

MARYLAND WOLF TRAP

EARLY LEARNING
THROUGH THE ARTS



Young
Audiences
Arts for
Learning

Maryland



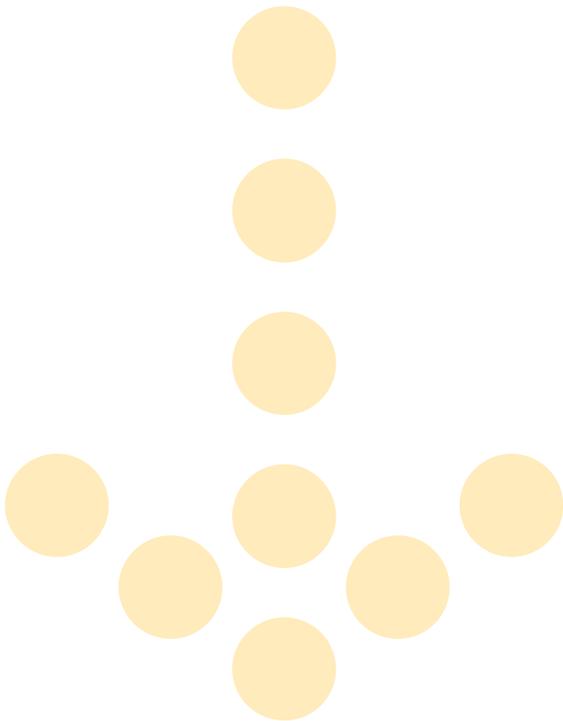
Young
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Maryland

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LITERACY ✦ STEM ✦ 21ST CENTURY SKILLS



85% of brain development occurs during the first five years of a child's life. Participation in the arts encourages positive growth in a child's emotional, physical, intellectual, creative, and social development.



Building creative learning environments through the arts.

As the Maryland sponsor of the Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning Through the Arts, Young Audiences expands access to arts experiences for Maryland's youngest students during the critical early learning years.

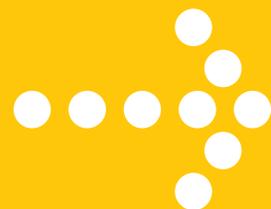
Each program offers professional development to build teachers' skills and confidence in arts integration techniques so that the arts remain a strong part of their lessons after the residency ends.

During an Early Learning Through the Arts program teachers will gain:

- ❖ Unique and innovative arts-based teaching strategies that engage students
- ❖ An understanding of the clear connections between early childhood curriculum areas and developmentally appropriate performing arts skills
- ❖ New techniques to help with classroom management and daily transitions

A Wolf Trap Institute-trained teaching artist works closely with the teacher to achieve the teacher's specific goals. Teachers will learn effective ways to engage students in participatory activities that involve all the senses and encourage critical thinking, creativity, communication, and collaboration.

“Wolf Trap programs reinvigorate teachers to instruct students beyond paper and pencil. Teachers learn new strategies [through the arts] that scaffold the Common Core standards, while students engage in the enthusiasm of the artist and teacher working together.” —Terri Core, PreK Education Manager, Baltimore City



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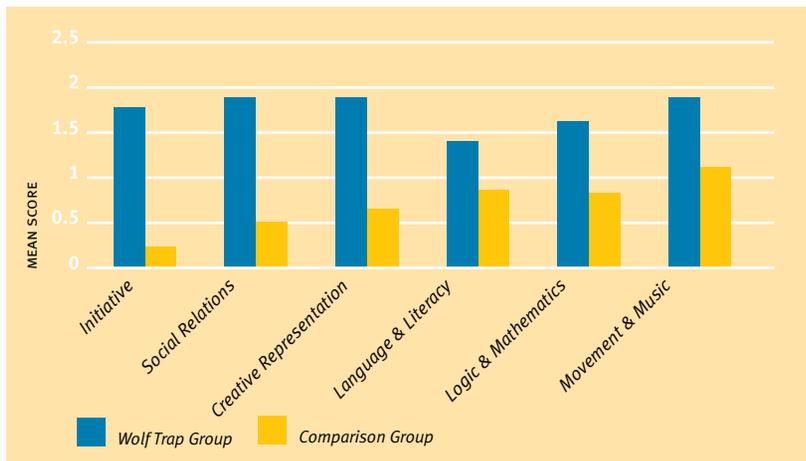
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EVIDENCE THAT IT WORKS!



Results are based on a standardized test given to all students with the highest possible score being 2.5.

A recent Wolf Trap study supported by funding from the U.S. Department of Education showed that preschool students who participated in Wolf Trap residencies scored higher on standardized tests in six measured areas than the comparison group.

“Every day I think of more ways to give life to simple read-alouds. I am now the ‘singing teacher’ in my school!”

— Paige, William Paca Elementary Teacher

WHO ARE WOLF TRAP TEACHING ARTISTS?

Wolf Trap teaching artists are highly-trained and experienced in working with young students and dedicated to developing teachers’ ability to help every young learner succeed. Teaching artists work collaboratively alongside teachers to demonstrate strategies for using creative drama, storytelling, instrumental and vocal music, and movement, to introduce and reinforce a wide range of essential concepts and important skills.

MAKE IMPORTANT CONNECTIONS WITH WOLF TRAP TECHNIQUES		
Wolf Trap Learning Experiences	Effect On Children	Educational Connections
Interactive music experiences	Support auditory, visual, and spatial skill development	Math, Literacy
Songs with gestures that cross the body	Increase right-brain/left-brain pathways	Literacy, Math and Science, Creativity
Active storytelling	Increase confidence in making choices, following directions	Initiative, Critical reasoning, teamwork
Sequential movements in dance	Improve sequencing, recall, and motor skills	Math, Literacy, physical activity

“The Wolf Trap program is GREAT! The students will love the program and everyone will be able to learn something new.”

— Patricia, Heritage Early Learning Center Teacher

16-Session Literacy Residencies

The signature Wolf Trap program is the 16-Session Literacy Residency. Residencies are designed to be highly collaborative and creative partnerships between teaching artists and educators to improve students' literacy skills. In each residency, a Wolf Trap teaching artist shares how to use the performing arts to engage students and enrich their learning environment.

16-SESSION RESIDENCY OVERVIEW

- ❖ **Day 1, Orientation:** The artist and teacher discuss the curriculum, students, and the teacher's goals for the residency. The artist observes the class before the residency begins.
- ❖ **Day 2 through 11, Sessions led by artist:** Each 30-minute session with the students is followed by a debrief with the teacher to evaluate the lesson.
- ❖ **Day 12 and 14, Artist and teacher planning:** Artist and classroom teacher create a lesson plan for the teacher to lead.
- ❖ **Day 13 and 15, Sessions led by teacher:** Two arts-integrated lessons are led by the teacher with support from the artist.
- ❖ **Day 16, Program culmination and evaluation:** After a final session with students, the artist and teacher discuss the residency and skills the teacher can use to integrate the arts in future classes.



STEM Learning Through the Arts Residencies

The Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning Through the Arts has partnered with Young Audiences for the regional dissemination of its new STEM Learning Through the Arts residencies. These programs address a need for innovative STEM teaching and learning strategies in the early childhood community, while providing groundbreaking research into early childhood STEM learning.



LEARN MORE ❖❖❖

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) education has become a top priority for students and educators in the U.S. Research shows that students' math skills as they enter kindergarten are the strongest predictor of later school achievement, yet many of our students are unprepared.

With support from the U.S. Department of Education, Wolf Trap has developed age-appropriate content, skills, and processes that are common to STEM learning and the performing arts-based learning approaches that it has developed during its 30 years of working with public schools and Head Start centers. The active learning inherent in arts-based classroom activities make the arts an especially effective teaching strategy for early childhood educators.

During the program dissemination teaching artists and teachers will be actively engaged in implementing strategies and content that correlate fundamentals of dance, drama, and music with math learning outcomes in areas such as geometry and spatial relations, number and operations, pattern, measurement, and math reasoning.



“This program has made me more confident in getting my students up and moving. I now feel comfortable integrating performing arts into my curriculum, lessons, and activities in a meaningful, productive, and comprehensive manner so my students are having fun and learning at the same time.”

—Kim, Patapsco Elementary Middle Teacher

Our Supporters

Young Audiences would like to thank its partners who made the new Early Learning Through the Arts Initiative possible. With your help, we will ensure Maryland's youngest learners have more opportunities to imagine, create, and realize their full potential through the arts.

Funders that supported the launch of the Early Learning Through the Arts Initiative:



A special thank you to:

**WOLF TRAP INSTITUTE FOR EARLY LEARNING THROUGH THE ARTS
BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**



How to Schedule a Program

To learn more about Wolf Trap residencies or to schedule a program, please contact Young Audiences at 410-837-7577.

The cost of a Wolf Trap residency is \$1,975, plus mileage costs. Young Audiences is committed to making Wolf Trap programs as cost effective as possible. Please contact us to learn more about grant opportunities.



Why Young Audiences?

Young Audiences, the nation's largest arts-in-education provider, began in Baltimore in 1950. As the Maryland affiliate, we are a nonprofit organization devoted to enriching the lives and education of Maryland's youth through educational and culturally diverse arts programs. We partner with more than 50 professional artists from all disciplines to bring hands-on arts learning experiences to nearly 200,000 students throughout Maryland each year. We envision a Maryland where the arts are valued for their capacity to transform lives, and where every student is immersed in opportunities to imagine, create, and to realize their full potential through the arts.

**For more information, contact
Young Audiences at 410-837-7577
or yamd.org!**