04ARTS Foundation

Bridging the Gap between Arts Education and Communities





04Arts Foundation provides design and coordination of:

- developmentally appropriate arts curricula for all age levels
- teacher training
- docent training
- community art programs

What can 04Arts do for you?

School Administrators

04Arts Foundation can be the bridge between your district's resources and the increasing demands placed upon them. Working with you to determine your school's specific challenges, we can provide integrated arts curricula designed to satisfy mandated requirements in arts education, or to provide enrichment programs. And, 04Arts can help you meet your art related professional development needs through VTS teacher training.

Our flagship program, Visual Thinking Strategies, helps classroom teachers develop skills in guiding discussion about art, with clear, step-by-step instruction. This training enables teachers to confidently lead stimulating and substantive discussions about visual art with student groups of any age, opening a new door to the world of ideas and cultural literacy.

Museum Directors

04Arts has developed a model for creating a bridge between communities and arts institutions. We can help develop your audience through community outreach such as Family Day events, and enhance the visitor experience to your Museum through docent training. Docent staff and volunteers trained in VTS receive an excellent grounding in discussing art, helping to engage museum visitors of all ages in a meaningful, memorable way.



Family Day programs are an immersive experience for teachers, docents, and students alike. The guided museum visit is enriched with hands-on art and craft experiences. Food, music and performance are also a part of this upbeat, community-centered introduction to cultural institutions.



Teachers and students alike are enthusiastic about the VTS Program. The highly interactive, student-centered sessions are a fresh way to bring verbal and visual literacy together, through discussion of imagery of paintings, sculpture and photography.



Moving Waters: An innovative program combining environmental art and empirical observation. Young students learn about the city in which they live, and begin to develop a personal connection with the natural world through observation, hands-on activity and art-making.

About Director Penelope Speier

With an academic background in art history, Penelope Speier is an accomplished painter, and has been an active arts education advocate for over 30 years.



As a partner in a contemporary arts gallery, she developed a broad network of clients, artists, art educators and museum curators in the United States and in Mexico. Her access to the arts community then allowed her to involve many well-known artists in school art programs, in the San Antonio Independent School District, at Blue Star Art Space, and the San Antonio Museum of Art. Penelope has produced support materials to accompany curricula, such as lesson plans, study booklets and audio visual presentations.

These experiences, coupled with knowledge acquired through many years of business ownership and volunteer organization leadership, led Penelope to formalize her mission and found the o4Arts Foundation for Arts Education in 1998.

04ARTS Foundation is a valuable educational resource for your school, museum or cultural organization.

To find out more about developing customized arts curricula for your institution, contact us at

210.913.1104

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04ARTS Program Partners:

Blue Star Art Space City of San Antonio Office of Cultural Affairs Instituto de México en San Antonio The McNay Art Museum San Antonio Museum of Art San Antonio River Authority Visual Understanding in Education, VUE.org, creators of the VTS Program

