

## School & Community Program Offerings

### Curriculum-Based Artist Residencies • Assembly Programs • Professional Development

Schools and community organizations are invited to contact VSA New Jersey to plan and schedule programs.

#### Artist Residencies



VSA New Jersey's arts education programs provide schools with unique opportunities to promote skills while preparing students to meet the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Innovation and creativity abound as students delve into sequential, curriculum-based projects involving the **visual arts, theatre, creative writing, dance, and music**. Each host school works in collaboration with VSA New Jersey to design a custom program around specific student goals. These may include the development of artistic, behavioral, cognitive, communication, motor and social skills as well as the expansion and reinforcement of academic content knowledge. Artist residencies are led by artists whose professional backgrounds and teaching expertise lead to exceptional classroom experiences in inclusive and special education settings.



Sample residencies include programs that link the visual arts and science, bring literature to life through drama, empower students through dance, and promote teamwork through multicultural music. Underlying all residencies is a deep commitment to encouraging imagination, innovative thinking, and appreciation of diversity.

#### Assembly Programs



VSA New Jersey offers assembly programs that are suitable for school and community audiences of all ages. Performing artists present lively, fun-filled performances that spark the imagination and foster appreciation of the arts while promoting social tolerance and celebrating diversity.

#### Professional Development



VSA New Jersey is dedicated to supporting teachers in their efforts to promote student learning in the arts and to apply the arts in other curriculum areas. Trainings are designed to help teachers meet the challenges inherent in inclusive educational settings and classrooms serving student with diverse learning styles. They offer research-based tools and strategies for the identification and removal of barriers from the learning process and the delivery of universally accessible content and activities.

Programs are designed to meet the specific needs and challenges of the host school and may be scheduled in a variety of ways including half or full day trainings as well as individualized mentoring. They also may be accompanied by an artist residency program or assembly for students.

## About VSA New Jersey

Founded in 1978, VSA New Jersey is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the creative power of people with disabilities. The organization is an affiliate of VSA, a program of The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. As an inclusive arts service provider, VSA New Jersey serves children and adults with and without disabilities through a wide array of arts education, exhibition, and performance opportunities.

Major funding for VSA New Jersey is provided in part by the Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission, Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders; New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State (a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts and by funds from the National Endowment for the Arts); and additional corporations, foundations, and individual donors.



### For more information please contact:

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