

**33 D.C. Area Teachers
To be Honored by the Kennedy Center
For Engagement in Professional Learning Through the Arts
At Awards Ceremony Friday, April 28, 2017**

(WASHINGTON)—The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts will award 33 teachers in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area Certificates of Study for their engagement in the Kennedy Center’s Changing Education Through the Arts (CETA) program at a special awards ceremony and reception on Friday, April 28, 2017 at the Kennedy Center.

In order to receive a Certificate of Study, teachers participate in a minimum of 21 hours of professional learning through the CETA program in order to explore ways to bring the arts into their classrooms. In addition, they develop and submit documentation that shows evidence of the impact of the arts on student learning. The documentation supports research studies conducted by the Kennedy Center showing that arts integration—teaching other subject areas through the arts—can have a positive impact on student creativity and student engagement.

Through the Kennedy Center’s CETA program, teachers study with their colleagues in courses and workshops led by expert teaching artists and arts educators. They learn about the arts and ways to integrate the arts into their teaching through a range of programs designed to meet their varying needs, interests, and experience. Each year, more than 700 teachers participate in approximately 90 courses and workshops, which impact around 21,000 students and are available to any teacher in the D.C. metropolitan area. More in-depth programs take place in Kennedy Center partner schools that have committed to a school-wide focus on arts integration. Professional

learning programs developed and refined locally through this program are shared nationally through the [Kennedy Center's Partners in Education program](#).

The Certificate of Study recognizes educators who have continued their professional learning in the arts. The awards ceremony, followed by attendance at a *NSO Pops Concert*, will recognize teachers from the following local school districts: Alexandria City Public Schools, Virginia; Arlington Public Schools, Virginia; Fairfax County Public Schools, Virginia; and Prince William County Public Schools, Virginia. A complete list of teachers appears below.

Recipients of the 2017 Certificate of Study Award

Alexandria City Public Schools (Virginia)

Charles Barrett Elementary School

Katie Cherry
Jennifer Landis

John Adams Elementary School

Alexandra Nicole Bender
Nicole J. Demski
Andrea Nicole Handel
Juliet Marie Harris
Alexandria Luke
Katharine A. McGinn
Emily Smith

Arlington Public Schools (Virginia)

Drew Model Elementary School

Elvira Arnal
Martha L. Azero
Lauren Mosley
Megan Sorrell

Abingdon Elementary

Tanyalee G. Buckingham
Anne Carroll
Meghan McGee Fatouros
Susanna T. Smith
Sarah Tyson

Fairfax County Public Schools (Virginia)

Bailey's Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences

Allyson Kveselis
Rosalba Yvette Mendoza
Indiana Obando
Arianna Pieragostini
Sara Elizabeth Quesenbery
Hooma Reza
Joanne M. Warner

Bush Hill Elementary School

Sue Zongker

Canterbury Woods Elementary

Karen Helmer
Lauren Tredinnick

Woodburn School for the Fine & Communicative Arts

Flory A. Correa
Sarah J. Hamilton
Morgan N. Lingerfelt
Susan D. Vinisky

Prince William County Public Schools
(Virginia)
Occoquan Elementary School
Clare A. Phillips

ABOUT EDUCATION AT THE KENNEDY CENTER

The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts is the national champion for arts learning and creativity. Committed to increasing opportunities for all people to participate in, learn about, and understand the arts, [Education at the Kennedy Center](https://www.kennedy-center.org/education/) offers programs and events that strive to reflect the nation and communities and that are accessible and inclusive for all. From performances and exhibits on the Center's stages and in the community, to classroom and community partnerships, including the recent addition of the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities Turnaround Arts initiative, to online resources accessible nearly anywhere, the Center serves the burgeoning artist, the exploring student of any age, the teacher and teaching artist, and even the local and national infrastructure—any person interested in arts learning and utilizing the arts for positive change. As an essential component of the living memorial to President Kennedy, the Center's Education utilizes the arts to embrace the ideals of service, justice, freedom, courage, and gratitude, and to activate and support the Citizen Artists in all our audiences. For more information, please visit [kennedy-center.org/education/](https://www.kennedy-center.org/education/).

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The content of this program may have been developed under a grant from the U.S. Department of Education but does not necessarily represent the policy of the U.S. Department of Education. You should not assume endorsement by the federal government.

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