



2023

Annual Report  
the ART of Education

# MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

## Dear Friends of pARTners,

Opening our minds to new ways of thinking, challenging how we see ourselves and the world around us, and creating new learning opportunities – are just a few examples of the power of arts education in our schools.

pARTners has created opportunities for integrated arts learning for 28 years, and our ability to work with educators directly means our projects provide meaningful learning experiences tied to science, math and language.

By igniting creative thinking and self-expression, we help cultivate a curriculum that creates an understanding of nurturing successful children who can view problems and their solutions through different lenses.

Our Bee Fest project in first grade creates an immersive experience of bees that explores everything from their lives in the hive to pollination and their importance in food production. By leaving no stone unturned in a bee's life, pARTners has produced an educator-

driven lesson that leaves students with complete knowledge of bees through art and STEM.

Executive Director Ruth Moran showcases her science background in projects like this, and her enthusiasm for the arts and STEM are evident throughout pARTners lessons. Her leadership and our relationship with immensely talented partner artists are the tools through which our organization thrives.

A first this year was our Chalk Art: A Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Endangered Species Act, which allowed JH Middle Students to create chalk murals and learn about endangered species worldwide. Providing a medium like chalk allowed students to try drawing and creating in a familiar medium from childhood. Students remarked that the creative opportunity, with direction from local artists, offered a chance to create and learn about protecting animals for the next generations.

As we have looked at older grades, our programs include learning Canva and iPhone photo capabilities, creating vision boards, and providing meetings with master local artists. Staying nimble and offering dynamic programming with educators is essential to our mission.

The importance of arts education is evident, and our organization ensures that quality arts projects are accessible to students throughout Teton County. Sparking imagination and creating new pathways to learning is essential and what each child deserves in their education journey.

We hope you continue to support this work and help us awaken and nurture creativity.

Thank you!  
Jessica Jaubert  
*Board President*

## Staff

**Ruth Moran**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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pARTners has always been a great window for students to branch from their purely academic world to the more creative side of education. From the elementary grades through High school, the projects are always super fun and very engaging while still being relevant to the academic topics being studied. pARTners reminds us that art provides an avenue into deeper learning!

## TEACHER TESTIMONIAL



Wyoming Topo Maps with local artist Kate Jensen KES | CES

## Mission

pARTners ignites creative thinking and self-expression in students by integrating the ARTS into Teton County K-12 curriculum.

## Vision

Inspiring a creative passion for the ARTS through education.

## Goals

### **Provide access to quality arts education for ALL students.**

pARTners funds, designs, and implements a wide variety of creative and academic arts education programs by introducing community artists into Teton County classrooms.

### **Raise awareness of the value of arts education.**

Through consistent communication about our innovative arts programming, pARTners demonstrates the importance of the arts in nurturing well-rounded, successful students. Research shows that the integration of the arts into curriculum positively impacts student achievement.

### **Secure resources to expand and sustain arts education.**

Consistent funding allows pARTners to increase the variety of projects offered, and ensures that our arts curriculum remains relevant and aligned with educational standards and demands.

# PROGRAM STRUCTURE

pARTners integrates the arts into Teton County curriculum by administering two distinct programs: **Educator Project Grants** and **Integrated Arts Projects**.



**Willow Project** JHHS

**Educator Project Grants** provide educators with funding to design and implement arts-based learning projects that fulfill curriculum goals in collaboration with pARTners-approved artists. All artist planning and teaching time, as well as project materials, are funded by pARTners. pARTners served **400 students** this year through the Educator Project Grants program.

**Integrated Arts Projects** are recurring programs that occur across whole grade levels (K-12) in TCSD#1, impacting approximately **1,130 students!** These projects share a common mission: the integration of arts education across all academic disciplines, enhancing student creativity and innovation.



**Animal Shields and Masks** JES and MMES

**"pARTners is an asset to our schools. We can learn through art exploration and guest artists. Students are engaged in the lessons and enjoy learning through art."**

**HEIDI THOMPSON**  
ART TEACHER AT CES AND MMES

### TOTAL INCOME

\$118,600

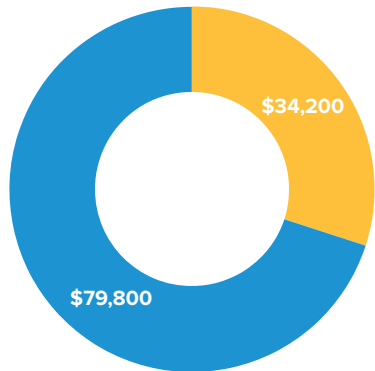
● GRANTS	23%
● FOUNDATIONS	13%
● OLD BILL'S	64%
● SAVINGS	0%



### TOTAL EXPENSES

\$114,000

● OPERATIONS	30%
● PROGRAMMING	70%



"If there exists a model of an organization that does a lot with a little, pARTners is it!"

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANTS COMMITTEE

Collaboration allows pARTners to thrive and make a bigger impact on our students. We would like to thank all our creative and educational partners for helping us bring the arts to the students of Teton County.

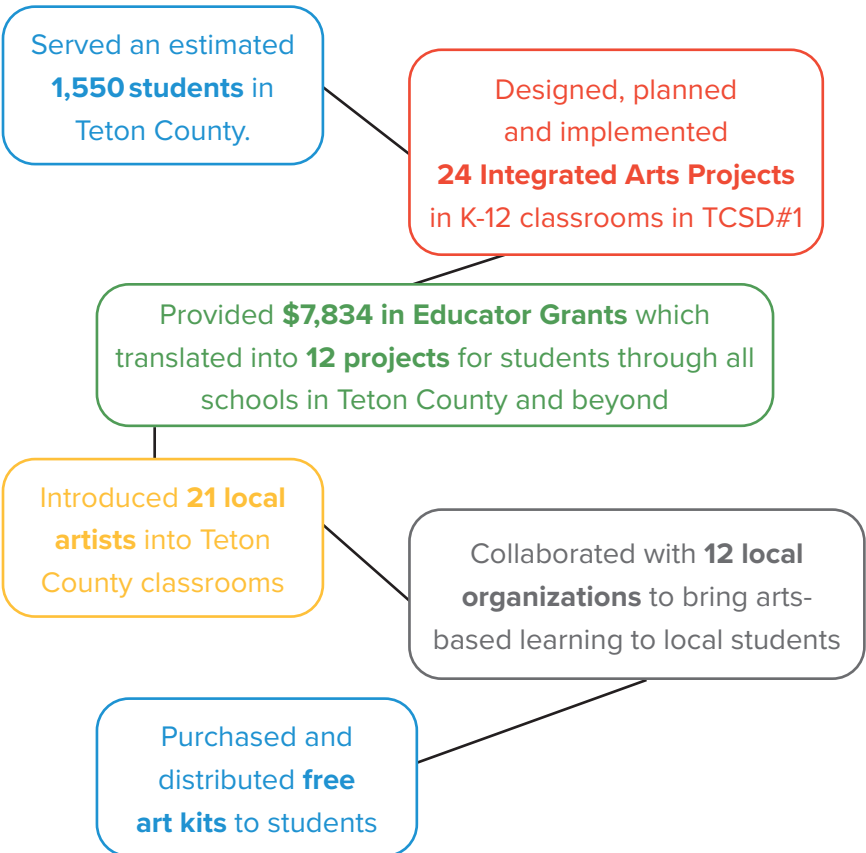
### OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Teton County School District #1, TCSD Rec. District, Mountain Academy, Art Association of Jackson Hole, Dancers' Workshop, Jackson Hole Quilt Guild, Center for the Arts, Wyoming Wildlife Advocates, Wonder Institute, Wind River Community Alliance, Fort Frame & Art, Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum and Teton Music School

### OUR ARTISTS

Miga Rossetti, Charley Daveler, Nate Bennett, Emily Boespflug, Luke Zender, Babbs Case, Eric Midgley, Abby Paffrath, Sue Herberger, Kate Jensen, Rick Ney, Kathy Turner, Wendall Field, Ben Roth, Sevi Hagen, Shane Barnhart, Jasmine Bell and the North Bear singers, Aaron Linsdau, Leigh Reagan Smith, Shannon Troxler and KJ Morris

## During the 2022-23 school year, pARTners





Importance of Bees WES, KES

## Kindergarten

### Dancing Alphabet

JES | CES | WES | MMES

pARTners collaborated with Dancers' Workshop to teach kindergarten students the letters of the alphabet through dance and visual art.



Dancing Alphabet JES, CES, WES, MMES

"pARTners has been such a fun and important part of the kindergarten year. Every year teachers, students and parents look forward to the Kindergarten ABC dance. It is a wonderful tradition that has been in the valley for years! I can't imagine teaching kindergarten without the ABC dance!"

**QUINN BONNETT**  
K TEACHER COLTER ELEMENTARY

"pARTners lives up to their name. They are amazing to work with, because they know the teacher's needs, and actively support enhancing our student's curriculum. We are lucky to have them as a community partner!"

**ERIC MIDGLEY**  
DANCER'S WORKSHOP DANCE  
SCHOOL DIRECTOR



# Learning about the Importance of Bees through Art

## WES AND KES

Students learned about the vital role honey bees play in the ecosystem through creating 3-D models of bees and their ecosystem, bee baths and wild flower infused paper. This was a month-long intensive project that explored every aspect of bees through Math, Science, ELA and Art.



Importance of Bees WES, KES



Jackson Hole Quilts JES, CES, WES, MES

## 1st Grade

### Jackson Hole Quilts

#### JES, CES, WES, MES

Students created community quilts based on the alphabet with help from local artists and the JH Quilters Guild.

"pARTners worked with my classroom for our Bee Unit at Kelly Elementary. pARTners worked closely with me and our art teacher to develop a highly engaging curriculum about bees for our kindergarten and 1st grade class. pARTners supplied the planning and materials for many interactive, hands-on activities, including a pollination simulation, a game on the roles of the types of bees, a bee Mother's Day gift. In the art room, students were empowered to create realistic and beautiful works of art, including paper-mâché bees, honeycombs, flowers, bee baths and more! Artists from pARTners supported our students in the process of creation. By the end of the unit, students had deep, lasting knowledge from their immersive experience in the world of bees. Students showcased their art and knowledge about bees to parents at our "Bee Fest" event. It was evident that this partnership greatly impacted students. Parents told me that their child had developed a passion for bees and loved sharing this knowledge with their family at home. We are so grateful to have worked with this wonderful organization. pARTners built this inspiring bee unit that will likely remain with these children forever!

**CATHERINE BENNETT**

K/1ST TEACHER, KELLY ELEMENTARY

# 2nd Grade



Animal Shields and Masks MMES, CES

## Native American Buffalo Hide Paintings

MMES | CES

Students created their own buffalo hide story, inspired by authentic Native American hide paintings and stories.



Hide Paintings MMES, CES

## Animal Shields and Masks

MMES | CES

Students created paper-mâché masks and shields to support learning around the roles animals play in various cultures and environments.

## Tipi Art

CES

Students painted symbols on tipis to create stories that represented the life of Indigenous people from our region.

## Wyoming Topographic Maps

KES | CES | WES

Students created a 3-D topographic map of Wyoming and Teton National Park to identify and learn about the physical features and landforms of the state and region.



Topographic Maps KES, CES, WES

# 3rd Grade

## Changes over Time: Community Book Project

### MMES

Students created hand-made books that helped them understand changes that happen in their lives over time.



Tipi Art CES



Community Book Project MMES

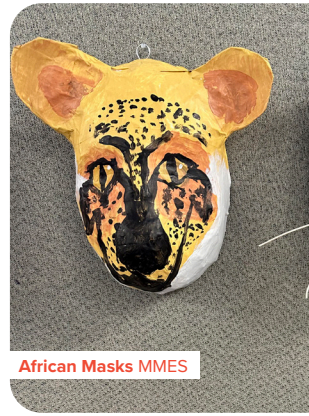
“pARTners come to our classroom every year to guide students through art on their roles in their communities, families, and classrooms. Through art, students engage in meaningful conversations around who they are and how they express themselves in those roles they hold daily. Through the power of art, creativity and intentional conversations, students develop pride in who they are and how they relate to something bigger.”

### FIO BEAL

3RD GRADE DUAL IMMERSION TEACHER, MUNGER MOUNTAIN  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



POP Art Inspired Photo transfers JES, CES, MMES



African Masks MMES

## 4th Grade

### Oregon Trail Flash Fiction and POP Art Inspired Photo Transfers

JES | CES | MMES

Students chose historical photos from the time of the Oregon Trail and wrote flash fiction letters representing life on the trail based on their primary resource. They then worked with an artist to create watercolor photo transfers inspired by POP Art.

### African Masks

MMES

Students created detailed masks representing various animals from the African ecosystem.

### Careers in the Arts

JES | CES | WES | MMES

Students learned about different arts careers, with classroom visits from a local architect, graphic designer and film-maker.



Careers in the Arts JES, CES, WES, MMES

"This is a new project for the 4th grade, and we were beyond excited to participate. The students learned about primary resources and applied their knowledge of the Oregon Trail into their flash fiction writing. The best part was when the students did their photo transfer, and used a modern art genre to create their artwork. They loved the freedom of the project, because they were encouraged to use their creativity when it came to color."

**JESSICA MOORE**  
4TH GRADE JES



Symbolic Portraits CES, JES



Variables in Art MMES

## 5th Grade

### Variables in Art

MMES

Students used the Scientific Method to guide them through this visual art project by experimenting with different mediums.

### Symbolic Portraits

CES | JES

Students created self-portraits that used symbolism to best illustrate their interests, heritage and personality. Their works of art served as a medium to explore who they were as graduating 5th graders.

"This project made me recognize the value of interdisciplinary thinking in helping students better understand important academic vocabulary terms."

ELYSE MOCK  
MMES ART

# 7th Grade

## Canva and the Elements of Graphic Design: Combat the Silence Project

**JHMS**

Students learned how to use Canva to create presentations about the societal issues facing communities today. Local artists showed students how to make these presentation boards creative and eye-catching by using elements of graphic art.

## Chalk Art: A Celebration of 50th Anniversary of the Endangered Species Act

**JHMS**

Students created beautiful pieces of chalk art with several artists to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Endangered Species Act.

"I loved this project because I was able to relax and be creative. I hope we can do it again in the future."

**STUDENT TESTIMONIAL**



"It was so fun to learn more about art and how art can help make a difference. I love animals, but don't think of myself as an artist, and I was able to do this project."

**STUDENT TESTIMONIAL**



"It felt like a really important project, and we were making a difference to protect endangered species."

**STUDENT TESTIMONIAL**

"It was cool to express our artistic abilities to protect creatures we love."

**STUDENT TESTIMONIAL**



"It was important to learn about the Endangered Species Act, and made me realize that we need to take more action to protect them."

**STUDENT TESTIMONIAL**

"As a teacher, these extracurriculars can feel impossible to pull off in addition to everything else. It is so important to have organizations to help us make it happen, as our students often take more away from these special projects than what we do in the classroom. Thank you pARTners for helping us make this happen!"

**HUNTER JONES**  
7TH GRADE SCIENCE TEACHER



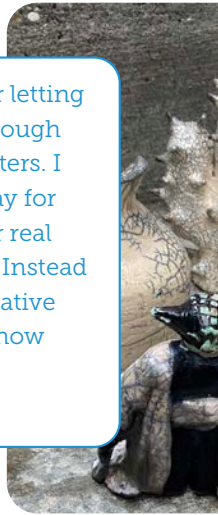
## 6th-12th Grades

### AVID Vision Boards

Students participating in the AVID program created mix media vision boards with the guidance of local artists. They used the elements of art and design to create a piece of artwork that portrayed their future potential and hopes of achievement.

"Thank you so much for letting us express ourselves through this project and our posters. I believe this is a great way for students to portray their real selves through artwork. Instead of the standard non-creative outlets we commonly show ourselves through."

**STUDENT TESTIMONIAL**



Meet the Masters





# Artists Up Close

## Jackson Hole High School Art Classes

pARTners sponsors a series of professional artists from the community to lead students in mini-residencies.

### MEET THE MASTERS WORKSHOP SERIES

Students worked with local artist Kathy Turner to learn about watercolor techniques she uses in her own paintings, and with Shane Barnhart to learn more advanced techniques in ceramics.

### IPHONE PHOTO BOOTCAMP

Students worked with Richard Ney to learn about the capabilities and associated photo techniques that the phone has to offer.

### RAKU POTTERY

Students learned the basics of this 16th Century Japanese art form and created their own pieces using this special firing technique.

### CREATIVITY WORKSHOP

Workshop leader Leigh Reagan Smith worked with students to explore their creative potential and provided strategies to enhance their artwork.

### AP ART PORTFOLIO REVIEW AND COACHING

Students worked with several local artists to receive feedback on their art portfolios and advice about next steps in their art careers.

### WILLOW SCULPTURES

In collaboration with the Center for the Arts and the visiting artist, Patrick Dougherty students created their own willow structures, which became its own exhibit in the Center for the Arts campus.

### ART KITS FOR ART AND LITERATURE 5 DAY INTENSIVE

In collaboration with the Wonder Institute, created art kits for high schoolers participating in this program.



Raku Pottery



AP Art Portfolio Review

# 2022/2023 EDUCATOR GRANTS

Grants to educators to implement arts-based learning projects in their classrooms and community.



## Art Kits-Art and Literature

School: JHHS

Collaborating Organization: Wonder Institute

Number of students served: 50

Grant award: \$570

## Watercolor Workshop

School: C-V

Teacher: Tonia Ralston

Artist: Emily Boespflug

Number of students served: 25

Grant award: \$415

## Halloween Community Project

Collaborating Organization: Amy Ringholz

Grant award: \$125

## Bread and Puppets

Collaborating Organization: Center for the Arts

Grant award: \$500



## Illuminated Letters

**School:** Home School

**Artist:** Abby Paffrath

**Number of students served:** 5

**Grant award:** \$140



## Charcoal Portraits

**School:** Mountain Academy

**Teacher:** Heidi Kohler

**Artist:** Shannon Troxler

**Number of students served:** 35

**Grant award:** \$200

## Juxtaposition Photoshop Project

**School:** Mountain Academy

**Teacher:** Heidi Kohler

**Artist:** Aaron Linsdau

**Number of students served:** 35

**Grant award:** \$500



"Art's ability to flex our imaginations may be one of the reasons why we've been making art since we were cave-dwellers. It might serve an evolutionary purpose."

**GIRIJA KAIMAL**

# 2022/2023 EDUCATOR GRANTS

## Recycling Mural

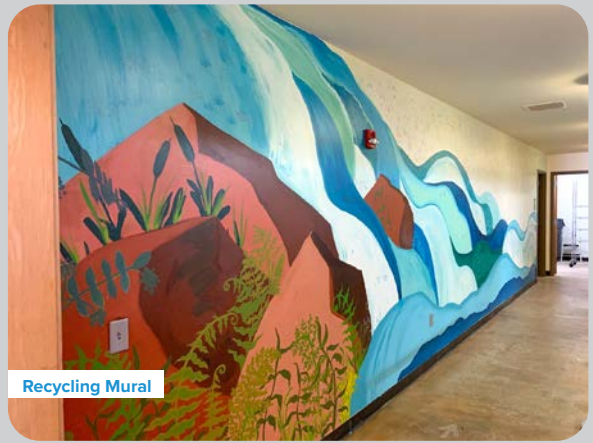
School: Mountain Academy

Teacher: Heidi Kohler

Artist: Wendall Field

Number of students served: 40

Grant award: \$1,400



Recycling Mural

## Ceramic Identity Masks

School: Mountain Academy

Teacher: Heidi Kohler

Artist: Sevi Hagen

Number of students served: 40

Grant award: \$300



Ceramic Identity Masks

## Summit High School Rock Band Equipment

School: SHS

Number of students: 20

Grant award: \$1,254

pARTners allows me to bring a professional artist into the classroom who will share their expertise with the students. pARTners is such an asset to our schools.

**SHANNON BORREGO**  
JHHS ART

## Calendar Project

School: JHMS

Teacher: Morgane Boag

Artist: Cheri Witz

Number of students served: 5

Grant award: \$180



## Hoop Dancing Performance

Schools: 2nd grade CES, JES, KES, MMES, WES

Artists: Jasmine Bell and the Bear Singers

Number of students: 200

Grant award: \$2,250



# THANK YOU, DONORS!

Your commitment to arts education  
makes a real difference in the lives  
of our children.

Art 4 All by Abby Paffrath

Arts for All Grant - Town of  
Jackson & Teton County

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Sean Baker

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Art is a place for children  
to learn to trust their ideas,  
themselves, and explore  
what is possible."

MARYANN F. KOHL

**pARTners** JACKSON HOLE

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