In the 2017–18 school year, AEMI served:

8,447 STUDENTS

234 TEACHERS

through the following programs:

234 Days of Embedded Professional Development

11 Family Engagement Events

17 Assembly Performances

8 After School Clubs

7 Student Field Trips

BELLE GROVE ELEMENTARY
BROOKLYN PARK ELEMENTARY
BROOKLYN PARK MIDDLE
FERNDALE EARLY EDUCATION CENTER
GEORGE T. CROMWELL ELEMENTARY
HILLTOP ELEMENTARY
LINDALE MIDDLE
LINTHICUM ELEMENTARY
NORTH COUNTY HIGH
NORTH GLEN ELEMENTARY
OVERLOOK ELEMENTARY
PARK ELEMENTARY
Valerie Branch completed residencies with students in grades 2–4 two consecutive years in a row at Belle Grove. In the 2017-2018 school year, students learned skills of collaboration, trust, and teamwork by choreographing short dance studies that incorporated frozen poses with the use of negative space, weight sharing, and weight bearing. During this school year, Ms. Branch built upon her first residency by asking students to compose empowering, self-identity poems about themselves.

“My name is Emely
I am smart and creative
I pretend to be an astronaut”

These poems were then used as a catalyst to create a solo performance using frozen poses, locomotor, and non-locomotor movements. Students then shared their choreography with another student to see what their movement would look like from a different perspective/point of view.

FAMILY TREE MURAL with Maura Dwyer, Visual Arts Teaching Artist

Fifth-grade students worked with mural artist Maura Dwyer as part of a Teaching Artist Institute (TAI) residency to design a legacy mural for the school Media Center.

Maura and her teacher partner, AEMI teacher liaison Betsy Brininger, assisted students in creating the mural: a family tree with interchangeable leaves sprouting from long, reaching limbs.

The students interviewed and researched family members, wrote poetry, and created symbols representing what they learned about themselves and their families for each individual leaf. The interchangeable leaves were designed so that they can even be switched out with each new school year to reflect the current students!

THE POWER OF UNITY with Valerie Branch, Dance Teaching Artist

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LIGHT PAINTING LAB with FutureMakers, Visual Arts Teaching Artists

Through this multi-day workshop, students in grades 2–5 explored the connections between light, time, and space and learned how digital sensors see: in four dimensions! Using LED’s, batteries, and conductive materials to construct glowing “brushes,” students created glowing digital photos through the use of long-exposure techniques.

MOVING FROM STUDENT EXPERIENCE TO PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: To provide opportunities for ALL Belle Grove teachers to use these tools in their own classrooms, AEMI Teacher Liaison, Betsy Brininger, secured funding to purchase the “Light Painting Lab” equipment for the school. Additionally, Ms. Brininger arranged for Young Audiences to videotape a teacher training video with FutureMakers to document how to use the new equipment!