

the  
**Right  
Brain**  
initiative

2018-19 PROGRESS REPORT

THE  
**Right  
BRAIN**  
INITIATIVE

REGIONAL ARTS & CULTURE COUNCIL  
411 NW PARK AVENUE, STE. 101  
PORTLAND, OR 97209

2019 PROGRESS REPORT

# Creativity in Action

A glimpse into a Parkrose School District classroom

"I was stretched out of my comfort zone."

-LUELLA, 4TH GRADER

SANSAN, BYRON, AND LUELLA are fourth graders at Prescott Elementary School. This year, their class participated in a Right Brain residency with a movement artist from Bodyvox. Using **dance and movement** to explore the book their class was reading together, the students related to the material and one another in new ways. They were **engaged and creative** in their thinking. "I was stretched out of my comfort zone," Luella says, and Sansan agrees: "Dancing made me feel like I was actually in the book we read."

Renee is their fourth grade teacher, and has been working in the Parkrose School District for 16 years. In that amount of time, recess, physical education, and art classes have been scaled down or cut entirely because of staffing and budget shortages. Without dedicated time for movement or creativity, the residency with Bodybox brought new opportunities

"They see that this is something different happening in the classroom, and they're excited about it."

-RENEE, 4TH GRADE TEACHER

to Renee's classroom. "My class was studying climate change," Renee says, "so through movement we explored the environment with our bodies... what the ocean floor would feel like, what space would feel like, what you might find in a forest. We're giving students an opportunity to move and explore. **This is an opportunity for everyone to be successful.**"

In partnership with The Right Brain Initiative, Prescott Elementary is one of 70 schools across the greater Portland metro region investing in professional development and teaching artist residencies that equip educators with **tools to bring arts integration strategies into their classrooms**. As she teaches every day, Renee is an example across her school in using Right Brain practices to engage and stimulate her students in fresh ways. "They see that this is something different happening in the classroom," Renee says, "and they're excited about it." **That's the power of The Right Brain Initiative.**

"Dancing made me feel like I was actually in the book we read."

-SANSAN, 4TH GRADER

"We're giving students an opportunity to move and explore." -RENEE



# Our Equation

TEACHER LEADERSHIP TEAM



RIGHT BRAIN SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE



TEACHER ARTIST COLLABORATIONS



ALL STUDENTS THINK CREATIVELY AND CRITICALLY

Arts Integration Leadership Teams (AILT) model arts integration for colleagues and tailor the school's professional development to meet the specific needs of their students.

Right Brain Arts Integration Specialists support teacher leadership teams by modeling arts-based instructional strategies, helping to connect strategies to artist residencies, and guiding teachers in adopting arts integration as an ongoing practice.

Teachers and artists collaboratively design a learning experience that connects an arts discipline with another subject. These residencies introduce new art forms—like drumming, dance, or printmaking—and allow students and teachers to learn directly from Right Brain teaching artists.

Students solve problems, generate and communicate new ideas, experiment, analyze, refine, and take healthy risks.

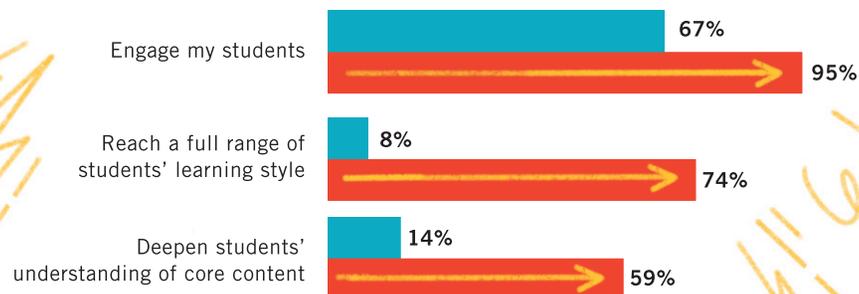
# Our Impact

## How have Arts Integration Specialists impacted teachers' understanding of the power of arts integration?

**THIS YEAR**, there was a dramatic increase in teachers' ability to identify the multidimensional impact of arts integration strategies.

Spring 2018 & Spring 2019:

The most frequently identified purposes for using arts integration strategies



of teachers using arts integration strategies that observed increases in students'...

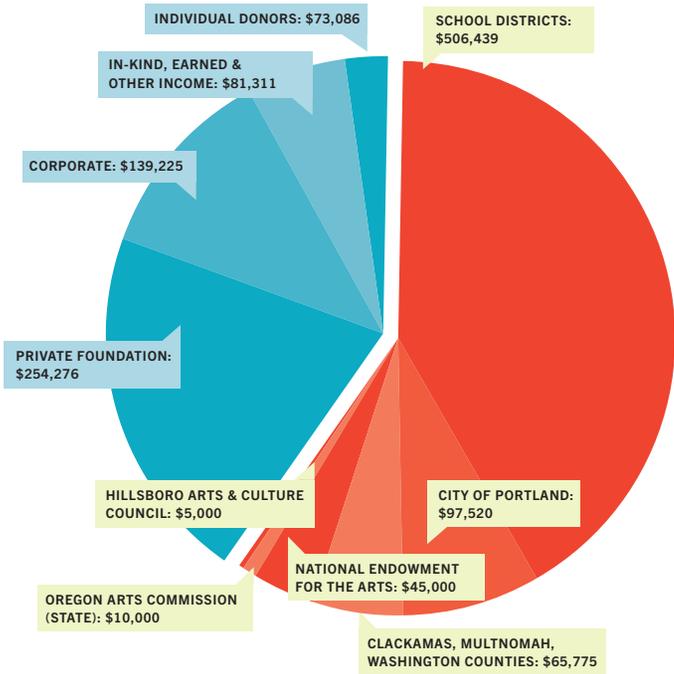


- ENGAGEMENT ..... 99%
- CREATIVE THINKING ..... 97%
- CRITICAL THINKING ..... 92%
- ABILITY TO ACCESS CONTENT ..... 90%
- ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS ABILITY TO ACCESS CONTENT ..... 95%

**“Bringing the arts into my teaching has opened up fresh avenues of communication for my students.”**

-CLASSROOM TEACHER, REYNOLDS SCHOOL DISTRICT

# The Right Brain Initiative Funding



**PRIVATE**  
(\$547,898)  
+  
**PUBLIC**  
(\$729,734)  
=  
**TOTAL FUNDS:**  
**\$1,277,632**

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**TheRightBrainInitiative.org**

**Regional Arts & Culture Council**

The Right Brain Initiative is a program of the Regional Arts & Culture Council, a 501(c)(3) arts services agency serving Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington Counties, Oregon. **racc.org**

Including support from 1,000+ donors to the Arts Impact Fund of the Regional Arts & Culture Council