

A.I.R. For Okanogan Region Schools

The Program

Enter our county schools and you may hear, see and feel the arts in action. Artists are pairing their ideas with local teachers to create engaging arts programs for students grades K-12. Jazz and blues theory for music students, stained glass windows designed and produced by students, puppetry and story telling, fiber arts: weaving, spinning and color with natural dyes, silk paintings that brighten a local hospital hallway. Bug costumes, spinning and dyeing natural fibers, petroglyph studies, African drumming and dance performances, handmade poetry books, Georgia O'Keefe inspired flower paintings, a 15' glass mosaic mural, a visit with Will Shakespeare, clay totem masks inspired by Native American Folklore. These things and many more, including professional performances in schools and trips to the Seattle Opera, Art Museum and Repertory Theatre are what the Okanogan Arts Education Consortium brings to regional students.

The program is a partnership facilitated by Methow Arts and includes the Pateros, Omak Okanogan and Methow Schools, the Washington State Arts Commission, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Public School Funding Alliance, Mid Valley Hospital, the Methow Ranger District, MVSTA and a host of other community and regional partners that provide ideas and resources to bring the arts alive for kids. In the 2005/2006 school year, a grant from the Wallace Foundation will enable the program to expand into the Pascal Sherman Indian School in Omak.

Artist In Residence

Artists in residence are the cornerstone of the Methow Arts education partnership. Artists provide direct hands on learning in the expressive arts to students k-12. Most residencies take place in the classrooms providing integrated arts learning as a part of the school day. Artists facilitate workshops that teach basic skills in the arts, and plan lessons that integrate the arts into other curricula areas. Residencies are between 2 to 40 hours, and artists are expected to closely plan with teachers to use their time effectively. Artists are paid \$30/hour for contact time with students, and up to a \$50 in planning stipend per residency. Mileage expense reimbursement at the current state rate is available for artists traveling outside their school district. Artists should budget a portion of each residency for consultation time with classroom teachers, planning and assessment.

The goals of the program are:

- To facilitate learning in the arts for students to develop essential skills as outlined by the state **Essential Academic Learning Requirements**. (attached)
- To develop partnerships between artists and teachers that enable more arts integration in classrooms and deeper learning in the arts for students.
- To share students' expressive work with the community.

The Artists Roster

The Okanogan Region Artist Roster is a listing of qualified artists currently engaged in the visual (including film and digital media), performing (including music, circus arts and dance), and literary arts. The roster serves as a resource for connecting teachers with artists in order to bring the arts into school classrooms. There are several copies of the roster in each participating school, and all materials are available on the Methow Arts website: (under reconstruction in fall of 2005)

www.MethowArts.org

Regional Artists wishing to teach in the artist in residence program are invited to apply to be placed on the artist roster. Applications will be reviewed and interviews will be conducted. Artists new to the program will work with a seasoned artist in residence before conducting a residency. Artists who demonstrate the skills and interest to teach in the program will be included in the printed and on line roster that will be used by teachers to plan residencies.

The Residencies

Teachers, artists and other community members can initiate a residency and apply to Methow Arts for funding, however most residencies are initiated by teachers or teacher /artist partnerships. Performing artists and groups may also apply for a performance residency to bring theatre, music and dance to large or small student groups. Our funding addresses areas of greatest need; predominantly grades k-8, in order to provide a continuum of arts education for students throughout their school years. When possible, we also serve the upper grades and advanced art students. Our preference is to serve ALL of the students at a particular grade level with the same residency. Residencies can take place October through May.

How To Apply

Please submit applications in a one page, 12 pt., word document saved on a disc and mailed to MA, or emailed as a word (.doc) attachment, or with the text pasted into the body of an email. If you do not have access to a computer, or you need assistance, call us and we will gladly help you.

- **Name, address, phone number(s), website, email**
- **Residencies offered**

Dream up your ideal residencies, how you might share student work with the community, and consider which essential learning goals they address. The Washington State Essential Learning requirements for the arts are available at:
<http://www.k12.wa.us/curriculumInstruct/arts/EALRs/default.asp>
or get a hardcopy by calling Methow Arts 997-4004
- **Preferred age/grade levels**
- **Supplies, Equipment, Space and Time Considerations**

Do you need a gym for dance? A kiln for clay projects? Storage space, musical instruments, stage access, art supplies? Are you available any part of the day? Are you available at certain times of the year? Are you willing to travel within the county?
- **Teaching experience**
- **Artist's statement**

Include with your application:

- **Education, awards, exhibits and/or commissions**
- **Please provide two references and their phone numbers**
- **Work Sample:** Please provide the following samples of your work (not work of your students) with a postage paid, self addressed envelope for their return.
 - Literary artists, Composers, Art Scholars, Playwrights: Written work sample
 - Visual Artists: Pictures of your work. We prefer the images in digital format, but will accept hardcopies and slides.
 - Singers, Musicians: CD or Video of your work, and/or invite us to a performance.
 - Media Artists, Dancers, Performance Artists, Actors please provide a DVD or Video.

Suggestions for Successful Applications

- ~ Refer to the existing roster and artist bios as a resource.
- ~ Include bio information that you feel best reflects you - there isn't enough room to include it all.
- ~ Artist statements are a wonderful vehicle for describing who you are and what inspires your work
- ~ Include work samples and teaching photos that are representative of you for our website and school presentations. Attach a SASE if you want materials returned.
- ~ Describe several potential residencies. This is a dream piece that can be fine tuned later with a specific classroom in mind.
- ~ Consider the age appropriateness of your lessons.
- ~ Artistic expression stems from personal experience. Plan to set the stage for students. Provide creative fuel or build lessons based on a curricular link
- ~ Plan lessons that teach to the EALRS: Essential Arts Learning Requirements for Schools, found on the web at www.k12.wa.us/curriculumInstruct/arts/EALRS. These Washington State arts learning guidelines engage student growth through conceptual teaching and through the *process* of art making. A condensed version of the EALRS is available on the MA website. Effective teachers use these guidelines intuitively - there is really no mystery to solve here.
- ~ Consider materials. We will do everything possible to fund your dream, but keep in mind that the majority of our funding goes to student/artist contact time. Material expenses are traditionally covered through classroom budgets, resourcefulness, and community donations. This year there may be additional grant monies available, but it is advisable to consider projects that are conservative in cost. Saying all this, we still encourage you to include your Wish List!
- ~ Consider storage of works in progress and classroom and school limitations as work/teaching space
- ~ Include parent volunteers as aids. They can free you to spread your magic to a wider audience.

METHOW ARTS

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509-997-4004
artseducation@methowarts.org
www.MethowArts.Org

Sample roster page

Bruce Morrison

PO Box 131

Twisp, WA 98856

509-997-4805

email: morrison@methow.com

Sculpture/Puppetry

Residency offered: Giant Puppets - Fantastic Animals : This study offers a large scale construction discovery experience with a parade/performance culmination. Larger than life moving creatures would be built by kids from simple materials using basic construction skills introduced by the artist. Stories from natural or human history would be embodied in the puppets, inviting ties to curricular studies.

Preferred Age/Grade level: grades 5 - 9

Supplies, Equipment, Space, and Time Considerations: Cardboard, sticks, wire, fabric, paper, foam, glue, paint, glitter, ribbons, and hair are materials that could be used. Scissors, pliers, glue guns, handsaws and brushes are needed as tools. The works in progress would require storage space between sessions. We would work one or two days a week for 1 1/2 hr. blocks through the spring. I am not available in February due to a prior commitment. A parade/performance would take place in May. This residency could be complimented by including several hours with a performing artist. Some assistance from teachers and parent volunteers will be needed throughout the construction process.

Teaching Experience:

- 2001-2002 Artist in Residence, Methow Valley Elementary School, Methow Outdoor Mural, Methow Community Trail
- 2000-2002 Procession of the Species Art Camp, Twisp, WA, Natural history activities and costume creation for students of all ages
- 1992-2001 6th Grade Outdoor Education; Methow Valley Intermediate School, Mountain drawing and instruction
- 1990-96 Methow Arts, Community Art Program, Carving Instructor
- 1984-94 Allen Elementary School, Twisp, WA, Art enrichment and drawing instructor

Artist's Statement: The mountains, forest and rivers of our Methow Valley are the frequent source of materials and inspiration for my carving. From the riverbed come smooth granite boulders, wind-fallen old growth pine trees provide wood for massive mantles. With my sketchbook, I study the forms and gestures of the natural world. These designs are refined and emerge as ornament and sculpture. In my work the rhythm of hand tooled surfaces and repeated design elements, like feathers, fur or leaves, are offered for one's eye and touch. My teachers have included Native American carvers as well as traditional European craftsmen.

Bruce Morrison's artistic presence has quietly enhanced the Methow Valley and as far away as Mexico. His sculpture of little girl and dog, a local favorite, entitled "Wait for Me" sits on the steps of the Winthrop Library.