

school readiness
symposium
ready a five

*The Arts Work
in Early Childhood*

featuring

Akua Kouyate-Tate
Senior Director, Wolf Trap Education

May 12, 2015

Martin's Crosswinds
Greenbelt, Maryland

Program

Registration 8:30 – 9:10 am
Continental Breakfast

Concurrent Workshops 9:15 – 10:45 am

A. *Bringing Literature to Life: A Dramatic Approach for Developing Oral Language and Literacy Skills*
Lenore Blank Kelner & Co.

B. *Classical Music Learning & Play for the Very Young*
Annemarie Guzy, Maria Broom, BSO Trio

C. *Moving Together: An Artist/Teacher Arts Integration Partnership*
Valerie Branch – Katlyn Fincke - Young Audiences/Maryland Wolf Trap

D. *How can Process-Oriented Art Support Developmentally Appropriate Skill Development?*
Andrea McCluskey, The Lucy School

Break 10:45 am

Access Wolf Trap Institute's Arts Integrated Lessons Anytime with the New Online Learning Tool! 11:00 am
Embassy Room

Jennifer Cooper, Director Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning through the Arts; **Rebecca Proch**, Manager, Education Technology and Resources; **Katherine Lyons**, Wolf Trap Master Teaching Artist; **Laura Schandelmeier**, Wolf Trap Master Teaching Artist

Lunch Regency Room
12:15 pm

Greetings 1:00 pm

Louise Corwin, Executive Director
Ready At Five

Rolf Grafwallner, Ph.D., Assistant State Superintendent
Division of Early Childhood Development, MSDE

Keynote 1:15 – 2:00 pm
Discover the Power of the Performing Arts in Early Childhood
Embassy Room
Akua Kouyate-Tate, Senior Director, Wolf Trap Education

Performance: Journey Through Jazz 2:00 pm
Jazz Airlines – a Flight through jazz history in America
Wolf Trap Jazz Trio – Robert Reed, piano; James King, Bass Violin;
Nasar Abadey, Drums; & Khaleshia Thorpe-Price, Wolf Trap Teaching Artist

Adjournment 2:45 PM

Keynote



Akua Kouyate-Tate

Is the Senior Director, Education, at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts in Vienna, VA. She first joined Wolf Trap in 2001, serving first as the Associate Director and later as the Director of the Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning Through the Arts DC/MD/VA Regional Program. Ms. Kouyate-Tate has led program development and implementation for major Wolf Trap Education initiatives including the Wolf Trap Early

Childhood STEM Learning Through the Arts, a multi-year initiative funded through a \$1.15 million grant under the U.S. Department of Education Arts In Education Model Development and Dissemination Grant Program. Prior to joining the Wolf Trap Foundation, Kouyate worked as an administrator, educator, and professional artist with arts and disability organizations and government agencies including Memory of African Culture, Inc., United Cerebral Palsy/UCP, the National Endowment for the Arts, Library of Congress and Young Audiences – D.C. Chapter. She has served as a grants review panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts and other state and local arts agencies and regularly presents at national and international conferences on arts education. She also has served as a Lecturer in Dance Major Programs at Howard University, University of Maryland, American University and George Mason University. Kouyate holds a Master of Arts Degree in Art Management and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Performing Arts: Dance from American University, and is a recipient of a Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Award. She has conducted postgraduate and independent research on African Cultural Studies at Howard University and in Mali, Senegal and the Gambia.

Presenters

Lenore Blank Kelner is an author, educator, educational consultant, keynote speaker and teaching and theatre artist. She is presently consulting with the Maryland State Department of Education serving as the Arts Education Consultant for Early Childhood.

Lenore has presented her work in all 50 states and abroad. She has been a presenter with the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts for 33 years and was a Master Artist for the Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning through the Arts for 25 years. Lenore is the author of *The Creative Classroom* (15th printing) and co-authored with Rosalind Flynn, *A Dramatic Approach to Reading Comprehension* (Heinemann, 2006, 7th printing). Lenore was awarded the 2004 Creative Drama Award from the American Alliance for Theatre and Education.

Annemarie Guzy is the Director of Education at the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. In this role she oversees the Midweek and Family concerts; the Music Box Series for babies ages six months to three years; side-by-side programs for high school students, and the world-renown Academy programs for adult musicians. Responsible for designing over fifty concerts annually, Ms. Guzy is a fierce advocate for arts-integrated, STEAM-activated concert experiences that are highly participatory opportunities for audiences of all ages. With a Masters in Piano Performance from New England Conservatory, and a dual degree Bachelors in English Literature and Music from Brown University, Ms. Guzy has worked in arts education both nationally and internationally at the Seattle Symphony; City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra in the United Kingdom; the Dominican Dream Project in the Dominican Republic; as an Albert Schweitzer Fellow in Boston, MA, and at CVS Highlander Elementary School in Providence, RI.

Maria Broom. Although nationally known as an actress for her recurring roles in HBO's "The Wire" and "The Corner", Maria is also a storyteller and dancer with more than forty years performing and teaching in the US and across the globe. She is a Fulbright Scholar and former news reporter for the ABC affiliates in Miami and Baltimore. Currently, she is on the theater faculty at the Baltimore School for the Arts.

A native of Baltimore, Maria has received many awards and honors including the Eubie Blake Award, the Sarah's Circle Award and the 2004 Governor's Arts Award for Individual Artist. In 2007, she was named, Artist of the Year by Young Audiences of Maryland, Inc. Formerly the diversity coordinator for the Park School in Baltimore, she has been a consultant since 2006 for Maryland Public Television's Campaign for Love and Forgiveness, sponsored by Fetzer Institute. As a recipient of an Open Society Institute community fellowship grant, Maria established a unique mentoring program in the inner city schools, and beyond, called the Dance Girls of Baltimore.

Valerie Branch graduated magna cum laude from the University of Maryland College Park with a Bachelor's Degree in Dance. She has experience touring as a performing and teaching artist both nationally and internationally. She has taught as an independent artist and with different organizations. As a teaching artist, Valerie has brought dance into schools in South Africa and St. George's, Grenada and has received an invitation from the Danish Embassy to participate in a Cultural Arts Program Exchange Visit to Denmark. She is on the dance faculty at Greenbelt Community Center and New Hope Academy in Landover Hills, MD. Valerie became a Teaching Artist with Young Audiences of Maryland in the fall of 2013 to bring dance to schools in the Baltimore City area and beyond.

Katlyn Fincke is a PreK teacher at Holabird Academy in Baltimore City. She graduated from The University of Pittsburgh in 2011 and from Johns Hopkins School of Education in 2014 with a Masters in Education. Katlyn currently chairs the Family and Community Engagement Committee and teaches an English for Adults course after school. She lives in Baltimore with her husband, Jared, and her dog, Jobie.

Andrea McCluskey directs the pre-school visual arts program at the Lucy School, a child-centered and individualized arts enriched program. Andrea's work is done within a small and familiar environment on a 17-acre farm setting that integrates the elements and aesthetics of nature into the learning process. Andrea also teaches design and printmaking classes at Hood College in Frederick.

Jennifer Cooper, Director of the Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning Through the Arts oversees the development, management, and implementation of all components of the Institute's programs in the DC area and nationally (including classroom residencies, teacher and teaching artist professional development, family involvement workshops, performances for young children, and special initiatives/projects). Ms. Cooper supervises program monitoring and evaluation, builds relationships with educational and community organizations, and directs the replication and maintenance of Wolf Trap national affiliate sites. Ms. Cooper recently completed the management of a \$1.15 million dollar four-year grant project sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education, Arts in Education Model Development & Dissemination (AEMDD) grant program, a study of arts and mathematics integration at the prekindergarten and kindergarten levels. She has served as a grant review panelist and presenter for local, state, and national conferences. Prior to joining the Wolf Trap Foundation in 2007, Ms. Cooper served as a Program Assistant for the Professional Development Opportunities for Teachers program at The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. She earned a BA in History and Sociology from the College of William and Mary in 2002.

Rebecca Proch, Manager for the Education Department at Wolf Trap, works with the Senior Director to manage the department's budget and administrative systems, and with all department staff to provide multimedia and technology support for education programs and services. She manages the department's professional learning community website for early childhood educators, *education.wolftrap.org*. Previously, Proch worked as a consultant in Nextel's IT department, and as the office manager in the New York office of Americans for the Arts. A former stage actor, she was trained in theater arts at HB Studios in New York City, where she worked as a teacher's assistant in stage combat and in playwriting.

Master Teaching Artist **Katherine Lyons** has worked for Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning Through the Arts since 1989, in Baltimore City Public Schools, in Head Start, and with infants and toddlers in Early Head Start. She tours regionally with her interactive story dramas and performs a one-woman show on immigration for the Jewish Museum of Maryland and Young Audiences. Katherine has a Bachelor of Arts in creative arts from the University of Virginia and studied creative arts education at San Francisco State University.

Laura Schandelmeier, a Master Teaching Artist for Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning Through the Arts, has been with the organization since 2001. Laura received a Bachelor of Fine Arts in dance and choreography from Virginia Commonwealth University, and studied choreography with Bessie Schönberg in New York City. She received her certification as an arts integration specialist from the Teaching Artist Institute, administered by Maryland State Arts Council and Young Audiences of Maryland in 2008 and certification as a teaching artist in Washington, DC in 2009. She is a choreographer, performer, teacher, and Co-Artistic Director of Dance Box Theater, Inc. with her husband and collaborator, Stephen Clapp.

Journey Through Jazz is an interactive story-based performance that takes young children on a Jazz Airlines flight through jazz history in America. Wolf Trap Jazz Trio Musicians create a soundscape of Jazz styles to immerse children (and adults) in this truly American art form. The performance narrative was written by Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning Through the Arts Teaching Artists, Paige Hernandez and Khaleshia Thorpe-Price; the musical score was composed by the members of the Wolf Trap Jazz Trio. The Trio has performed as a part of the Wolf Trap Institute's Field Trip Performance for nearly 30 years, reaching more than 30,000 young children.

Ready At Five wishes to thank our Symposium Partner



Division of Early Childhood Development

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Ready At Five is committed to elevating school readiness for all Maryland children focusing on children with the greatest needs. Our goal is to narrow the achievement gap and ensure that all children enter school with the skills and capacities they need to reach their potential.

We serve as a resource to advance high-quality early childhood education providing guidance, research, data-driven solutions and professional development for educators, families and communities. We have created innovative research based programs that provide tangible results for young Marylanders. Working at the state, jurisdictional and community levels, our goal is to build a solid foundation for children's success in school and in life.

For more information on Ready At Five, contact:



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