

2026 NAEA NATIONAL CONVENTION | MARCH 5-7



NAEA26 CEUs from Pratt Institute School of Continuing and Professional Studies

Track A: Curriculum, Instruction, and Innovation - NAEA-600 – 1 CEU

Integrates curriculum design and instructional practice with innovative and interdisciplinary approaches to visual arts, design, and media arts education, emphasizing standards-aligned and culturally responsive learning, effective teaching strategies for diverse learners, creative experimentation, assessment for learning, and the application of emerging ideas that inspire student engagement and artistic inquiry.

To receive 1 CEU credit for **Track A: Curriculum, Instruction, and Innovation** you must attend 10 sessions from the list below, document your completion of track requirements, and complete the assessment with a passing score of 80%. [See complete instructions here.](#)

Session Options:

[Session listings options for Track A](#) are also viewable on the NAEA26 mobile app and web platform.

Thursday, March 5

12:00 PM - 12:50 PM

The Educators Cut: Media Arts Resources, Building Curriculum, and Filling your Teaching Toolbox

Nina Lasky, Shani Anthony Perez

As states impose instructional restrictions on educators, this workshop offers equity-informed resources and strategies that foster community and cultural understanding in the art classroom. Educators will receive a toolkit to enrich student-centered instruction and inspire young people to use their voices and power to create change through the arts.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Plaza B

Thursday, March 5

12:00 PM - 12:50 PM

Differentiating Creativity for Exceptional Learners: Exploring Adaptive Art Tools and

Universally Designed Strategies

Megan Pitrat, Guy Trainin

Investigate and apply adaptive art tools alongside universally designed instructional strategies! Bring a lesson or unit and receive resources and support to leave with a successfully differentiated plan! Designing creative learning experiences that meet all students' needs can feel daunting, but you don't have to do it alone.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Michigan 3

Thursday, March 5

12:00 PM - 12:50 PM

Neurodivergent by Design: Inclusive Art Classrooms That Empower All Neurotypes

Laura Hetrick

Learn inclusive, strengths-based strategies to support neurodivergent students in the art classroom. This session, led by an autistic art education professor, offers practical tools for sensory accommodations, flexible instruction, and fostering self-advocacy—empowering educators to create accessible, affirming environments where all neurotypes can thrive through creative expression.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand Hall H

Thursday, March 5

12:00 PM - 12:50 PM

Seeing Classroom Space Through a Design Lens

Kristina Lamour Sensone, Kristin Brizzolara Vazquez

This session invites participants to reimagine classroom environments through a design lens. Inspired by their teacher, Lella Gandini, two design practitioners will share their work and guide hands-on activities using simple materials to explore meaningful, attainable change that respects the plurality of children's expressive languages.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand Hall G

Thursday, March 5

12:00 PM - 12:50 PM

Laser Cutting and Engraving in the Art and Media Arts Classroom

Sherri Kushner, Katrina Barge

Learn all you ever wanted to know about laser engraving with Xtool lasers for the art and media classroom! Explore software such as Adobe Express to create and edit a logo, design, or photo. Then engrave it onto materials such as metal, dog tags, leather iron-on patches, bookmarks, and more!

Exhibit Hall DG Playground Educator Session Hyatt Regency Chicago | Digital Playground Table Station 1

Thursday, March 5

12:00 PM - 12:50 PM

Digital Playgrounds for Career Readiness: Empowering Student Independence Through Creative Technology

Chicago Center for Art and Technology (CHICAT) Team

This interactive Digital Playground experience showcases how students develop independence, career readiness, and creative confidence through hands-on digital arts learning. Participants will explore student-created animations, 3D models, VR experiences, and digital projects while learning how specific software tools and technical skills translate into real-world creative

careers. The session features immersive demonstrations including VR environments, Blender-based 3D modeling, digital sculpting with Nomad Sculpt, and animation reels. Visual displays connect each tool and skill to corresponding career pathways in animation, game design, digital fabrication, and interactive media. Attendees will leave with practical strategies for integrating digital tools into art programs in ways that support student agency, portfolio development, and long-term career exploration—particularly within equity-centered and resource-conscious learning environments.

**Exhibit Hall DG Playground Educator Session Hyatt Regency Chicago | Digital
Playground Table Station 2**

Thursday, March 5

12:00 PM - 12:50 PM

Circuit Sparks: Build, Code, Illuminate

Catie Nasser

Explore the intersection of art and electronics by building and coding simple circuits. Using LEDs, Chibitronics Coding Clip, and the digital platform Circuit Sketcher to learn hands-on skills for creating and coding interactive, light-up projects.

**Exhibit Hall DG Playground Educator Session Hyatt Regency Chicago | Digital
Playground Table Station 3**

Thursday, March 5

12:00 PM - 12:50 PM

Recycling Reimagined: Augmented Reality Empowering Sustainability in Art Education

Tawsif-Al-Mehran

Discover how preservice art educators can combine creative reuse and augmented reality (AR) to transform recycled materials into narrative-driven learning tools. This session offers practical strategies, hands-on experiences, and discussions that promote sustainability, critical thinking, and student engagement through AR-enhanced upcycled art, supporting responsible, culturally relevant, and innovative classroom practices.

**Exhibit Hall DG Playground Educator Session Hyatt Regency Chicago | Digital
Playground Table Station 4**

Thursday, March 5

12:00 PM - 12:50 PM

Form in Flux

David Ingenthron

Turn a clay blob into something to 3D scan, then play with that digital file as if it were clay! You'll leave with a digital sculpture ready to be 3D printed, along with ways to inspire all your students, from those hesitant about digital tools to the digital art-savvy ones.

**Exhibit Hall DG Playground Educator Session Hyatt Regency Chicago | Digital
Playground Table Station 5**

Thursday, March 5

12:00 PM - 12:50 PM

Palette of Possibilities: Glazing With AMACO

Kristin Grandy

Discover creative, age-appropriate glaze techniques using AMACO's Teacher Palette Glazes in this hands-on session. Learn brushwork, layering, resist, and slip trailing on bisque tiles—plus

gain practical tips, lesson ideas, and tools to boost confidence, support standards, and enrich your clay curriculum.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Toronto

Thursday, March 5

12:00 PM - 12:50 PM

Reawakening Wonder: Material Agency as a Critical Pathway to Innovative Early Childhood Art Education

Hyewon Oh

Explore early childhood aesthetic inquiry grounded in material agency and relational ethics. Drawing on posthumanism and new materialist thought, participants will engage with visual documentation and dialogue to reflect on more-than-human kinship, fostering innovative, inclusive, and decolonial art practices that support creative, inquiry-driven, and ethically responsive learning.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Regency C

Thursday, March 5

12:00 PM - 12:50 PM

Improving Artistic Literacy by Making Connections Across Disciplines

Joyce Huser, Jamie Workman

Engage in techniques for strengthening artistic literacy by integrating two evidence-based approaches to reading: disciplinary literacy and structured 'literacy. The first approach is focused on literacy skills within art contexts, while the other is a comprehensive approach to teaching reading with explicit, systematic instruction for comprehension and application of art vocabulary while supporting purpose for choices.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand Hall K

Thursday, March 5

12:00 PM - 12:50 PM

An International Comparative Analysis: Examining Classroom Power Relations in Wyoming and Hong Kong

Xuhao (Howe) Yang, Tessa Dallarosa

The session explores teacher–student power dynamics in art classrooms in two geographically distinct regions, Wyoming and Hong Kong. Attendees can reflect on their own pedagogical practices through the lens of other educators outside the U.S. education system. Such exchanges can foster creativity in teaching and broaden perspectives beyond national confines.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Comiskey

Thursday, March 5

12:00 PM - 12:50 PM

Empowering Voice: Student-Led Curriculum and Rubric Design

Kristin Brown

Discover how student-led curriculum and rubric design can transform your studio art classrooms. This session demonstrates scaffolded strategies, tools, and real student examples that promote creative autonomy, authentic assessment, and a collaborative learning culture, while maintaining high academic standards and redefining the teacher's role as a guide.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Acapulco

Thursday, March 5

12:00 PM - 12:50 PM

Empowering Young Creatives: Digital Portfolios, Career Readiness, and Entrepreneurship in Arts Education

Justin Pierce, Elisa Wadsworth

This session provides art education supervisors with effective strategies for guiding students in creating professional digital portfolios. We'll focus on how portfolios can showcase reflections, growth, and design skills while emphasizing career readiness. Learn how to help craft a digital identity that aligns with real-world job opportunities and career growth.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand Hall MN

Thursday, March 5

12:00 PM - 12:50 PM

Artful Movement: Integrating Mindfulness and Art to Support Social–Emotional Learning

Jennifer Reifsteck, Brigitte Pollio

Discover how to nurture your students' emotional well-being through Artful Movement—a creative blend of mindful movement and Project Zero Thinking Routines. This hands-on session for elementary art teachers offers practical, culturally responsive strategies to build empathy, focus, and classroom connection through art, movement, and social–emotional learning.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Regency D

Thursday, March 5

12:00 PM - 01:20 PM

Distinguished Fellows Forum: Meet the Fellows—Exploring New Frontiers in Art Education: Surveying Possibilities for the Future of Art Education

Robert Sabol, Wanda Knight, Olivia Gude, Robin Vande Zande

This Distinguished Fellows Forum: Meet the Fellows session will examine intriguing, innovative, provocative, and far-reaching forecasts about the possible future of the field of art education and about an array of forces that may influence the goals, purposes, directions, and development of the field. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions, contribute their ideas, and to engage in conversation with the panelists about their ideas.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Columbian

Thursday, March 5

012:00 PM - 012:50 PM

Educators, Museums, and an Artist Collaborate to Bring Contemporary Indigenous Art to Classrooms

Hana Layson, Erin Grant, Matthew Contos, Catherine Hammer, Julia Blue Arm

Learn how artist Jeffrey Gibson, the staff at three museums, and a cohort of K–12 and college educators are working together to make a difference in how Indigenous art and cultures are taught throughout the United States. Explore how to build inclusive and collaborative partnerships that center Native knowledge at your organization.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Regency B

Thursday, March 5

01:00 PM - 01:50 PM

Digital Art Made Simple: Inspiring Creativity in the Classroom

Michele Dick, Christopher Diego

Discover how digital art can transform your classroom! In this month's learning lab, we will discuss the benefits of bringing digital creativity into student learning, introduce easy-to-implement tools and resources, and demonstrate beginning skills you can take back to your students right away. Whether you're new to digital art or looking for fresh inspiration, this session will help you confidently integrate digital creativity into your teaching.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Regency C

Thursday, March 5

01:00 PM - 01:50 PM (SUPER SESSION)

High Impact on a Budget-Achieving Big Results With Low-Cost Items

Ashley Gonzalez, Leigh Drake

This session will empower educators to achieve significant classroom impact using low-cost materials and resources. Participants will explore creative lesson ideas, practical strategies for sourcing affordable supplies, and innovative approaches to teaching. Attendees will leave with actionable insights to enhance learning experiences while fostering creativity and resourcefulness in their students.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand C|D

Thursday, March 5

01:00 PM - 01:50 PM

Elementary Carousel of Learning: Inclusive Practices in the Elementary Art Room

Leslie Grace, Jonathan Juravich

Join four art educators as they share inclusive strategies for supporting diverse learners in the art room. Through rotating presentations, you'll explore adaptations for students with disabilities, discover how teaching philosophies shape inclusion, and leave with tools for designing equitable, accessible learning that celebrates every student's creative voice.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand Hall G

Thursday, March 5

01:00 PM - 01:50 PM

Black Educators Cultivating Creativity: Innovative Visual Arts Practices for Engaging Today's Diverse and Inclusive Classrooms

Minuette Floyd, Adoria Maxberry, Calvester Graham

Three Black educators share innovative, culturally relevant strategies in visual arts education across K–12 and higher education settings. From inclusive practices with diverse learners to inner-city teaching and study abroad experiences, attendees will gain practical tools to foster equity, engagement, and authentic student voice in today's diverse classrooms.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand Hall L

Thursday, March 5

01:00 PM - 01:50 PM

"Am I Allowed to Say That?": Art Teaching That Reflects Students and Communities We Serve

Patricia Bode, Kate Collins, Derek Fenner

Address the needs of all students amid the shifting landscape of community settings and preK–12 and college classrooms. Expand critical thinking in art education curricula while current discord is limiting vocabulary. Investigate classroom practice that extends pathways for students and educators to navigate uncertainty, recognize possibility, and impact their communities.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Plaza B

Thursday, March 5

01:00 PM - 01:50 PM

Middle School STEAM: Arts-Integrated Make & Take Carousel of Learning

Cynthia Wilson, Sheri Potter, Pamela Rydzinski, Heather Ubrun

This session, led by four middle school STEAM teachers, aims to empower middle school art educators with practical, arts-integrated strategies by engaging them in a Make & Take Carousel format of interactive lessons. Participants will explore ways to create meaningful, cross-curricular activities that inspire creativity, critical thinking, and innovation among students.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand Hall H

Thursday, March 5

01:00 PM - 01:50 PM

Building Community Through Collaborative Sketchbooks

Kelly Beach

Explore the power of large collaborative sketchbooks to amplify student voice and build community. Engage in the process firsthand, reflect on its impact, and leave with practical strategies to incorporate this inclusive practice into your classroom, fostering creativity, collaboration, and ownership in student artmaking.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Comiskey

Thursday, March 5

01:00 PM - 01:50 PM

Bilingual and Translingual Strategies for Supporting Learners in Museum Education

Lucia Calderon Arrieta, Je Iy Gabriela Molina

Museum educators share practical approaches to support multilingual learners. Attendees will learn strategies to develop bilingual lesson plans, participate in an interactive modeling of translingual art exploration, and gain insight into building welcoming spaces that celebrate linguistic diversity, foster connections, and promote equity in museums.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand Hall K

Thursday, March 5

01:00 PM - 01:50 PM

Access for All: Building Inclusive Art Museum Experiences for Visitors Who Are Blind or Have Low Vision

Francesca Manard, Kathy Dumlao, Christan Allen

Explore strategies for creating accessible art museum experiences for visitors who are blind or have low vision. This session shares research findings, pilot workshop outcomes, and practical tools from a multi-institutional accessibility initiative in Memphis.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Gold Coast

Thursday, March 5

01:00 PM - 01:50 PM

Creative Code: Computational and Digital Literacies in the Artistic Classroom

Sohee Koo, Marta Cabral

Projection mapping, electronic art, digital storytelling, o-screen robots... join us to combine tactile and digital learning, bridging material explorations and precursor activities to coding in a way that is inspired by material inquiry as a pedagogical tool bridging artistic and creative practices with emerging digital literacies.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Wrigley

Thursday, March 5

01:00 PM - 01:50 PM

Honoring Exhibitions as Process and Product in Art Teacher Education

Christine Thompson, Natalia Pilato

Explore a decades-long practicum where preservice teachers design youth art exhibitions that celebrate creative process, elevate student voice, and foster community engagement. Learn practical strategies to create inclusive, culturally responsive exhibitions that connect classrooms, families, and communities, preparing educators to use exhibitions as powerful tools for teaching, learning, and reflection.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand Hall MN

Thursday, March 5

01:00 PM - 01:50 PM

More Than a Meeting: PLCs CAN Grow Community, Purpose, and Action Through Research

Janine Campbell, Megan Bye, Molly Marshall

Discover how being a part of the Connected Arts Network Professional Learning Community CAN grow community, define purpose, and push positive action through research. Data

collection, lessons, and other insights will be shared as we discuss how visual arts PLCs help teachers and students, while building a positive classroom culture.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand E|F

Thursday, March 5

01:00 PM - 01:50 PM

The Power of Art Through Propaganda

Kate Claxon

Can art change reality? Propaganda is used to push narratives of those in power, and imagery is one of its most successful tools. We will discuss its use in history, art, pop culture, and modern YA literature. Then I will share a lesson plan for creating posters based on fabricated farces.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand Hall I

Thursday, March 5

01:00 PM - 01:50 PM

Cultivating the Next Wave of Graphic Designers: Flexible Tools and Career-Ready Curriculum for High School Graphic Design

Lydia Atubeh

A National Board Certified art educator and doctoral candidate shares strategies for cultivating future graphic designers through accessible tools and career-connected projects. This session offers flexible curriculum models, spanning hand-drawn foundations to digital platforms, that support portfolio development, creative thinking, and 21st-century equity in high school graphic design classrooms.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Water Tower

Thursday, March 5

02:00 PM - 02:50 PM

The Land Is Speaking Are You Listening: Colorful Gestural Landscapes Through Jeffrey Gibson's Multimedia Artworks

Margarita Paz-Pedro, Julia Blue Arm, Topaz Jones McCoy, Carol Schrader

This panel features art education students and scholars whose arts-based research engages Black Studies frameworks to reimagine the contours of art education through Afro-nostalgia, Black matrilineal archives, the Black gaze, and fugitive pedagogy.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Randolph 1A|1B

Thursday, March 5

02:00 PM - 02:50 PM

Driven to Dialogue: Teens, Teachers, and Derby Cars as Civic Canvases

Megan L Dehner, Morgan Forbes, Sarah Dirks

Discover how teens, art, and social studies educators collaborated to transform derby cars into civic dialogue on 24 wheels. This session offers practical strategies, lesson plans, and inspiration for educators seeking to foster interdisciplinary learning, student voice, and community engagement through public art and socially conscious curriculum design.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Michigan 3

Thursday, March 5

02:00 PM - 02:50 PM

Clay Your Way: Empowering Student Voice Through Choice

Mallory Molnar

This session explores strategies for implementing student choice in the ceramics studio through effective organization, skill scaffolding, and planning tools. Participants will learn how to foster student agency while maintaining a structured, supportive environment with accessible materials, efficient storage, and routines that promote creative independence in clay-based learning.

Choice-Art Educators Interest Group | Instructional Demonstration Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand E|F

Thursday, March 5

02:00 PM - 02:50 PM

Designing With Purpose: Student-Centered Projects Using Illustrator and the Laser Cutter

Kristin Brown

Explore how Adobe Illustrator and laser cutting empower student design through empathy-based puzzles and geometric coasters. This session includes tool demos, laser cutter setup guidance in Illustrator, student examples, and classroom resources. Leave with adaptable project files, video tutorials, and strategies to build creative confidence and digital design skills.

Exhibit Hall DG Playground Educator Session Hyatt Regency Chicago | Digital Playground Table Station 1

Thursday, March 5

02:00 PM - 02:50 PM

Digital Playgrounds for Career Readiness: Empowering Student Independence Through Creative Technology

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**Digital Playground Table Presentation | Exhibit Hall DG Playground Educator Session
Hyatt Regency Chicago | Digital Playground Table Station 2**

Thursday, March 5

02:00 PM - 02:50 PM

A Digital Book Reading Experiment

Paria Peyravi

This experiment invites educators and researchers to engage in playful digital literacy activities and practice sharing their voices and narratives through artmaking and storytelling.

**Exhibit Hall DG Playground Educator Session Hyatt Regency Chicago | Digital
Playground Table Station 4**

Thursday, March 5

02:00 PM - 02:50 PM

Bridging Art and AI

SeungHee Joo

Discover how traditional media like watercolor and colored pencil can be extended using AI tools in this crosscurricular project. Learn how students combined visual art, social studies, ELA, and technology to deepen creative expression. Ideal for K–8 educators interested in blending analog and digital processes with meaningful content.

**Exhibit Hall DG Playground Educator Session Hyatt Regency Chicago | Digital
Playground Table Station 5**

Thursday, March 5

02:00 PM - 02:50 PM

Follow Your Wonder: Elementary Art Educators & Research

Jennifer Schero, Leslie Grace

Designed for elementary art teachers by elementary art teachers, this session will explore the research cycle and its connection to practice. How do we collect data, and what do we do with it? Join us for practical strategies to gain feedback and take action.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Regency B

Thursday, March 5

02:00 PM - 02:50 PM

Tactile Learning and Material Exploration in Early Childhood Art: Four Art Lessons

Beyond Pencils and Brushes

Qianyu Zhou

Explore four hands-on K–2 art lessons that move beyond pencils and brushes to engage young learners through clay, forks, leaves, and found objects. This session highlights how tactile learning fosters creativity, inclusion, and emotional expression in early childhood art classrooms, with practical strategies drawn from NYC public school teaching.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand Hall G

Thursday, March 5

02:00 PM - 02:50 PM

Pinch Pot Possibilities

Kristin Grandy

Discover 25+ creative pinch pot projects for elementary educators. This hands-on workshop offers practical lessons, classroom tips, and adaptable ideas to build student skills and creativity with clay. Perfect for teachers seeking engaging, manageable 3D art experiences for young learners.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand Hall K

Thursday, March 5

02:00 PM - 02:50 PM

Books, Brushstrokes, and Balance: Mindfulness in the Elementary Art Room

Julia Hovanec

Unleash creativity and calm in your elementary art room with Books, Brushstrokes, and Balance, where mindfulness meets picture books and artists to transform learning. Engage in hands-on activities and leave with adaptable, process-based lesson ideas promoting balance, reflection, and creativity. Inspire mindful art practices while nurturing students' social-emotional growth.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand Hall I

Thursday, March 5

02:00 PM - 02:50 PM

We CAN Lead With Empathy: Transforming Arts Education Through Equity, Inclusion, and Reflective Practice

Raine Valentine, Sara Lucas Dreiss, Lindsay Dear, Andrea McDonough, Jessica Crandell

Leading with empathy highlights how arts educators used action research to embed equity, inclusion, and SEL into their teaching. Panelists share real-world strategies and student-centered outcomes that foster inclusive, culturally responsive classrooms. Attendees will gain tools and inspiration to lead with empathy across visual arts, design, and media arts education.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Regency D

Thursday, March 5

02:00 PM - 02:50 PM

Radiant Gradients and Kiinteelintaakana: Contemporary Digital Practices and Indigenous Color Systems in a Tribe–University Collaboration

Luke Meeken, Stephanie Danker, Hal Loomis, Ryan Jeansonne

This presentation shares the outcomes of a unique Indigenous-settler curricular collaboration, wherein preservice teachers worked with Indigenous scholars to develop and teach a 6th-grade curriculum centering digital art, contemporary Indigenous artists, and Indigenous color systems. Broader principles, strategies, and resources for Indigenizing digital art curricula will also be shared.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand Hall J

Thursday, March 5

02:00 PM - 02:50 PM

Enhancing Efficacy, Maintaining Authenticity: Preservice Art Educators' Perceptions of AI Integration in Lesson Planning

Libba Willcox, Rebecca Williams

This grounded theory analysis of preservice art educators' experiences using AI as a creative partner in lesson planning reveals AI's potential to enhance efficiency and expand pedagogical knowledge, while highlighting critical considerations for responsible implementation. Discover practical strategies for teaching AI literacy and fostering authentic educator–AI collaboration in lesson planning.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Comiskey

Thursday, March 5

02:00 PM - 02:50 PM

Middle School Medley

Jeanie Guilbert, Jane Montero, Ivey Coleman, Janine Campbell

Join us for a timely networking session with other middle school teachers exploring key issues and trends in middle school art education nationwide. Set up like a speed-dating session, participants will rotate through tables to have the chance to gain insights, share experiences, and discover practical strategies that work. Topics include classroom management ideas that work, digital media, building relationships with students, NJAHS, AI, and arts advocacy.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Roosevelt 3A

Thursday, March 5

02:00 PM - 02:50 PM

What's the Big Idea?

Cheryl Maney

Interactive Presentation! Using big ideas is important, but why? Are you struggling to think of a big idea? Or do you have a great lesson, but stymied for the essential question or big idea to make it happen? Learn about connections we all have in common that easily translate into big ideas. Create a list to use and get answers to the questions above.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Toronto

Thursday, March 5

02:00 PM - 02:50 PM

Studio Sessions: A 3-Year Study on 6–12 Art Club's Impact on Stress Levels and Sense of Belonging

Lindsey Wuest

Learn about a 3-year study investigating the impact of an after-school art club, Studio Sessions, on 6–12 student stress levels and sense of belonging. The study utilized weekly stress surveys and quarterly connection surveys to 31 collect both quantitative and qualitative data, providing a comprehensive look at how creative expression supports well-being.

Exhibit Hall Poster Presentation | Hyatt Regency Chicago | Research Comm. Poster Station 10

Thursday, March 5

02:00 PM - 02:50 PM

From Foundation to Innovation: How Preservice Teachers Are Reimagining Artful Thinking Routines

Dan Li

Preservice art teachers expanded the foundational "See/Think/Wonder" routine to create innovative art criticism worksheets that foster critical thinking and cultural responsiveness. This interactive workshop showcases practical classroom-ready resources and provides frameworks for developing customized thinking routines that enhance student engagement and analytical skills in K–12 integrated arts education.

Exhibit Hall Poster Presentation | Hyatt Regency Chicago | Research Comm. Poster Station 12

Thursday, March 5

02:00 PM - 02:50 PM

Sculpting Success: Streamlined Strategies for Ceramics Teaching

Tasha Newton

Master the art of clay with your secondary students through a comprehensive curriculum package. Gain detailed units, student planning packets, and innovative assessment strategies, alongside practical tips for classroom success. Whether you're new to teaching pottery or a seasoned ceramics instructor seeking fresh ideas and inspiration, this is a must-attend!

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Regency C

Thursday, March 5

04:30 PM - 5:20 PM

Delivering a Photography Quarter Pounder: Digital, Analog, Photo One & Photo II = All in 1 Semester!

Ashley Szczesiak

This presentation analyzes classroom experiments, presents research in media culture studies, and shares resources for how to design a secondary photography curriculum (1 semester) that stretches to teach analog and digital processes and two levels (Photo I & II) at the same time, thus sparking critical dialogue around pedagogy and instructional practice.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Michigan 3

Thursday, March 5

04:30 PM - 5:20 PM

Seven Effective Methods for Teaching Animation in Art Class

Illya Tolbert

Learn creative animation techniques using objects, cut paper, drawings, pixelation, clay, and digital flip books. This session is ideal for Grade 4–8 educators seeking engaging, hands-on projects. Strategies are adaptable for high school and support collaboration, storytelling, and digital literacy across visual arts and media classrooms.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Roosevelt 3B

Thursday, March 5

04:30 PM - 5:20 PM

Slowing Down as Resistance: Journeys in Making, Teaching, and Creative Practices

Emily Scibilia Wittenstein, Kathleen Tieri Ton, Nan Park, Suzanne Hughes

Explore artmaking as resistance and renewal through intentional acts of slowing down in studio practice and classroom spaces. We invite participants into “mini-moments” of making that emphasize low-stakes, iterative, and nonprecious practices in relation to teaching and making in uncertain times.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand A|B

Thursday, March 5

04:30 PM - 5:20 PM

Scaffolding for Success in the Secondary TAB Classroom

Melissa Purtee, Julie Toole, Jennifer Rankey-Zona

Imagine a classroom where students direct their learning by setting personal goals, designing projects, and recording progress. This is possible for all learners with the right structures in place! During this presentation, you will learn how to scaffold choice to support student success and leave with ready-to-use resources and ideas.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand E|F

Thursday, March 5

04:30 PM - 5:20 PM

Reduce, Reuse, Upcycle: Visual Arts Education as a Fast Fashion Disruptor

Krissy Ponden

Learn more about textile waste and the negative global impact of fast fashion. The presenter will share insights from a textile waste workshop in Ghana and showcase student upcycling projects as a creative, sustainable response that fosters awareness and encourages critical engagement with fashion and environmental justice.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand Hall H

Thursday, March 5

04:30 PM - 5:20 PM

From Oops to Aha! Reframing Failure in the Art Classroom

Jaime Linn Brown

Do your students fear mistakes and reach for erasers too quickly? This interactive session explores how one educator transformed a classroom culture focused on perfection into one that embraces risk taking. Engage in dialogue and reflective activities, and leave with strategies to encourage creativity, experimentation, and resilience in your art room.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Roosevelt 3A

Thursday, March 5

04:30 PM - 5:20 PM

SUPER SESSION: AI in the Middle: Strategies for Developing Success

Jeanie Guilbert, Jane Montero

Artificial intelligence (AI) continues to alter the way we live and work. In education, AI is used to personalize learning, provide feedback, and automate tasks. This session will explore multiple ways AI can be used safely in the art room by middle-level art educators.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand C|D

Thursday, March 5

04:30 PM - 5:20 PM

Teaching Beyond the Canvas: Integrating Wearable Art Into Creative Curriculum

Catie Nasser, Janine Campbell, Don Masse

Wearable art can transform K–12 visual arts classrooms by fostering creativity, self-expression, and exploring identity. Discover practical strategies, project ideas, and curriculum connections that engage students of all ages in making meaningful, personal art through fashion, sculpture, and design.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Plaza B

Thursday, March 5

04:30 PM - 5:20 PM

Vinyl Record Repurposing Workshop: Graphic Art, Music, & Community

Sadie Wilcox

This workshop is a hands-on art activity, aiming to build community among conference participants. Using vinyl records donated by local record stores, attendees will develop graphic design skills, experiment with accessible art supplies, and discuss art education methodology to be applied in a wide range of settings.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Randolph 1A|1B

Thursday, March 5

04:30 PM - 5:20 PM

Empowering Student Voice Through Assessment in Art

Janet Taylor

Empower students to create meaningful artwork through authentic, student-centered assessment! Discover creative, scaffolded strategies that promote critical thinking and personal growth—without adding extra work. Rethink assessment as a powerful tool to amplify student voice and deepen learning throughout the artmaking process.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Gold Coast

Thursday, March 5

04:30 PM - 5:20 PM

Secondary Spotlight: Insights and Inspiration

Heidi O'Donnell, Latonya Hicks, Robin Brewer, Elise Hansen

Join 2026 award-winning secondary art educators as they share their best practices, teaching strategies, and classroom insights. Gain ideas and inspiration from the field's brightest stars to elevate your own secondary art education practice.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand Hall MN

Thursday, March 5

04:30 PM - 5:20 PM

Slow Stitching: Exploring Sashiko for Mindfulness and Design

Peggy Martinez

Discover the beauty and cultural significance of sashiko, a traditional Japanese embroidery technique. This hands-on workshop equips educators with stitching skills, cultural context, and a ready-to-use lesson plan that connects global traditions, geometry, and sustainability—perfect for engaging high school students in meaningful, accessible fiber arts learning.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand Hall L

Thursday, March 5

04:30 PM - 5:20 PM

The Apathetic Teen: Getting Nonmakers to Make When Making Doesn't Matter Water Tower

Justin Hart, Keth Brown, Nick Hostert

This interactive session explores strategies for engaging adolescents in meaningful artmaking despite disinterest in visual self-expression. Panelists and participants will discuss motivation, media-saturated teen culture, and shared frustrations around disengagement. Attendees will gain practical examples and insights from educators navigating these challenges in today's evolving digital and artistic landscape.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand Hall L

Thursday, March 5

04:30 PM - 5:20 PM

Video Game Design for the Art Classroom

Nichole Kaplan-Rudolph

Participants will learn how to incorporate various aspects of video game design, including story/plot, character, animation, and level design into their art lessons. We will explore Construct, a design program that allows for creating video games without the need to know coding languages.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Acapulco

Friday, March 6

08:00 AM - 8:50 AM

AI Fluency for Art Educators: Mastering the 4D Framework

Rick Dakan

Learn the 4D framework for AI fluency, a structured approach to integrating AI in art education. This demonstration presents delegation, description, discernment, and diligence as tools for curriculum design and assessment. Access free courses and open resources while discovering practical strategies for ethical, effective AI integration in creative classrooms.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Gold Coast

Friday, March 6

08:00 AM - 8:50 AM

Culture and Design: Exploring the Curricular Implications for Design Thinking

Asavari Thatte Pendharkar

This presentation examines the possibility of a reimagined design curriculum that prioritizes and values cultural contexts and the role of culture in design pedagogy. The presentation invites educators to reconceptualize design thinking as an organic and culturally responsive methodological approach to problem solving.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Roosevelt 1A | 1B

Friday, March 6

08:00 AM - 8:50 AM

Actualizing Culturally Diverse Secondary Art Curriculum: Amending History Through Disruption

Whitney Bell, Angela LaPorte

Presenters will share a high school art curriculum that introduces the concept of amending history through disruption represented in the works of culturally diverse contemporary artists. High school art teachers can better understand how to engage their own students in conceptual artmaking and consider different approaches to painting and nontraditional media.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Michigan 2

Friday, March 6

08:00 AM - 8:50 AM

Empowering Artists: Using Badges to Track Growth and Inform Instruction in a Choice-Based Art Room

Mollie Ahlers

Looking for an assessment strategy in your choice-based art room that fosters student ownership, reflection, and self-directed growth? I'll share practical tools to implement my art badging system, featuring 230+ badges, to empower students to track demonstrated art skills and processes, and then reflect on their learning to set goals for further individualized growth.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand Hall I

Friday, March 6

08:00 AM - 8:50 AM

Making the Shift Toward Authentic Student Choice

Eric Scott

Discover some simple yet effective strategies to shift your teacher-directed curriculum where outcomes all look alike to one that embraces creativity, critical thinking, and problem solving. Learn to open your teaching practice to honor students as artists and give them authentic choice in their original artmaking.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | San Francisco

Friday, March 6

08:00 AM - 8:50 AM

Rooted in Reflection: Designing Your Choice-Based Art Educator Growth Plan

Kelly Beach, Bridget Kudrle, Dawn Norris, Jennifer Ferrari, Lauren Donahue

Reflect on your choice-based teaching practice in this interactive workshop. Collaborate with peers to set goals and create a personalized professional growth plan. Explore key topics like pedagogy, studio design, and personal artistry. Leave with actionable tools and inspiration to support meaningful, student-centered transformation in your art education practice.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Regency D

Friday, March 6

08:00 AM - 8:50 AM

Artmaking in the Choice-Based Elementary Art Classroom

Sherrye Smith

Wondering about choice-based art education and how, or if, it might work in your elementary art classroom? Make informed decisions by joining us in a full-immersion artmaking experience. Participants will enter a simulated choice-based classroom setting and experience artmaking in this environment.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand Hall K

Friday, March 6

08:00 AM - 8:50 AM

Chaos to Calm: Practical Classroom Management for Every Art Teacher

Ruby M. Decker

Tame art room chaos with practical, trauma-informed classroom management strategies designed just for art educators. Walk away with adaptable tools for cleanups, behavior support, SEL integration, and student responsibility—whether you're teaching from a cart or a dedicated studio.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Regency A

Friday, March 6

08:00 AM - 8:50 AM

Creative Collab: From Elementary Drawings to High School Sculptures

Kristen Schauer, Staci Purvis

Join two passionate elementary art teachers as they reveal how their students' imaginative creature drawings came alive through collaboration with high school artists. Learn insider tips for building partnerships, designing lessons, and creating dynamic critiques and exhibitions. Walk away with practical tips, lesson ideas, and resources to inspire creative collaboration!

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Comiskey

Friday, March 6

08:00 AM - 8:50 AM

Centering Collaboration and Student Voice in Meaningful Murals

Don Masse

Take a guided tour of a mural-making program that focuses on centering student voice. We'll look at a short program where middle and high schoolers work together to create a mural for their school. Emphasis on strategies that foster student collaboration and shared decision making in the design process

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Michigan 1B

Friday, March 6

08:00 AM - 8:50 AM

Can You See What I See? Introducing Comic Essays as an Arts-Based Form of Assessment

Darnel Degand

Art history instructors, media arts educators, media literacy teachers, arts teachers, and all who seek innovative multimodal approaches to student assessments are welcome to participate in this comic essay workshop. Come learn the educational theory behind this approach, grade student comics, and discuss possibilities for use in your courses.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Toronto

Friday, March 6

08:00 AM - 8:50 AM

Leveling Up: Building Shared Expectations Through Student Art

Jessica Booth, Betsy Eppe

Discover how one district uses a curated exemplar bank of artwork within communities of practice to calibrate expectations and guide instruction. Learn how collaborative analysis supports teacher reflection, instructional planning, and equity in assessment. Walk away with tools and protocols to implement this model in your own district.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Randolph 1A | 1B

Friday, March 6

08:00 AM - 8:50 AM

Beyond the Brush: Social-Emotional Learning Strategies in Studio Art

Marcus Watson

Explore SEL strategies that deepen student voice and emotional insight in classroom and studio art. This session shares sketchbook prompts, critique tools, and identity-based activities for ELL and undermotivated students. Perfect for diverse classrooms seeking a balance between creative rigor, mental health, and culturally responsive teaching.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand Hall MN

Friday, March 6

08:00 AM - 8:50 AM

The Business of Art Grand

Gabriella Fostel

Learn how to teach students the business side of being an artist through branding, marketing, and selling their artwork. This session provides curriculum tools for launching student-run art businesses—from logo design to online stores—while building motivation, creative ownership, and real-world career readiness in the high school art classroom.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Hall J

Friday, March 6

12:00 PM - 12:50 PM

Digital Art Power Tools: Integrating Technology Into Creative Curricula

Michelle Martinez

Discover how to integrate software and Adobe tools into visual arts instruction to build digital fluency and foster student agency. This session offers practical strategies, project examples, and instructional sequencing to help students gain confidence, take creative ownership, and lead their own process in a tech-enhanced art environment.

Exhibit Hall DG Playground Educator Session Hyatt Regency Chicago | Digital Playground Table Station 1

Friday, March 6

12:00 PM - 12:50 PM

Digital Playgrounds for Career Readiness: Empowering Student Independence Through Creative Technology

Chicago Center for Art & Technology (CHICAT) Team

This interactive Digital Playground experience showcases how students develop independence, career readiness, and creative confidence through hands-on digital arts learning. Participants will explore student-created animations, 3D models, VR experiences, and digital projects while learning how specific software tools and technical skills translate into real-world creative careers.

The session features immersive demonstrations including VR environments, Blender-based 3D modeling, digital sculpting with Nomad Sculpt, and animation reels. Visual displays connect each tool and skill to corresponding career pathways in animation, game design, digital fabrication, and interactive media.

Attendees will leave with practical strategies for integrating digital tools into art programs in ways that support student agency, portfolio development, and long-term career exploration—particularly within equity-centered and resource-conscious learning environments.

Digital Playground Table Presentation | Exhibit Hall DG Playground Educator Session Hyatt Regency Chicago | Digital Playground Table Station 2

Friday, March 6

12:00 PM - 12:50 PM

Exploring Installation Art Through Minecraft

Victoria Ezim

Adventure into the world of Minecraft! See how this game can be utilized as a student-centered space for exploring installation art by having students create digital installations of their own. This session is intended for art educators who enjoy the unconventional and want to try something new.

**Digital Playground Table Presentation | Exhibit Hall DG Playground Educator Session
Hyatt Regency Chicago | Digital Playground Table Station 3**

Friday, March 6

12:00 PM - 12:50 PM

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**Digital Playground Table Presentation | Exhibit Hall DG Playground Educator Session
Hyatt Regency Chicago | Digital Playground Table Station 3**

Friday, March 6

12:00 PM - 12:50 PM

Judging a Book by Its New Cover: AI Redesigns in Adobe Express

Dr. Elizabeth Stuart

Participants will choose a favorite book and use Adobe Express with AI tools to redesign its cover. They'll write a short prompt, add text and effects, and explore creative expression through reading and language arts. Final designs can be emailed for sharing, printing, or further classroom use.

**Digital Playground Table Presentation | Exhibit Hall DG Playground Educator Session
Hyatt Regency Chicago | Digital Playground Table Station 4**

Friday, March 6

12:00 PM - 12:50 PM

Artful Mindfulness: Cultivating Calm and Creativity in the Classroom

Tasha Newton

Explore enjoyable, stress-busting art techniques that enhance creativity and well-being. From drawing breath to expressive painting, this session is ideal for teachers seeking to cultivate a tranquil and inclusive classroom atmosphere. Leave equipped with practical tools and a 7-page guidebook to motivate and support your students.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand Hall L

Friday, March 6

12:00 PM - 12:50 PM

Relational Encounters With Folk School Pedagogies: Craft as Creative Inquiry

Amber Ward

Craft as creative inquiry is examined through folk school pedagogies that foreground relational ethics and ecological imagination. This session presents a methodological exploration from a recent book project that informs art education through collaging, journaling, sewing, and site-specific making rooted in care.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Roosevelt 3B

Friday, March 6

12:00 PM - 12:50 PM

Empowering Young Minds: Teaching Conceptualization and Divergent Thinking for Deeper Art Engagement

Christina Chin

Emphasizing conceptualization in artmaking sparks creativity and critical thinking. Learn practical strategies to inspire divergent thinking, encourage multiple interpretations, and deepen student engagement. Spotlighting lesson examples and real art room experiences, discover valuable insights to encourage idea development, personal meaning, and creative problem solving as core parts of the artistic process.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Regency D

Friday, March 6

12:00 PM - 12:50 PM

Critical Response Process in the K–12 Classroom

Rachael Harrison, Frank Juárez, Hilary Morefield Colman

Is it difficult for your students to share their work or give effective feedback during a critique? Hear from three Connected Arts Network (CAN) teachers using Liz Lerman's Critical Response Process (CRP) in their K–12 art classrooms and test out this transformative feedback process for yourself.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Roosevelt 3A

Friday, March 6

12:00 PM - 12:50 PM

Challenges, Struggles, and Strategies of Collaboration: Exploring Collaboration Rules in Art Education

Borim Song, Eunjung Chang, Oksun Lee

What kinds of challenges and struggles do art educators encounter when collaborating for research, teaching, and curriculum development? Are there strategies that could help create successful collaborations? Hear from three art educators as they share five collaboration rules generated from navigating the dynamics and complexities of professional collaboration.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Regency A

Friday, March 6

01:00 PM - 01:50 PM

The Art of Social Theory: CSTAE Digital Curriculum Portfolio

YeSul Park, Luke Meeken, Oscar Keyes, Emily Jean Hood, Verónica Soria Martinez

Explore the new CSTAE Digital Curriculum site that was recently moved to create stronger links with the Journal of Social Theory in Art Education. Participants will view new features of the site,

including expanded options for the submission process, while engaging in a discussion on what NAEA members need, or would like to see, from an online curriculum resource.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Solider Field

Friday, March 6

01:00 PM - 01:50 PM

Art, Media, & Technology PechaKucha

Sherri Kushner, Kerry Parrish

Ready to get inspired? Join us for a rapid-fire session where 10–12 ArtEd Tech experts share how they are using the latest technologies to transform their classrooms and creative practices. Each presenter gets 5 minutes to share their best ideas, coolest tools, and real-world insights.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Water Tower

Friday, March 6

01:00 PM - 01:50 PM

Designing Tomorrow: Engaging Students in Sustainable Futures Through Narrative, Media Arts, and Minecraft

Sahar Aghasafari

Explore a hands-on unit where students design sustainable cities using storytelling, digital media, and Minecraft. Learn how to guide students through narrative development, 3D modeling, sound design, and interactive world-building. Leave with practical tools to teach environmental themes through visual arts, fostering creativity, engagement, and real-world problem solving.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Regency C

Friday, March 6

01:00 PM - 01:50 PM

Elementary Carousel of Learning: Budgeting for Impact—Strategies and Creative Solutions for the Elementary Art Room

Jonathan Juravich, Leslie Grace

Join the Elementary Division Director and Director-Elect for a panel session on art budgets. Hear from four educators on strategies for managing limited funds, adapting curriculum, sourcing materials, and securing grants. Please submit questions in advance or bring them to the session for an interactive conversation with fellow art teachers.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Regency B

Friday, March 6

01:00 PM - 01:50 PM

On Building a Concept-Based PreK Art Framework

Libya Doman, Kate Jullien, Michelle McKenna, Brett Terrell

Learn how to design a preK art framework that integrates media exploration units, including drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics, sculpture, and fiber arts, with sequential skill

development, concept-based learning, structured play, and an approach emphasizing SEL, fine and gross motor skills, adapted Reggio Emilia, and inclusive practices for learners.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Toronto

Friday, March 6

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Hyatt Regency Chicago | Regency B

Friday, March 6

01:00 PM - 01:50 PM

Developing a Visual Journal Practice for your Middle-Level Classroom!

Jacqueline Jablecki

Are you looking for a practice for your middle-level classroom that can help bridge skill gaps between students and foster authentic, safe, creative risk taking? If you said yes, visual journaling is the answer. In this session, take away helpful tools and tips for implementing a visual journal practice for you and your students.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand Hall G

Friday, March 6

01:00 PM - 01:50 PM

Threads of Identity: Bisa Butler–Inspired Iron-On Patches

Ivey Coleman, Jeanie Guilbert, Jane Montero, Janine Campbell

Create personalized iron-on patches in this free, hands-on workshop inspired by Bisa Butler. Explore identity, self-expression, and culturally responsive teaching through fiber arts. Perfect for middle-level educators seeking inclusive, engaging projects and practical strategies to bring meaningful, wearable art into the classroom. No experience needed—just come create!

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Crystal B|C

Friday, March 6

01:00 PM - 01:50 PM

Recovering Creativity in the Core Arts Standards

Dre Merello

While the National Core Arts Standards center creativity as a policy goal, it leaves teachers to define and assess it alone. This session explores how educators across Illinois bridge that gap. Findings offer insight for shaping creativity-centered standards that empower teachers and support authentic, context-responsive art education.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand Hall L

Friday, March 6

01:00 PM - 01:50 PM

Ideation 101: Next-Level Creativity for All Students

Tiffany J Fox

Discover Creative Calisthenics, a process-focused approach to help students overcome creative blocks and build original ideas. This session equips secondary art educators with practical warm-ups, sketch prompts, and journaling strategies that promote risk taking, deepen engagement, and shift the focus from product to personal, meaningful artistic exploration.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Plaza B

Friday, March 6

01:00 PM - 01:50 PM

Triple Take: Capturing Contemporary Art Through Composite Photography

Loria Crews

Create compelling composite portraits using Photoshop while exploring themes of identity, culture, and community. This hands-on session equips educators with technical skills, conceptual frameworks, and classroom-ready resources to engage students in meaningful digital storytelling. Ideal for middle and high school art teachers integrating media arts and cultural inquiry.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Comiskey

Friday, March 6

02:00 PM - 02:50 PM

Creative Digital Tools for Any Classroom 2.0

Erika Ogier, Oscar Keyes

This hands-on workshop introduces art teachers to accessible, affordable, and Chromebook-friendly digital tools. Participants will explore creative, low-barrier ways to integrate technology into their classrooms, gain confidence through guided demos, and leave with practical resources, student project examples, and ideas for adapting digital tools to fit their existing curriculum.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Regency B

Friday, March 6

02:00 PM - 02:50 PM

It's a Jungle Out There: Building Rainforest Sculptures With Digital Tools and Paper

Diana MacKenzie, Morgan Downing

Curious about integrating tech into your arts curriculum? We'll share how lower elementary students built rainforest sculptures, animated jungle animals in Scratch Jr., and created videos in iMovie. Discover ways to collaborate with colleagues and bring digital tools into your art room with confidence.

Digital Playground Table Presentation | Exhibit Hall DG Playground Educator Session

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Digital Playground Table Station 3

Friday, March 6

02:00 PM - 02:50 PM

Art Teachers as Change Makers: Leading Middle School Curriculum Through Visual Arts Integration

Dru Davison

Middle school art teachers are uniquely positioned to be instructional leaders, shaping how visual arts integration deepens learning across subjects. Drawing from the Crystal Bridges Middle School Partnership Program, this session explores how art teachers can drive collaboration with content teachers, spark student engagement, and amplify the role of creativity in schools. Participants will see examples of student learning through art-infused lessons, learn strategies to position themselves as thought leaders in their buildings, and leave with practical tools to elevate their impact.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Michigan 3

Friday, March 6

02:00 PM - 02:50 PM

Windows and Mirrors: Transforming Curriculum Through Diversity, Contemporary Art, and Student Choice

Jennifer Shiberou, Katie Lepo, Kelly Hatton

Discover how Memphis-Shelby County Schools boosted teacher satisfaction and student engagement through dynamic unit plans. Explore how diverse, contemporary artists and student choice promote equity, creativity, and cultural understanding. View student examples, receive a lesson template, and get inspired to transform your curriculum into meaningful windows and mirrors.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Crystal B|C

Friday, March 6

03:00 PM - 03:50 PM

Artfully Inclusive: Creating (or Maintaining) a Classroom Environment of Inclusivity for Special Populations in the Art Studio

Jenna Darsee

Join this course to learn strategies for adapting and implementing an influential and successful peer art course. Through this presentation educators will leave confident in developing a curriculum that builds active peers, crafts student-appropriate tactile skill builders, and allows self-expression for diverse learners through play and exploration.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand Hall I

Friday, March 6

04:30 PM - 05:20 PM

Art Lesson Planning Through the 4 R's of Indigenous Pedagogy: Respect, Relevance, Responsibility, and Reciprocity

Lori Santos, Dr. Mara Pierce

This session shares how the 4 R's of Indigenous Pedagogy can guide art lesson plan development to strengthen an art curriculum. Attendees will learn how these principles align

with the National Visual Arts Standards while honoring authentic Indigenous perspectives through a relevant, respectful, responsible, and reciprocal lesson-planning process and product.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand Hall MN

Saturday, March 7

08:00 PM - 08:50 PM

Designing Play-Based Early Grade Art Curriculum Using Studio Habits

Libba Willcox, Kate McCormick

Discover how to integrate studio habits with play-based approaches in early childhood art education. Gain strategies for designing developmentally appropriate art experiences for early-grade learners that honor their authentic creative expression. Leave with practical, process-oriented lessons that foster young children's artistic development in your classroom setting.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Michigan 1B

Saturday, March 7

08:00 PM - 08:50 PM

Creative Art-Based Inquiry: Practical Applications in K–16 Art Classrooms

JaeHan Bae

Explore Julia Marshall's creative art-based inquiry and its practical applications in K–16 classrooms. This session offers strategies for interdisciplinary curriculum integration; fosters imaginative and critical thinking; and highlights respectful, culturally responsive practices. Attendees will gain tools to design inquiry-driven lessons inspired by contemporary art and systems thinking.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand Hall G

Saturday, March 7

08:00 PM - 08:50 PM

How Standard Are State Standards? Standard Enough to Share Tools and Resources!

O David Deitz, Joyce Huser

States have revised their arts standards, modeling the 2014 release of the National Core Arts Standards. What's similar, and what's different? What tools and resources can art teachers access from other states for designing curriculum, instruction, and assessment that meet student learning needs? Sharing can be diverse and delightful!

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Crystal B|C

Saturday, March 7

08:00 PM - 08:50 PM

Explore Humans of Kearns: A Curriculum Project on Portraiture and Democratic Meaning-Making

Meghan Allen

Discover how student-driven narrative and artmaking foster belonging inside and outside of the classroom. Reimagine assessment through reflection, dialogue, and community. Walk away with strategies for designing an inclusive, place-based curriculum rooted in connection and care.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand Hall K

Saturday, March 7

12:00 PM - 12:50 PM

Multicultural Curriculum Overview by Embracing Different Backgrounds to Create a Personalized Culture Square

Kelly Lynd

Learn to create a multicultural art curriculum through a collaborative culture quilt project. Participants will explore culturally responsive teaching, digital and textile artmaking, and interdisciplinary connections. Participants will design personal quilt squares using image transfer, embroidery, and embellishments, fostering inclusion, identity, and community in middle and high school art classrooms.

**Digital Playground Table Presentation | Exhibit Hall DG Playground Educator Session
Hyatt Regency Chicago | Digital Playground Table Station 1**

Saturday, March 7

12:00 PM - 12:50 PM

A Compendium of Clay: Best Practices in Ceramics

Natalie Brown

Clay curious or struggling with slips and glaze? Come join a ceramics teacher with more than 20 years of experience, who will share best practices in teaching an ancient medium. This session includes curriculum sequencing and development, lesson ideas, and management of materials, as well as tricks of the trade in working with clay.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand Hall K

Saturday, March 7

01:00 PM - 01:50 PM

Best Practices in Artificial Intelligence in Art Education: Insights From the NAEA Member-Led AI Working Group

Tim Needles, E.Y. Zipris, Jane Montero, Janine Campbell, Dr. Elizabeth Stuart

Discover how art educators are using artificial intelligence to enhance creative teaching and learning. This session, led by NAEA's AI Working Group, offers practical examples and ethical considerations through a moderated discussion on AI's impact in classrooms, curriculum, and professional development across the field of art education.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Regency D

Saturday, March 7

01:00 PM - 01:50 PM

Creating a Cohesive Curriculum

Katrina Barge

Get ready for a hands-on, creative session where you'll design your own thematic curriculum plan tailored to your classroom! We'll explore fun, flexible planning strategies, collaborate with fellow educators, and build practical budgets to match. Leave with ready-to-use tools that bring clarity, creativity, and cohesion to your visual arts instruction.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Gold Coast

Saturday, March 7

01:00 PM - 01:50 PM

Into the Light: Teaching Photography Through Art, Science, and Interdisciplinary Studio

Discovery

Jun Gao

Experience an interdisciplinary photography curriculum that starts with a walk-in camera obscura and leads through pinhole cameras, darkroom prints, and cyanotypes. Discover how analog processes, scientific exploration, and creative play can transform the photo classroom into a space of wonder and discovery through an experiment of entrepreneurship and cross-disciplinary learning.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Roosevelt 3B

Saturday, March 7

03:00 PM - 03:50 PM

From Vision to Practice: Building an Aligned Visual Arts Curriculum

Jonathan Grice

Experience an interdisciplinary photography curriculum that starts with a walk-in camera obscura and leads through pinhole cameras, darkroom prints, and cyanotypes. Discover how analog processes, scientific exploration, and creative play can transform the photo classroom into a space of wonder and discovery through an experiment of entrepreneurship and cross-disciplinary learning.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand Hall J

Saturday, March 7

04:00 PM - 04:50 PM

What's Really Real?: A K–16 Resource for Art Educators on AI & Photography

Kate Ogden, Oscar Keyes

This session presents a K–16 curriculum on synthetic media, from spirit photography to AI-generated art. Each module follows a “rabbit hole” into the techniques, histories, and ethics of image manipulation. Participants will engage with student works, teacher reflections, and hands-on activities drawn directly from the resource.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Roosevelt 3B

Saturday, March 7

04:00 PM - 04:50 PM

Artistic Odyssey: A Curriculum Slam on 20+ Years of High School Art Teaching

Michele Chmielewski

Take a whirlwind tour through 20+ years of secondary art lessons in this high-energy curriculum slam. Featuring over 90 slides of both tried-and-true and innovative projects—visual journals, painting, 3D projects, and mixed media—you'll leave with adaptable ideas, creative inspiration, and fresh tools to spark student engagement and choice.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand Hall MN

Saturday, March 7

04:00 PM - 04:50 PM

Beyond Grades: Transforming LMS Into a Dynamic Hub

Peter Hoks

Transform your LMS into a dynamic art learning hub! Discover strategies for organizing your curriculum, providing demos, fostering idea creation, and delivering comprehensive feedback. Empower high school art students with enhanced access and engagement, moving beyond basic grading to maximize digital learning potential.

Hyatt Regency Chicago | Grand Hall MN