip Hop and spoken word performance workshops, participants will use “imagery” to create poems that incorporate pop culture & autobiography to celebrate “who we are” by exploring our dreams and our most fanciful urges. We will combine outrageous lies into hyperbole and use sense memory and experimental wordplay to invigorate our language. We will look at the poem as one explosive haiku and use the things that drive us crazy” to propel us into performance. We will unlock the basic elements of poetry slam performance: vocal, physical gesture & eye contact—demystifying the page from the stage. Each session will include a 5-7 minute performance from the poet, two writing exercises, and several students coached on performance technique.

**Telling Tales: The Bones of Creating Literature (Grades K-12, Sandra Kammann)**
Students enhance literacy, composition and communication skills through writing original stories inspired by a range of genres and literary traditions. Creating literature relevant to their life experiences encourages students to recognize the power of language to convey ideas and generate understanding. Discussion, brainstorming and collaborative writing exercises establish a dynamic atmosphere of creative inquiry. Working together in a laboratory environment, students hone their craft as writers, and gain respect for themselves and each other as authors. Peer Review and Reflection exercises deepen understanding of the process as it unfolds. The Residency culminates with an Open House Reading and celebration in which students share their work with classmates, family and friends.

**Play Creation on a Theme (Grades 6-12, Theresa Cunningham)**
Play Creation on a Theme folds the art of playwriting into Language Arts curricula as part of students’ school-day instruction to enhance literacy. Through six in-class playwriting workshops, students will use dramatic writing and performance techniques to create short plays based on themes from the reading material currently being studied in class. Students will create outlines, write plays, edit, and rehearse. On the final day, students will perform their plays. Play Creation on a Theme increases reading comprehension through creative expression, collaboration, and fun.