



United Arts Council of Raleigh and Wake County
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Wake Co. Schools Receive Grants for Arts Education

[Raleigh, NC]—United Arts Council of Raleigh and Wake County has made \$111,223 available to 122 Wake Co. schools to bring in teaching artists during the 2017/18 school year for performances, workshops, and residencies that integrate the arts with core subjects. For more than 30 years, United Arts' Artists in Schools program has placed professional artists in public, private and charter schools in Wake County. These artists work with faculty, students and cultural arts representatives to implement curriculum-based arts in education programs throughout the county.

In the 2016/2017 school year, the program supported 198,934 contact hours with 147,408 students. This school year will be no exception. With 327 funded events in 122 Wake schools, the arts will touch many students' lives.

Kevin Biles, principal, Pleasant Union Elementary, reacted to news about this year's Artists in Schools grant:

"We really appreciate the opportunity that United Arts gives us to apply for grants to fund some great artists. Our PTA does a superb job selecting artists and applying for this grant, and we are grateful for their efforts."

Additionally, Betsy Gershaw, PTA representative at Magellan Charter, responded by saying, "This is great news! Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication to providing our children with these wonderful programs."

Contact kheinen@unitedarts.org or at 919-839-1498 x211 for more information, photos or to schedule an interview or visit to a school holding a cultural arts event.

The United Arts Council of Raleigh and Wake County, based in Raleigh, NC, was incorporated in 1990. Our mission is to build better communities through the support and advocacy of the arts. For the 2016/17 school year United Arts will help bring in teaching artists to 142 schools in Wake County through its Artists in Schools program. The United Arts Council also offers grants to organizations, communities and individual artists and provides services to the community such as advocacy, resource development, professional/leadership development and special projects. The grants, programs and services of United Arts reach over 1.2 million people annually in Wake County.

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Carolina Ballet Dance Soloist Ashley Hathaway with students at Barwell Road Elementary in February, 2017 as part of the Artists in Schools program.