AEP Virtual Gathering
Media Arts Education in K-12 Schools

Presenters

Alex Karas, Director of Arts Programs, LA Promise Fund
Kamella Tate, Lead Evaluator, Kamella Tate Associates, LLC
Malaika Boyer, Teacher, LA Promise Charter Middle School

Session Description

Media arts is the newest addition to the visual and performing arts, and it is time to meet this new kid on the block! Led by the ArtsMatter team from LA Promise Fund, this session will explore the field of media arts education and will present findings from various school-based programs implemented within Los Angeles classrooms. An overview of the latest data and research from the field will be complemented by on-the-ground implementation strategies from educators engaging in this work. Participants will leave with ample resources and promising practices for facilitating standards-based media arts education that can be implemented at any school site, regardless of fiscal constraints or access to technology.

Learning Objectives

- Evaluate the field of media arts education in public K-12 schools.
- Establish promising practices for media arts education programs.

Session Outline and Summary

The session will begin with an overview of LA Promise Fund's work in media arts education followed by an analysis of the field and an activity demonstration.

An overview of on-the-ground findings will follow. Discussion will focus on the following elements:

1. **Landscape Analysis:** Investigating student interest, determining tech capabilities, understanding teacher competencies and identifying local partners.
2. **Curriculum Development:** Unpacking media arts standards, making appropriate tech choices, connecting curriculum to local industries and utilizing existing research-validated curriculum frameworks.
3. **Teacher Training:** Creating buy-in from educators, teaching arts pedagogies, facilitating hands-on media arts activities, modeling curriculum and providing collaboration opportunities.
4. **Classroom Implementation:** Offering classroom support from arts experts, conducting classroom observations and providing feedback, modifying curriculum as needed and scheduling follow-up teacher trainings.

Supplemental Materials

Our Work
- Curriculum available for download HERE.
- Evaluation instruments made available by contacting Kamella Tate.

Sources
- 2020 Otis Report on the Creative Economy
- UCLA Hollywood Diversity Report 2020
- Animation images: Paramount Animation, Lawrence Gong