



Whole Schools Initiative
a program of the Mississippi Arts Commission

2017-2018 Guidelines

The Mississippi Arts Commission (MAC) believes that every child deserves to be taught in and through the arts, thus nurturing the imagination and creatively impacting lifelong learning.

Whole Schools Initiative – Introduction

For over 20 years, WSI has provided an arts-integrated conceptual approach to redesigning school environments through a program called the Whole Schools Initiative (WSI). For the past 19 years, WSI has provided professional learning for teachers, administrators, parents and teaching artists, through summer institutes and retreats. The content of the workshops are co-created with the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) and utilizes the Visual and Performing Art Frameworks and the College and Career-Readiness Standards (CCRS).

The four goals of the Whole Schools Initiative are:

- 1. Arts Integration**
To provide learning opportunities to improve student academic achievement through the integration of the arts into the core curriculum
- 2. Arts Discipline**
To increase students' and teachers' skills, knowledge, awareness, and experiences in all arts disciplines
- 3. Professional Learning**
To build a school culture with sustainable systems that support arts integration as an approach to teaching
- 4. Community Involvement**
To increase family and community engagement and understanding of the arts

For more information about the Whole Schools Initiative (WSI) Program, visit www.MSWholeSchools.org.

MAC / Whole Schools Initiative

Model Schools – Level 3

2017-2018 Guidelines

MODEL SCHOOLS OVERVIEW

The third program level is called Model Schools. Schools that have committed to arts integration and have changed their school's culture through the arts are invited to apply as a Model Whole School. Those schools interested in applying for Model School are required to complete at least three (3) years at the WSI level prior to applying for Model status.

Model School status is awarded for two (2) years. MAC reserves the right to review the status of all WSI Model schools on an annual basis and to renew the status based on the fulfillment of the contract.

MAC will invest up to **\$2,000** worth of services to participating schools which includes:

- Assigned Field Advisor
- Registration Fees for five (5) staff to attend the Summer Institute.
June 11-15, 2018 – MS Gulf Coast Community College
- Registration Fees for five (5) staff to attend the Winter Institute.
February 2-3, 2018 – Tupelo

REQUIREMENTS FOR MODEL SCHOOLS

Participating schools will:

1. **Provide a dollar-for-dollar cash match** (up to \$2,000 in value). During the fall of 2017, the field advisor will collaborate with the school leadership team to create a matching fund document that coordinates with the values of services provided by MAC. Qualified sources may include:
 - Title 1 and 2 funds (for professional development and travel)
 - PTO/PTA funds (including fundraisers, donations, and other related efforts)
 - Schools Fundraisers (*Note: Please contact school district business manager to review rules for school fundraiser in advance.*)
 - School or district funds (supplies, professional development, and travel)
 - Contributions from individual or local businesses
 - *Contact the WSI Director if you have challenges identifying matching sources.*
2. Work with assigned field advisor and **utilize the progress tracking tool to determine and achieve** the school's individual goals.
3. **Identify an Arts Leadership Team** which includes the principal, lead teachers from each grade level and arts specialists.
4. Leadership Team will **plan and implement monthly WSI Project Team meetings** at the school.

5. Send a minimum of **four (4)** classroom teachers to **one (1) pre-scheduled Model School tour each year.**
 - *Schools should visit a different Model School each year.*
6. Send a minimum of **five (5)** staff to the **WSI Winter Institute.**
 - *If your school community, certified and non-certified staff, is 40+ people, you must send 15% of staff to all WSI-sponsored events.*
7. Send a minimum of **five (5)** staff to **WSI Summer Institute.**
 - *If your school community, certified and non-certified staff, is 40+ people, you must send 15% of staff to all WSI-sponsored events.*
8. **Project Directors (and/or Co-Project Directors) must attend** the annual Winter Institute, Summer Institute, and all mandatory Project Director meetings.
9. **Principals must attend** one (1) of the following required sessions each year (but are welcome at all WSI-sponsored events):
 - Winter Institute,
 - Model Tour, or
 - Summer Institute
10. Submit at least two (2) **breakout session proposals** for consideration at the Winter Institute and two (2) breakout session proposals for the Summer Institute.
 - Submission deadline (both Institutes): October 2, 2017
11. Submit at least **six (6) pieces of authentic art** to be displayed at the Magnificent Masterpieces Showcase held annually in partnership with the Mississippi Museum of Art. (See attached guidelines.)
12. **Submit required final project documentation by May 15, 2018.**
13. **Display the Kennedy Center's Arts integration definition** and art elements in each classroom.
14. **Include MAC/WSI logos** on the school's website and all pertinent print pieces.
15. Submit school **professional development calendar** highlighting arts integration sessions
16. **Host a minimum of three (3) Model School Tours** for AIC and WSI schools.
17. **Make the school available** for hosting local, regional, or statewide WSI events such as workshops, exhibits, or other related events.
18. In addition to the above requirements, **Model Schools are expected to achieve the highest level** on the progress tracking tool.

APPROVED OPTIONS FOR CASH MATCH

- Additional Fees for the WSI Summer Institute
- Staff travel to the WSI Summer Institute, Model School site visits, etc.
- Workshop Fees for Teaching Artists
- Art Prints
- Salary assistance for fine arts specialists
- Fees for substitutes for teachers receiving professional development or on Model School site visits
- Specialty items for visual and performing arts activities (i.e. charcoal, oil pastels, rain sticks, musical instruments, scarves, props)

PROGRAM CALENDAR

2017

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| August 15: | Program Acceptance Letter due – this will be sent electronically |
| August 1-15: | AIC Arts 101 Training (new) |
| October 2: | Session Proposals are due for both Institutes |
| November 1: | Notifications will be sent regarding session proposals |
| November 15: | Magnificent Masterpieces artwork due to MAC office |
| December 1: | Last day to submit a contract request form |
| December 4: | Winter Institute Registration opens |
| December 16: | Magnificent Masterpieces Art Showcase (MS Museum of Art 12:00 – 3:00 PM) |

2018

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| February 1: | AIC application draft deadline for new schools |
| February 1: | Applications available online |
| February 2-3: | Winter Institute at Belden Center, Tupelo |
| March 1: | WSI application deadline |
| March 8: | Arts Day at the Capitol |
| April 2: | Summer Registration Opens |
| May 15: | Final Report due to WSI Director |
| May 26: | Registration Deadline for Summer Institute |
| June 11-15: | WSI Summer Institute – MS Gulf Coast Community College |
| July 1: | Award Notifications for 2018-2019 |

Magnificent Masterpieces Showcase for WSI and Model Schools
December 16, 2017 (12:00 – 3:00 PM)
Mississippi Museum of Art

Purpose: To expose and educate the community about the benefits of arts education – especially arts integration – through an exhibition of student work produced by students in Model Schools and WSI Schools.

Invitees: Current Model and WSI Schools

Submission Guidelines:

- Submit at least six (6) pieces of artwork in good condition (both front and back)
- 2-D items in good shape produced by high quality arts-integrated lessons must be **mounted**
 - *black paper is preferred*
- **Label** each piece of artwork with a school-generated label so all artwork is labeled in a uniform way. Include this information:
 - Child's name, age, and grade
 - School name
 - Medium used in the artwork
- Arts-integrated **lesson objective/goal (only if submitting artwork for MDE)**
- 4 or 5 mounted **photos** of the students working on their artwork or students posing with their artwork (**only if submitting art work for MDE**)
- Include a scan code linking to a video
 - **Scan codes – required for artwork submitted for MDE**
 - <http://www.grstuff.com/> (This is a free site, but there are some restrictions)
 - Do not resize the QR code, use original size generated by company
 - Why do we want this? We want to meet the artist and find out something about the project.

Project director(s) or other school representative should attend the event.

Send invitations to students/parents announcing the event – let them know which student artwork will be featured.

Invite the faculty/staff to the exhibit.

Artwork must be picked up from the Museum following the event or picked up from the MAC office within 30 days. Local schools' pieces will be left at the Museum for pick-up. Each school will be responsible for making arrangements to claim their artwork. MAC/WSI will not be able to return any artwork through the mail. Unclaimed artwork will be discarded after 30 days.