

turnaround arts: milwaukee CREATIVITY COLUMN



TURNAROUND ARTS:
MILWAUKEE
creating success in schools

November 1, 2017

Turnaround Arts Mission Statement: Turnaround Arts transforms priority schools through the strategic use of the arts. We envision a world in which all students engage in a well-rounded education and exude confidence, critical thinking and creativity as a result.

SHOUT OUT!



SHOUT OUT! To the entire Lancaster Community for another successful Family Portrait Night! And for the large scale posters of students with their families that have been posted around school – what a joyful and loving environment! Special kudos to Mrs. Cunningham, Lancaster’s Parent Coordinator.

SHOUT OUT! To Sherman students & staff for tackling Acting Right at the beginning of the school year. Check out these Sherman artists being the boss of their brains!

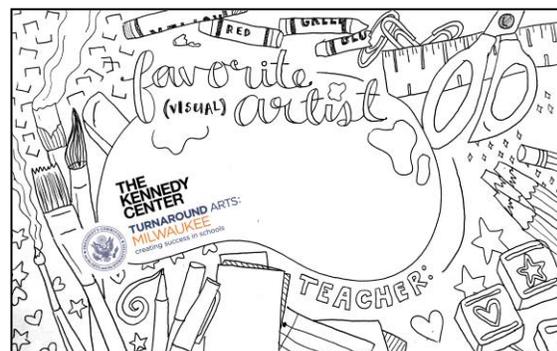
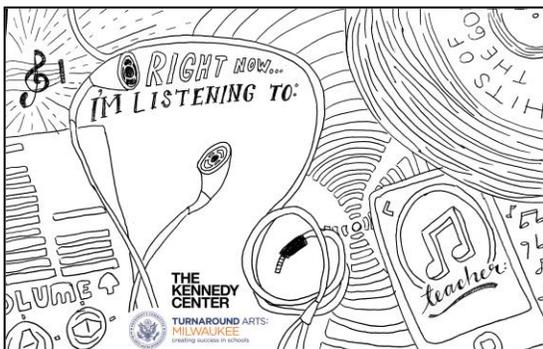


SHOUT OUT! MLK’s art teacher, Mr. Marshall, for providing their scholars with hands-on, unique and culturally relevant arts experiences.



SHOUT OUT! To Mrs. Blackwell, RMSA art teacher, for integrating technology into her art lessons. Check out their latest project pictured here. (Student choice leads to high engagement!)

SHOUT OUT! To Miss Christina for working with a graphic designer to create these AWESOME [printable Get To Know Me posters](#) for ALL school staff to put up inside or outside classrooms and offices to help students get to know you and your favorite artists!



GRAB AND GO!

ACTING RIGHT

Phrases for classroom teachers to use:

- *You are not in trouble when you go to the **observation deck!** It is where we pause to **reflect** and plan.*
- *If you have an answer, cross your arms. If you have an answer you are willing to share, please put your hands in your lap. (This replaces raising hands and calling on students.)*
- *Always connect “strong” or “weak choices” to a specific tool so students can identify and reflect on what they are doing: **You are making a strong choice with your body by standing in the neutral position.***

- **Acting Right PRO TIP:** Every school’s Arts Leadership Team should have the training materials in their OneDrive but here are [Part 1](#), [Part 2](#), and [Part 3](#)!
- Revisit Part 1 page 21 for a chart that shows management vocabulary the “old way” and “new way” – **this is helpful for understanding ways the Acting Right language can be used throughout the day!**

VISUAL THINKING STRATEGIES (VTS) | Q & A



Q: *Can I substitute my own images for the artwork/photographs included in the VTS curriculum?*

A: In the first few years of practice, it is recommended that new facilitators use the developmentally appropriate set of images that have been carefully selected using a specific set of criteria and have been tested in over 30 years of research and practice. Image selection criteria can eventually be used and experimenting using VTS with other visual items is recommended after facilitators have substantial training and practice.

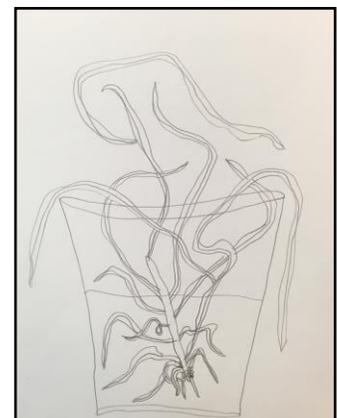
Q: *Can I pick and choose and use my own order?*

A: The sequence is scaffolded to continually challenge students as their skills grow.

ARTS INTEGRATION

Check out Education Closet’s [Teaching With Creativity](#) – a bi-weekly vodcast (videos!) for arts integration and STEAM in K-12 education. New videos are posted every other Tuesday. The first few posted episodes include tips on [addressing race and bias in the classroom](#); [creating an arts integrated curriculum](#); [integrating music in your instruction](#); and [assessing and measuring creativity and collaboration](#)!

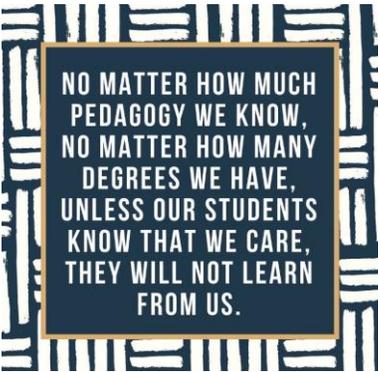
- **Arts Integration PRO TIP:** Use this Turnaround Arts: Milwaukee [Hallway Gallery Protocol](#) as a tool to create meaningful displays that demonstrate student learning through the arts.



IMPORTANT DATES

- October 30-November 2 | Acting Right training with Jamin (Lancaster and MLK)
- November 28-30 | Visual Thinking Strategies training (MLK, Sherman, and RMSA)
- December 7 | *Black Nativity*, select MLK and Sherman students
- December 12 | *Annie*, select MLK students
- December 14 | *Black Nativity*, select MLK students
- December 14 | RMSA Winter Recital
- December 15 | MLK Kwanzaa Program
- December 20 | Sherman’s Winter Program
- December 21 | Lancaster’s Winter Concert

Find previous issues of the [Creativity Column HERE!](#)

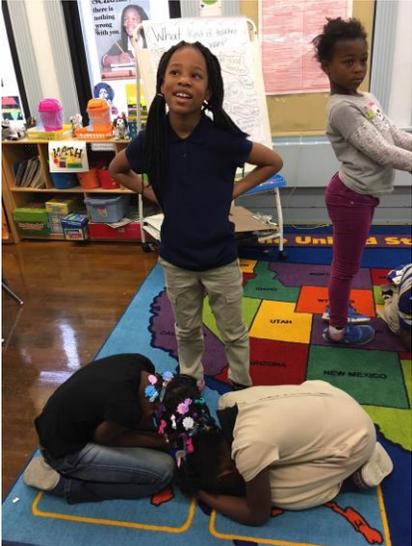


Message from your Local Program Team

This month we are giving our space to Jamin Carter, our Focus 5, Inc. trainer, to share his reflections on his work with us. He has completed his first round of visits with Lancaster and MLK who are in year two of their Acting Right work and two visits at Sherman to introduce the work for their first year.

Artfully Yours,
Kari and Christina

“Since I began working with the Milwaukee Turnaround Arts schools last year I have seen some dramatic changes in both teacher practice and student development. Several teachers at all three schools- Sherman, MLK and Lancaster- have fully embraced the understanding that behavior can be taught and students can learn to be the problem solvers in their classrooms and take responsibility for their own behaviors when they are taught how. I have seen a few teachers at each school who, through hard work and reflection, have begun to take their students to a higher critical thinking level. They have done this by teaching students how to demonstrate their understanding of content through tableaux. Those same teachers are developing a mastery of the language to help students to become self-reflective, critical thinkers in many areas and are leading their peers by example.



Looking at whole school cultures I see a growing understanding across the board of the philosophies behind the work. There's an increasing excitement as teachers take more ownership of Acting Right and see the resulting changes in students' behaviors and thinking patterns. We are on the cusp of something great if we continue to work hard shifting our teaching practice through effort and reflection.”

-Jamin Carter, Focus 5, Inc. Consultant