



*the*

# RIGHT BRAIN

*initiative*



2013 PROGRESS REPORT

# BIGGER & BETTER

## 2012-13 was The Right Brain Initiative's triumphant fifth school year!

The Right Brain Initiative grew 45% to serve 44 total schools. We connected teaching artists and school staff to dream up classroom experiences that integrate the arts with subjects like math, science, reading and writing. We provided professional development for teachers, helping them build the skills to weave creative learning into their

curriculum on a regular basis.

With the addition of Corbett, our sixth partner school district, we're 20% of the way to our big goal of engaging every K-8 school in the Portland metro area. We're growing bigger and better each year on behalf of little right brains throughout the region.

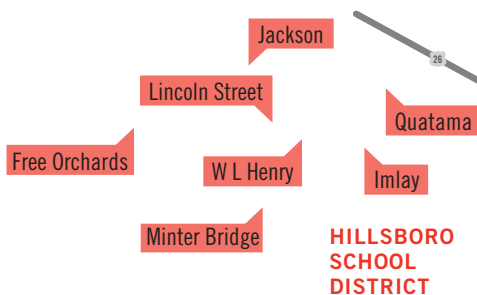
See a full list of all the Right Brain classroom artist residencies from this year at [bit.ly/RightBrain2013](http://bit.ly/RightBrain2013)

## STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

55% WHITE/CAUCASIAN  
25% HISPANIC  
8% BLACK/AFRICAN-AMERICAN  
6% ASIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER  
5% MULTI-ETHNIC  
1% AMERICAN INDIAN/  
ALASKA NATIVE

# 11,470

## STUDENTS



◀ **5TH GRADERS** at Whitman Elementary in SE Portland interviewed one another to find stories that would reveal both their role in the community, and their connections to culture. Each student then animated the story through stop motion, with the guidance of the NW Film Center. Photo by Kendra Yao.

# 52

## TEACHING ARTISTS

16 ARTS ORGANIZATIONS  
36 INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS

# 206

## ARTS-INTEGRATED CLASSROOM EXPERIENCES

# 44

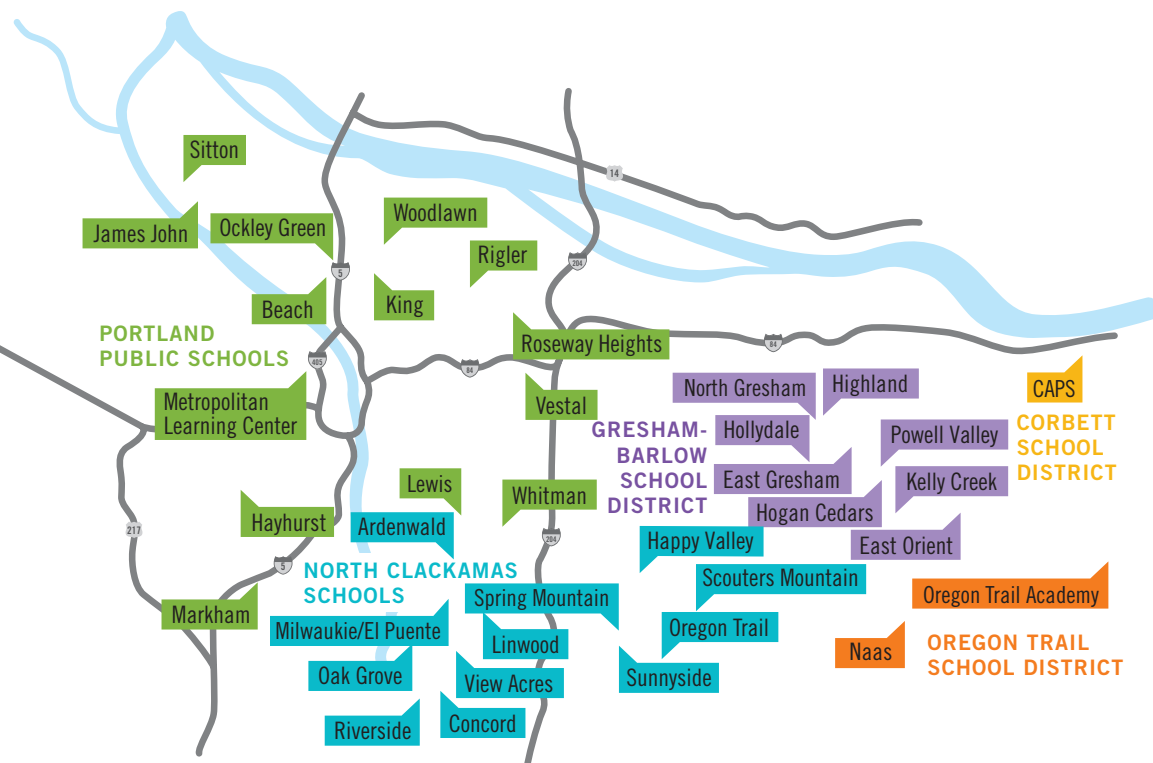
## SCHOOLS

29 TITLE 1  
Schools with a high number of students from low-income households.

# 1,127

## TEACHERS AND SCHOOL STAFF

CLASSROOM TEACHERS: 1074  
ADMINISTRATORS: 53



# ABOUT US

## VISION



The Right Brain Initiative transforms learning for all children through the arts, creativity, innovation and whole-brain thinking.

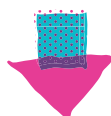
## VALUES

Equity  
Collaboration



Accountability  
Sustainability

## OUTCOMES



Diverse Arts Experiences  
Skills & Literacy for a Changing World  
Professional Learning  
Systemic Change  
Measurable Impact on Student Learning

***“The Right Brain Initiative is a regional leader in elevating the importance of a multi-faceted, well-rounded approach in the classroom.”***

**—CONGRESSWOMAN SUZANNE BONAMICI**





▲ **A 2ND GRADER** at Quatama Elementary creates a wire sculpture as she learns about electricity and elements of design with Right Brain teaching artist Nicole Penoncello. Photo by Janis Hill

## 2013 NEWS

### STEM + ARTS = STEAM

Science, Technology, Engineering and Math makes STEM, a major educational initiative driven by the US Department of Education and the National Science Foundation. Because it complements the integrated arts programming we already provide, we're fans of adding an "A" for Arts to the equation, making STEAM. We piloted STEAM programming this year at Jackson and Quatama Elementary Schools, both located in the "Silicon Forest" area of Washington County. This work was in conjunction with the Portland

Metro STEM Partnership and received partial funding from the PGE Foundation. Students used the arts to illuminate physics, ecology, geology, and much more. We were also proud to work to advance STEAM in collaboration with U.S. Representative Suzanne Bonamici, a leader in the development of a bipartisan Congressional STEAM Caucus, building major awareness for the movement. We look forward to taking this STEAM model to more schools in the years to come. **Read more about this work at** [bit.ly/RightBrainSTEAM](http://bit.ly/RightBrainSTEAM)

### COMMON CORE

The tide is turning in public education with the adoption of the national Common Core State Standards. These new learning expectations emphasize students' creative and critical thinking skills at every grade level and offer natural connections between core subjects and the arts, better preparing them for college and the workplace. Student performance assessments require learners to gather, analyze and synthesize information, relying on multiple sources of information to develop their own ideas and opinions. What could

be a better catalyst for this than the arts? Through professional development sessions, we help our educators link their Right Brain work to Common Core, leading one teacher to say, "I think with the future Smarter Balanced performance assessments, the high quality, deeply creative and critical thinking experiences we have with Right Brain will become more and more important." **Read more about Right Brain's professional development programming at** [bit.ly/RightBrainProDev](http://bit.ly/RightBrainProDev)

*"I am a believer in Right Brain! It is a renewal for my teaching soul."*

—TEACHER

► **TEACHING ARTIST** Nancy Coffelt shares how her team integrated the arts with a Common Core text at Right Brain professional development. Photo by Allie Maya



► **1ST GRADERS AT KING** School photograph each other, experimenting with various vantage points. Students later used these photographs, and those they took of their neighbors, to investigate the value of the community and their role within it. Photo by Cecily Caceu

### TURNAROUND ARTS

The bold new Turnaround Arts initiative is determined to use the arts to reverse achievement at the lowest performing schools in the nation. This public-private partnership of the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities selected King PK-8 School in Northeast Portland as one of the eight schools nationwide to receive significant funding for arts education, and a celebrity mentor, Sarah Jessica Parker. We proudly added King as a Right Brain partner school this year to provide an essential part of their arts programming. Right Brain Teaching Artist Julie Keefe worked with Kindergarten through 5th grades, using photography and writing to investigate identity and community. We worked with 6-8th grades through

Object Stories, a dynamic partnership with the Portland Art Museum that encompasses photography, writing, observation of museum collections and storytelling. Staff also gained strategies to integrate the arts throughout their curriculum from our professional development for educators. **Read more about this work at** [bit.ly/TurnaroundArts](http://bit.ly/TurnaroundArts)

► **A 2ND GRADER** poses with her teacher and her completed artwork at the North Portland Library. Photo by Leah Verwey





# MEASURING OUR IMPACT

How do we know this program is working? We've made progress in the past five years, impacting more schools and more teachers and students. And

we're working more deeply with our partner schools each year, providing students with more skills they'll need to be successful in the future.



## MORE SCHOOLS

We've grown by 120% since we entered schools in January 2009. In the 2012-13 school year, we served a total of 44 schools and six school districts.

20

2008-09

23

2009-10

25

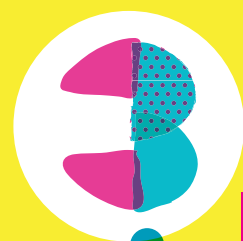
2010-11

31

2011-12

44

2012-13



## MORE TEACHERS USING RIGHT BRAIN STRATEGIES

We surveyed all teachers in partnering schools to determine whether they've used our strategies in the past year. These arts-based teaching strategies actively engage children in whole-brain thinking.

(From The Right Brain Initiative 2012-13 Teacher Survey, n=551)

USING RB STRATEGIES

59%

1ST YEAR AT A RB SCHOOL

USING RB STRATEGIES

73%

1-3 YEARS AT A RB SCHOOL

USING RB STRATEGIES

89%

4-5 YEARS AT A RB SCHOOL

## OUR FUTURE IMPACT

Training teachers to embrace the arts creates long-term change within our school systems. If the 305 teachers we trained just this year brought arts integration to their students every year for the next 20 years, we will impact 183,000 students. Now, just imagine the result once we're serving all K-8 teachers in the Portland tri-county area. So much brain power!



## MORE TEACHERS TRAINED

Since our first program year, we've engaged more and more teachers and principals in professional development, helping them learn to integrate the arts throughout the school day. In 2012-13, alone, we trained four times as many teachers as we did in 2009.

77

2008-09

164

2009-10

228

2010-11

271

2011-12

305

2012-13



## MORE 21ST CENTURY SKILLS FOR KIDS

Classroom observations revealed that in Right Brain residencies, students engage in the use of 21st century skills nearly twice as often, compared to ongoing classroom instruction.

	WITH RIGHT BRAIN IN THE CLASSROOM	WITHOUT RIGHT BRAIN IN THE CLASSROOM
CREATIVITY		
CRITICAL THINKING		
COMMUNICATION		
COLLABORATION		
COMMUNITY BUILDING		



1 teacher

×

30 students per year

×

305 teachers trained (this year)

×

20 years of teaching

=

183,000 students

# DONORS

GIFTS RECEIVED 7/1/12-6/30/13

## IN-KIND AND ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

Ben & Jerry's  
FMYI.com  
Historic CJ Howe  
Vacation Loft  
NORTH  
Ninkasi Brewing  
Papa Haydn  
Paragon Restaurant  
Planar Foundation  
Portland General Electric  
ROCO Winery  
Rose Quarter  
Tartberry

## INDIVIDUALS, \$25+

Anonymous\*  
Susan Ackerman  
Mandy Allen\*  
Stephanie Baker  
Emma Beckman  
Marcy Berkowitz  
Jeffrey Berliss  
Kendra Biller  
Marcia Bizon  
Jennifer Bradie\*  
Kimberly Brecko\*  
Bridge & Burn  
Loulie Brown  
Joan Brown-Kline  
Deborah Brzoska\*  
Chip and Beth Burcsak\*  
Rebecca Burrell\*  
Allen Burrell  
Jenna Burrell  
Patty Busse  
Vassar Byrd  
Kristin Calhoun  
Duncan and Cindy Campbell\*  
Julie and William Campbell  
Daniel Caplan  
Patrick Caplis

Ingrid Carlson  
Michelle Carroll  
Natasia Chan  
Matthew Chase\*  
Patricia Cheyne  
Joan S Childs  
Liz Clark  
Margaret Cochran  
Vivian Coles  
Kevin Collier  
Scott Collins  
Oliver Collins\*  
Compound Gallery  
Catherine Cook  
Elizabeth Craven  
Kathryn Crawford  
Charmian Creagle\*  
Geoff Creighton  
Toni Crummett  
Fernanda Dagostino  
Jane M Dake  
Terry Dalsemer  
Keith Daly  
Eloise Damrosch\*  
Audrey Delgado  
Roberta Delgado  
Loree Devery  
Dharma Merchant  
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James Dorenkamp  
Nick Drakos  
Katherine Drew\*  
Jane Drew\*  
Carol Edelman\*  
Andrew Ekman  
Sam Ellingson\*  
Alice Ellis Gaut  
Allen Eraut\*  
Bruce Evans  
Mary Evans  
Megan Fairbank  
Christopher Fesler  
Laura Fey

Barbara Fishleder  
David Foster  
Brian Fuller  
Gwyneth Gamble  
Booth  
Natalie Garyet  
Barbara Gazeley  
Megan Gex  
Greg Giersch  
Debora Goldstein  
Elinor Gollay  
Erin Gravley  
Kasandra Green  
Greuner  
Jill Greene  
Alicia Hamilton  
Sean Hammons\*  
Josh Hansen  
Jeffrey and Elizabeth Hardison  
John Harrison  
Christofer A Hatfield  
William Hathaway  
Jeff Hawthorne  
Deborah Haynes  
Abbie Hebein\*  
Katie Herro\*  
John Hinds  
Sheryl Horwitz  
Michael Houck  
Windy Hovey

Ann Hudner\*  
Karen and Neil Hutchinson  
Bryant Jaksic  
Peanut Jello  
Erik Jorgensen  
Susan Junell  
Marvin & Betsy Kaiser\*  
Alison Kastner  
Anthony Kell  
Charis Kennedy  
Alissa Keny-Guyer  
Todd Kimball  
Judith Kleinstein  
Ashley Klump  
Cynthia Knapp  
Grant Knowles  
Krista Koehl  
Shelley Laurance\*  
Sun Hye Lee  
Libbi Lepow  
Susan Lienhart  
Lincoln Restaurant  
Lizard Lounge  
Gilda Lorenson  
Mary L Lyons  
Jodi Maas  
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Mary Maletis\*  
Ellen Malizia  
Peg Malloy\*

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Christopher March  
Carissa Martus  
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Kathryn V Mayo-Hudson\*  
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Laura Mehren  
Scott Metzinger  
Rebecca Miller\*  
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Tonkon Torp\*  
Susan & Bernard Miller\*  
Ron Miller  
Mary Minor  
Jonathan Mishkin  
Matthew Morozovsky  
and Alison Starkey\*  
Carole Morse/PGE\*  
Ian Mullen\*  
Virginia S Mullen  
Cheryl Mussotto-Conyers\*  
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Angela Nicholas  
Ryan Niswonger  
Linda Nussbaum  
Timothy O'Neal  
Sarah Orleans  
Justin Oswald  
Amanda Peters  
Brennan Peterson  
Monica Peterson  
Paul Pierce  
Christina Piluso  
Lisa Platt  
Julia Pomeroy  
Sarah Prevost  
Deborah Redman  
Revel in Portland  
Anna-Katharina Rigby\*  
Devon Riley  
Laurette Robertson  
Jan Robertson\*  
Jeanne Robin  
Linda Robinson



▲ **3RD GRADERS** at Linwood in Milwaukie created their own pictograms and word-based math problems, and gave them to each other to solve through choreography with teaching artist Jan Abramovitz. Photo by Cecily Caceu

*"I really thought that this is the most fun math dancing I've ever done."* —**STUDENT**

Alexis Rolloff\*  
Reuben Roqueni  
Carin Rosenberg\*  
Kenneth and Rochelle Rosenberg  
Dori Rosenblum  
and Paul Lee  
Joel Rotert  
Wendy and Steven Rudman  
Jason Sack  
Catherine Samson  
Adam Sanford  
Lesly Sanocki  
Jim Schlachter  
Marie Schumacher  
Elyse Shoop  
Randy Short  
Shelley Signett  
Shauna Smith  
Carol R. Smith\*  
Tyler Smith  
Sid Snider  
Carolyn and Ned Snow\*  
Gregory Soergel

Scott Sparling  
Barbara Spencer  
Marna Stalcup\*  
Maggie Stalcup  
Sheryl Stanerson  
Richard Stare  
Karen Stein  
Emily Stevens  
Kim Strelchun  
Evan Stuart  
Jason Sturgill  
Merris Sumrall  
Steven Sutherland  
Bahram Tavakolian  
Randy Tennant  
Jeffrey Terri  
Ann Tiedeman  
Jeremiah Tischleder  
and Bree Woodruff  
Patty Torchia  
David Traisman  
Contessa Trujillo  
Stacey Triplett  
Felicia Tripp and Jamaal Folsom Tripp  
Beverly Trover  
Kevin Veaudry Casaus  
Jessica Walker  
Scott Wallace  
Diane Walton

Jeannie Weinberg  
Kristina Weishadle\*  
Emily Weltman  
Stacy Westbrook  
Karl & Barbara Wetzel  
Carrie White  
Lisa Wiese/1040 Express Tax Services\*  
James Wilcox  
Craig T Wilcox  
Steven Wilker  
Jim and Margaret Wilson  
Margaret Wilson  
Eric Winn  
Christine Wolf  
Paul Xochihua  
Kendra Yao  
Christopher Zinn

*\*Donors who contributed \$250 or more to the Imagination Fund campaign, or who hosted qualifying campaign events*

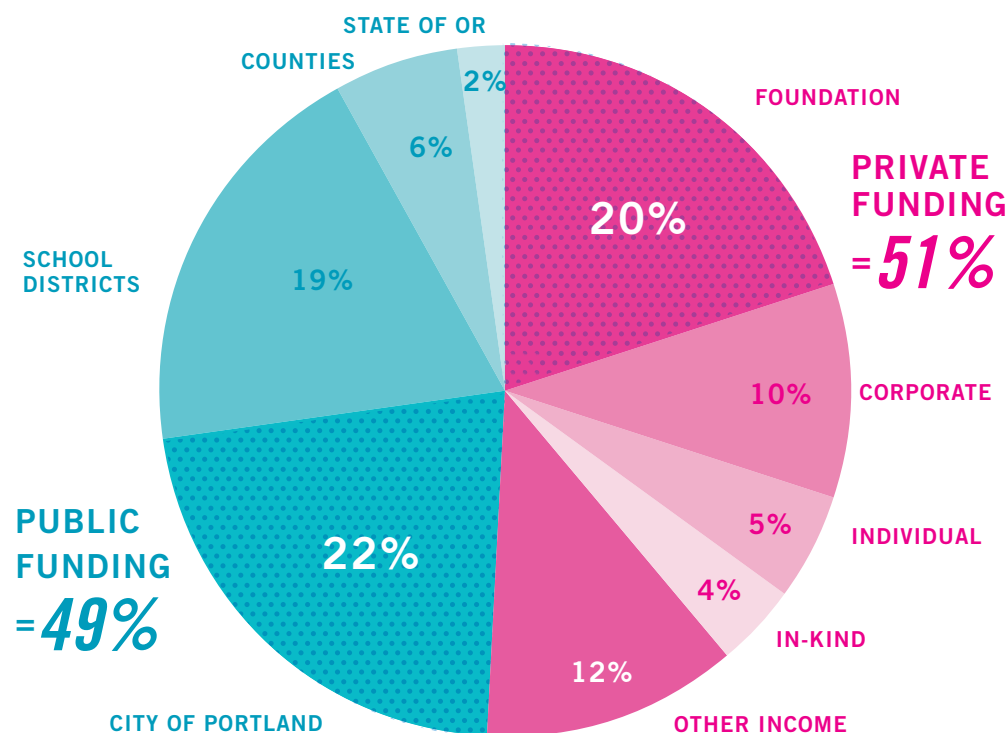
▼ **VISUAL ARTIST** Beth Bundy worked with school staff at Oregon Trail Academy in Boring, introducing them to design thinking by creating prototypes. Teachers were then ready to bring these concepts to students, in collaboration with Beth's classroom residency. Photo by Beth Bundy



# FINANCIALS

With a nearly even public/private split, the community continues to work together to keep Right Brain a sustainable program. Our individual contributions grew this year by 89%, due to the generous support of the Maybelle Clark Macdonald Fund, which provided us with a three-year \$25,000 challenge match. Our Imagination Fund campaign incentivizes donors to give \$250 or more, or host a fundraising event, in order to help Right Brain meet the challenge.

We're now in Year Two of the Imagination Fund campaign. **Help Right Brain get its next \$25,000 matching grant by contributing to the Fund at [bit.ly/ImaginationFund](http://bit.ly/ImaginationFund).**



FOUNDATION	\$190,070
CORPORATE	\$95,718
INDIVIDUAL	\$44,357
IN-KIND	\$36,128
OTHER INCOME	\$111,749

CITY OF PORTLAND	\$200,000
SCHOOL DISTRICTS	\$177,864
COUNTIES	\$55,000
STATE OF OREGON	\$15,000

**TOTAL FUNDING FOR 2012-13: \$925,891**  
INCLUDES MULTI-YEAR FUNDS RECEIVED IN PRIOR YEARS

## SUPPORTERS

### GOVERNMENT

City of Portland  
Clackamas County  
Multnomah County  
Oregon Arts Commission  
Hillsboro Arts & Culture Council

### SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Corbett  
Gresham-Barlow  
Hillsboro  
North Clackamas  
Oregon Trail  
Portland Public Schools

### CORPORATIONS



FOUNDATION



Cambia Health Solutions  
OnPoint Community Credit Union

*"I love The Right Brain Initiative and its connection to STEM, especially for the next generation of workers who need to be innovative, no matter if their job is science-based or not."*

— CAROLE MORSE, PRESIDENT, PGE FOUNDATION

### FOUNDATIONS



Maybelle Clark Macdonald Fund



Concordia Foundation



BNSF Railway Foundation



# THE TEAM

7/1/12-6/30/13

## REGIONAL ARTS & CULTURE COUNCIL, MANAGING PARTNER

Eloise Damrosch,  
*Executive Director*

## RACC BOARD

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## RIGHT BRAIN STAFF

Marna Stalcup,  
*Program Manager*  
Rebecca Burrell,  
*Outreach Specialist*  
Allie Maki Maya,  
*Program Assistant*  
Becky Miller,  
*Administrative Assistant*  
Kendra Yao,  
*Program Specialist*

## APPRENTICES

Daniel Casto  
Sarah Deal  
Joel Holland  
Leslie McCollom  
Becky Thomas  
Sarah Tracey

## GOVERNING COMMITTEE

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Melissa Goff  
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Marvin Kaiser  
Bruce Livingston  
Max M. Miller, Jr.  
Sarah Prevost  
Kathi Robinson  
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Traci Rossi  
Jim Schlachter  
Judy Shiprack

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Subashini Ganesan  
Michelle Fujii  
Melissa Goff  
Janis Hill  
Debbie Johnson  
Teresa Ketelsen  
Jan Robertson  
Joel Stuart

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Barry Johnson  
Joe Krumm  
Henry Moreno  
Karen Stein

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Sam Ellingson  
Abbie Hebein  
Katie Herro  
Taylor Johnson  
Ashley Klump  
Emily Morris  
Contessa Trujillo

## Parent Advocate Task Force

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Rachel Greben  
Alicia Hamilton  
Julia Hammond  
Sarah Link  
Kim Strelchun

## DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

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Kimberly Brecko  
Katherine Drew  
Marvin Kaiser  
Chris Oxley  
Rod Pitman

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Tom Cirillo  
Linda Doyle  
Tim DuRoche  
Peg Malloy  
Cheryl Snow  
David Wynde

## VOLUNTEERS

Erika Anderson  
Marcia Arganbright  
Amy Birmingham  
Cecily Caceu\*  
Michelle Carroll  
Halle Cisco\*  
Christi Crowley  
Pablo Gomez  
Lexie Olivia Grant  
Jackie Hooper  
Frank Hunt\*  
Kimberly Ilsovay  
Paul Johnson\*  
Sonja Kelley  
Maddie Kirby  
Josephine Kuever

Diana Martin  
Liam McGranahan\*  
Mercy McNab  
David Meesenburg  
Sarah Moody  
Brenda Morales  
Kevin Noonan\*  
Van Pham  
Holly Renton\*  
Emily Running  
Hardwick Sexton  
Sara Sjol\*  
Theresa Somrak\*  
Kirsten Southwell  
Travis Souza  
Emily Stevens  
Leah Verwey\*  
Janet Voss\*  
*\*volunteers who  
invested more than  
15 hours*

## PARENT ADVOCATES

Sarah Asphrom  
Emily Beleele  
Gwyn Blanton  
Amber Bozman  
Sarah Budd  
Tracy Ferrero  
Felicia Ferruzza  
Mary Beth Knoell  
Nancy Hawk  
Leann Hollenbeak  
Brittney Huffman  
Anna King  
Sarah Link  
Sara McCarney  
Lisa Olson  
Kally Pelkey  
Alexis Rolloff  
Ane Roth  
Jenifer Rutigliano  
Cyndia Smith  
Tammy Vandehey  
Carrie Ann Wilcox  
Wendy Wilhelms

## DEBORAH BRZOSKA, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNER

▼ **1ST GRADERS** at Jackson Elementary (Hillsboro) enacted animal life cycles with the Oregon Ballet Theatre, part of their Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM) curriculum. Photo by Mercy McNab



## DR. DENNIE PALMER WOLF, EVALUATION PARTNER

## YOUNG AUDIENCES, IMPLEMENTATION PARTNER

Carin Rosenberg,  
*Implementation Manager*  
Briana Linden, *Teaching Artist Program Manager*  
James Evans,  
*Implementation Assistant*  
Amy Botula,  
*Arts Integration Coach*  
Emily Stone,  
*Arts Integration Coach*  
Kristin Walrod,  
*Arts Integration Coach*

## ARTIST ROSTER INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS

Jan Abramovitz  
(movement/dance)  
Addie Boswell  
(visual arts/writing)

Beth Rogers Bundy  
(multimedia)  
Wendy Dunder  
(visual arts)  
Nikki Flinn and Pierson  
Rintz (Acts of Wonder)  
(theatre)  
Alice Marie Hill (visual arts)  
Diane Jacobs  
(visual arts)  
Julie Keefe  
(photography/writing)  
Kathryn Kramer Waters  
(theatre/creative  
writing/visual arts)  
Nicole Penoncello  
(visual arts)  
Rodolfo Serna  
(mural art)  
Caitlin Shelman  
(visual arts)  
Amy Steel  
(mixed media)

## ARTS ORGANIZATIONS

BodyVox (dance)  
Earth Arts NW (multiple)  
Northwest Children's  
Theater & School  
(theater)

Northwest Film Center  
(media arts)  
Obbo Addy Legacy  
Project (music/dance)  
Oregon Ballet Theatre  
(dance)  
Oregon Children's  
Theatre (theatre)  
Oregon Symphony  
(music)  
Portland Art Museum  
(visual arts)  
Portland Children's  
Museum (visual arts)  
Portland Taiko (multiple)  
Tears of Joy Theatre  
(puppet theatre)  
Wordstock (multiple/  
writing)  
• Angela Allen  
• Nancy Coffelt  
• Amy Minato  
• Greta Pedersen  
• Donna Prinzmetal  
Young Audiences of  
Oregon & SW  
Washington (multiple)  
• Albert Alter  
(mime/circus)  
• Tracie Broughton  
(visual arts)

• Dance Like the Stars  
(dance)  
• Bernie Duffy (theater)  
• Sarah Ferguson  
(visual arts)  
• Rachel Foxman  
(theatre, literary arts)  
• Caren Graham (drama)  
• Rick Meyers (music)  
• Karie Oakes  
(visual arts)  
• Sarah Nagy  
(media arts)  
• Pamela Norris (dance)  
• Peggy Ross  
(visual arts)  
• Tracie Wolf Paquin  
(visual arts)  
• Ben Popp (media arts)  
• Lisa Wilcke  
(visual arts)  
• Carla Wilson (music)

## THE JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, NATIONAL PARTNER



THE

INITIATIVE

# RIGHT BRAIN

**THE RIGHT BRAIN INITIATIVE** is a sustainable arts education partnership of public schools, government, foundations, businesses and the cultural community. We entered school buildings in 2009, with a vision of bringing the arts to every K-8 student in the Portland area. By 2012-13, we integrated creative mediums like music, media, dance and poetry into the classrooms of nearly 11,500 students. Through an effort that engages the entire community, we're creating long-term, lasting change within our school systems.

The Right Brain Initiative is a program of the Regional Arts & Culture Council. Young Audiences of Oregon & SW Washington serves as Implementation Partner.

*Read more about Right Brain, and get involved, at*  
**[TheRightBrainInitiative.org](http://TheRightBrainInitiative.org)**

*"Seeing how many of these students were  
empowered through the arts was amazing."*

**—TEACHER**

► **WITH TEARS OF JOY**, Hayhurst students (Portland) created puppets, scripts and backdrops to bring to life the Native American story, "Frog Girl." This experience combined visual art, performance, social studies and language arts.



**Regional Arts & Culture Council**

411 NW Park Avenue, Suite 101, Portland, OR 97209 / 503.823.5111

The Right Brain Initiative is a program of the Regional Arts & Culture Council, a 501(c)(3) arts services agency serving Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington Counties, Oregon. **racc.org**