



Arts integration is the use of arts to support standards-based learning in math, science, literacy and other academic subjects. At Folwell, we believe that arts inspire achievement and strive to integrate the arts in every classroom, every day.

Folwell Arts and Arts Integration: Programs and Projects

ArtWorks Team

Folwell's ArtWorks team is a group of three arts specialists and the Arts Coordinator, working to support teachers in arts integration efforts. ArtWorks team members are available each day to plan, teach and assess arts integration lessons. Successful collaborations include: performance book reports, field sketches (Science), South American studies, literacy through the arts, and visual math.

Children's Theatre Building Bridges

Folwell Kindergarten teachers are partnering with professional teaching artists from Children's Theatre Company to build students' literacy skills. This program, which uses movement, voice and imagination to explore vocabulary, is particularly beneficial to Folwell's ELL population.

Professional Development

The entire Folwell staff, led by members of the ArtWorks team and exemplary classroom teachers, engage in arts integration Professional Development on an on-going basis. Past professional development session topics include: Visual Thinking Strategies, Tableau, Sound Story, Reader's Theatre, Differentiated Instruction and Kinesthetic Literacy. Teachers are also provided numerous resources to continue and improve arts integration efforts.

Music Out Loud

Music Out Loud is a yearlong after school program for 5th through 8th grade students. Twice a week after school they meet with the Minnesota Opera to study voice, acting, stagecraft and theatre production.

Dance Math

Dance math is co-taught by the classroom teacher and one of Folwell's Dance Specialists; the curriculum was piloted in all 1st grade classrooms as a movement based exploration of math concepts like counting, estimating, calculating, measuring and problem solving.

Folwell Connections Mural

The visual art classrooms are working with neighborhood artist Greta McLain and the Standish and Corcoran Neighborhood to design and paint a 2,000 square foot mural introducing the neighborhoods to the new school and connect the communities

Guest Artists and Residencies

Due to our ongoing partnerships with University of Minnesota, Perpich Center for the Arts, Stepping Stone Theatre, Children's Theatre Company, Minnesota Opera and Keane Sense of Rhythm, Folwell continues to benefit from guest artists and arts residencies. Many of our teachers continue to sustain lessons modeled by: Heart of the Beast Theatre, Leo Lara, The Duo Gelland, Dance Treks, The St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, Teatro del Pueblo, MN Book Arts, The Russian Museum of

Music Circle

2nd grade students at Folwell participate in Music Circle, a research based instructional method that uses music fundamentals to teach social skills, literacy skills and artistic competence. Music Circle is co-taught by the classroom teacher and one of Folwell's Music Specialists.

Blues Story

5th grade students, together with their classroom teacher, explore the history of the blues-era through the lens of art and culture. The Blues Story unit ends with a comprehensive arts presentation, with dialogue, music, visual art and dance that is created and presented by students.

Professional Learning Communities & Arts Specialists Support

Arts Specialists work in PLC's to address students' academic needs and reinforce academic initiatives in the Arts classroom.

Future Planning

Folwell continues to be dedicated to furthering our arts integration mission. We are currently collaborating with a number of professional organizations and artists to expand our residencies to all grades, are expanding Dance Math to 2nd grade, and are researching methods to directly connect the arts to MCA assessments.