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January Arts Education Newsletter

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Arts Education Connections, January 2025

ODE Arts Education Connections



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ODE Arts Education Updates

Arts, Care & Connection: Seeking Feedback From the Field

Teacher Focus Groups

We are interested in hearing about your experiences teaching art to elementary students in Oregon. Provide your voice and experience while earning a stipend as you contribute to a statewide STEAM education initiative called the [Well-Rounded Access Program!](#) The Oregon Department of Education is partnering with the STEM Research Center at Oregon State University to better understand how STEM/STEAM and Arts education in Oregon is

accessible and available to students. **We are seeking elementary school teachers who teach any kind of art in the classroom** (e.g., visual, music, dance, theater) and who are interested in being part of a focus group to discuss their experiences with art teaching. The focus groups will convene virtually 2-3 times for one hour over the 2024/25 academic year based on your availability; **your time would be compensated at \$75/hour.**

If you are interested in participating in a focus group, please respond to this [short survey](#). The purpose of the survey is to learn more about where and what you teach so we can include diverse perspectives in the focus groups. The survey will take fewer than 5 minutes to complete.

If you would like more information before deciding, please send your questions to Nancy Staus at stausn@oregonstate.edu.



Arts, Care & Connection Site Visit Opportunities

Are you currently implementing or interested in the [Arts, Care & Connection lessons](#)? The Well-Rounded Access Program team is enthusiastic about the opportunity to observe how these lessons are being implemented at your school. As a token of our appreciation for your time and hospitality, we would be delighted to provide a class set of oil pastels and paper for use with one of the Arts, Care & Connection lessons to the class.

If you are interested in scheduling a site visit, or have any questions about this opportunity, Access Program team at ODE.WRCoursesGrant@ode.oregon.gov.

Arts Ed News, Research, and Resources

Teaching high quality, inclusive, and culturally relevant content through the arts is essential to increase equitable access to arts education for all students.

Please see below for related news and resources that may be relevant to your practice.

News and Research

- [Music Teachers Are Instrumental. How They Can Bring Us Together Again](#) Education Week 11/25/24
- [Can School Plays Change Kids' Lives?](#) Reasons to be Cheerful 11/21/24
- ['The Evergreen': OK Theatre celebrates music in rural Oregon](#) OPB 12/2/24
- [Portland's Bridgetown Conservatory of Musical Theatre expands acting, dance, and vocal classes to second location in Salem](#) Oregon ArtsWatch 12/2/24
- [Portland Pledges \\$7.8 Million to Boost Arts Education in Public Elementary Schools](#) Hoodline 12/14/24
- [Astoria High School Band performs at winter concert](#) The Daily Astorian, 12/12/24
- [Paradise of Samoa dance troupe raises cultural awareness, teaches confidence](#) Salem Reporter, 12/17/24
- [OES prepares for youth symphony](#) Elkhorn Media Group, 1/6/25

Educator Resources

- Celebrate the achievements of Black artists past and present! [National Gallery of Art resources](#) can teach your students about important historical periods in our nation's history and help you facilitate meaningful conversations about race in America. Check out this lesson video [How to Create an Alma Thomas College](#) for an example of the resources!
- [Hour of Code](#) offers [art, music and media lessons](#) as a part of their lesson library. Check them out to incorporate media arts integration into your arts curriculum!
- Teaching music at a small school in Oregon? Check out the [National Association for Music Education's Small Schools Initiative](#) for resources and support!

Note: Unless hosted, facilitated, or published by The Oregon Department of Education (ODE), these resources have not been endorsed by ODE, but are being shared as relevant opportunities for arts education professionals to consider.

Oregon Arts Group Updates

Arts Care & Connection Update: New Lessons Posted!



Arts for Learning Northwest is collaborating with Oregon teaching artists on the development of a series of four arts courses designed for K-5 students called [Arts, Care & Connection](#), with integrated social emotional learning content in the areas of dance, visual arts, theater, and music. These lessons are part of a pilot project, and will be shared in their final version in an Oregon Open Learning Lesson Collection. Oregon teachers are encouraged to provide feedback on the form included in the lesson resources, to inform the development of this project.

Check out this new featured resource for an example of the Arts, Care & Connection content included in the [Oregon Arts Group!](#)

Master of Ceremonies (MC) with Mic Crenshaw | 5th Grade

The [Oregon Open Learning Hub](#) is a digital resource repository and collaboration space for educators, administrators, and other educational partners to curate, create, and remix open educational resources (OER). The Hub is a portal to over 50,000 openly licensed resources available on [OER Commons](#), searchable by grade level, subject, and standard.

Want to learn more about OER and the Oregon Open Learning Hub? Asynchronous learning options include the [OER Professional Learning Group](#) on the Hub and the [User Guide for Oregon Open Learning](#).

Educator Opportunities



Oregon

Call for Oregon Thespians State Festival Guest Artists

Oregon Thespians is looking for Regional and Local theatre professionals to teach workshops at the Oregon Thespians State Festival 2025!

Educational theatre workshops are the heart of the Oregon Thespians State Festival, held April 3-5 in Salem, OR at the Salem Convention Center and other downtown venues.

Oregon Thespians is interested in all categories of workshops connected to performance and technical theatre. They would like to offer more workshops aligned with design (small and large group), hands-on technical theatre, musical theatre singing techniques, and particularly providing workshops that diversify offerings in reflecting more global theatre work. They also seek presenters for stage combat and dance.

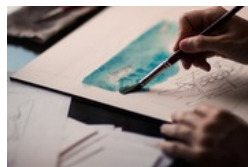
Participation is confirmed on a rolling basis. [See form for details and to apply.](#)

Northwest Watercolor Foundation (NWWF) "Art for Kids" Scholarship

"Art For Kids" is a NWWF program that provides grants to teachers in K-12 schools and to nonprofit art programs for the purchase of art materials and supplies. The grant money totals \$2,600.00 per school year and can increase with donations.

Applicants may apply once per calendar year and may be from any U.S. state.

[Learn more and apply here.](#)



Free PD Opportunity: 2025 PSU Music Tech Ed Workshop

Have you been considering teaching Music Technology in your school? Have you been asked to teach Music Technology, but don't know where to start? **Attend this FREE workshop to learn about Digital Audio**

Workstations (Soundtrap for Education and Ableton Live), basic recording skills, and get ideas for curriculum.



Presenters include:

- Caroline Miller, Sonic Arts, PSU
- Mari Schay, Music Education, PSU
- Jake Kelly, Recording Technologies, PCC Cascade
- Jason Rodgers, Digital Audio Production, Woodburn High School

Saturday, February 1, 2025 | 9:00am-3:00pm | Portland State University Lincoln Hall

[Sign up at this link!](#)

Youth Opportunities

Oregon Music Hall of Fame (OMHOF) Scholarships

OMHOF awards yearly scholarships to selected graduating Oregon high school seniors who have exhibited serious pursuit and accomplishment in their personal musicianship – and who are college-bound music majors. Recipients are publicly recognized at an award presentation where each performs onstage, demonstrating mastery of their instrument.

OMHOF strives to inspire the continuing of higher musical education by offering assistance with college expenses, so that musical students may aspire to the level of those that have musically made an impact before us and the immense variety they created.

They have four scholarships for high school seniors entering college. They also have a 5th OMHOF College Scholarship specifically for a female Oregon high school student.

[See site for details and application.](#)

Crayola Creativity Week Opportunities

Join the free celebration, Jan 27-Feb 02, 2025!

Free Creative Learning Resources

Everyone who signs up will get free video activities and downloadable Thinking Sheets. Every educator will have free access to digital resources for cross-curricular creative learning fun all year long!

Giveaways

With giveaways, challenges from celebrity creators, and virtual classroom visits, it's a celebration the whole school will want to be a part of!

Create Connections

Share students' ideas, projects, and work in a secure online gallery, and connect with creative classrooms around the country during the live Celebration Assembly event.

[See site for details and sign up!](#)



Artist, Arts Organization and Partner Opportunities

Oregon Arts Commission Career Opportunity Grants

The Career Opportunity Grant Program supports Oregon arts practitioners across all disciplines and career stages in taking advantage of timely and concrete opportunities that can significantly enhance their artistic careers.

Recognizing that stipends or payments from these opportunities often fall short of covering all expenses, the Oregon Arts Commission provides this grant to ensure arts practitioners can fully participate without financial burden. This program ensures that artists and arts practitioners can benefit from and engage in career-building opportunities as they arise.

Deadline: Wednesday, February 12, 2025, at 5:00 pm, for activities taking place between May 1, 2025, and April 30, 2026. [Learn more and apply here.](#)

Upcoming Events, Training & Conference Opportunities

All trainings are listed in Pacific Time zone unless otherwise noted.

ODE Professional Learning Opportunities for the 2024-25 School Year:

[ODE Professional Learning Opportunities Page](#)

Relevant educator opportunities:

- Music & Arts Education Data Lab | [Arts Education Research Methods Summit](#) | January 12-13, 2025 | Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, University of Maryland | [See site for details](#)
- Oregon Music Education Association | [Resonance: 2024 OMEA Annual Conference](#) | January 17-19, 2025 | The Graduate Hotel, Eugene, Oregon | [See site for details](#)
- The Kennedy Center | [Variations and Translations: Building Access-Centered Theatre Games](#) | Wed., Jan. 24, 2025 | 3:00-4:00 p.m. ET | Online | \$10 | [See Site for Registration](#)
- 2025 PSU Music Tech Ed Workshop | Saturday, February 1, 2025 | 9:00am-3:00pm | Portland State University Lincoln Hall | [Free with registration](#)
- Southern Oregon University | [SOU Music Student Recitals - Free and open to the public!](#) | Thursday, January 30 - Thursday, May 22 2025 | In person and Online | [See site for details](#)
- The Kennedy Center | [Collaborate to Create: Supporting Youth with Disabilities in Developing Collaboration, Problem-Solving, & Art Skills by Simulating the Music Album Production Process](#) | Wed., Mar. 26, 2025 | 3:00-4:00 p.m. ET | Online | \$10 | [See Site for Registration](#)

Unless hosted or facilitated by The Oregon Department of Education (ODE), these events and training opportunities have not been endorsed by ODE, but are being shared as relevant opportunities for arts education professionals to consider.

Questions? Connections?

We welcome your submissions to [ODE's Arts Education Newsletter!](#) If you have information about events or opportunities for arts educators or students, please contact [Shannon Johnson, Arts Education Specialist](#).

In an effort to streamline the communication process, newsletters will be sent out once a month. To ensure that we can equitably share announcements from everyone, please submit your Newsletter posts no later than the 1st of each month.

Did someone forward you this newsletter? Want to stay connected with arts education at the Oregon Department of Education? [Subscribe to the ODE Arts Education Newsletter today!](#)

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