



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.

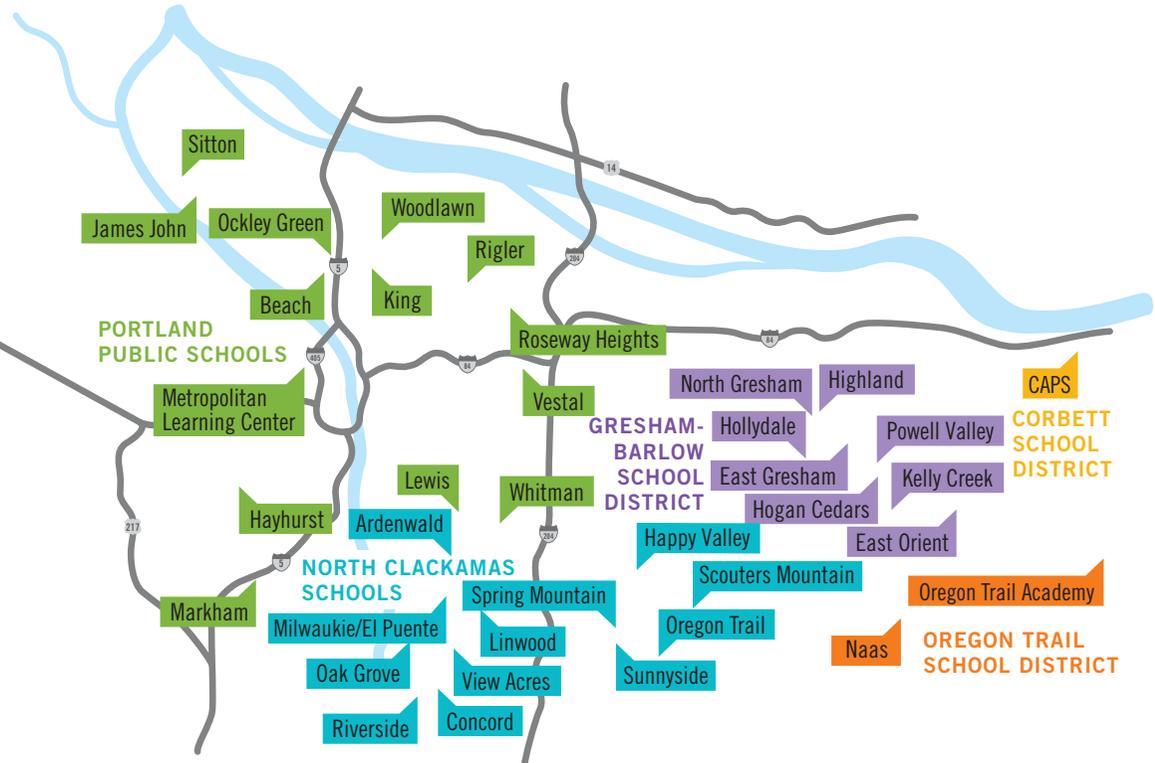
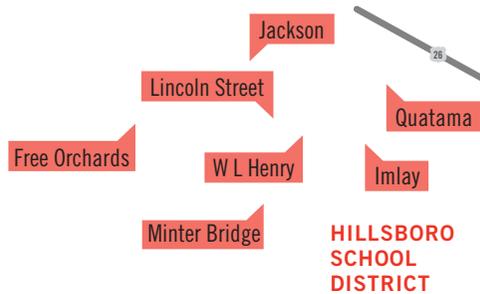
With the addition of Corbett, our sixth partner school district, we're 20% of the way to our big goal of engaging every K-8 school in the Portland metro area. We're growing bigger and better each year on behalf of little right brains throughout the region.

See a full list of all the Right Brain classroom artist residencies from this year at bit.ly/RightBrain2013

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/RightBrainSTEM

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

"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

► **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.



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.



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)



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		

OUR FUTURE IMPACT

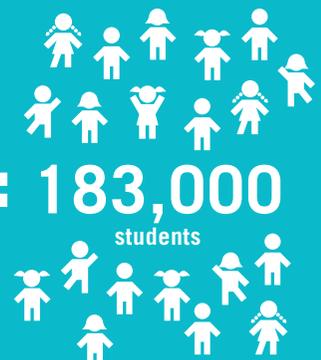
Training teachers to embrace the arts creates long-term change within our school systems. If the 305 teachers we trained just this year brought arts integration to their students every year for the next 20 years, we will impact 183,000 students. Now, just imagine the result once we're serving all K-8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



× 30 students per year

× 305 teachers trained (this year)

× 20 years of teaching



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+

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 Susan Ackerman
 Mandy Allen*
 Stephanie Baker
 Emma Beckman
 Marcy Berkowitz
 Jeffrey Berliss
 Kendra Biller
 Marcia Bizon
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 Kimberly Brecko*
 Bridge & Burn
 Loulie Brown
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 Natasia Chan
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 Margaret Cochran
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 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
 Christoher 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
 Gary R Maffei*
 Mary Maletis*
 Ellen Malizia
 Peg Malloy*

Mary Manning
 Christopher March
 Carissa Martus
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 Jennifer Matsumura
 Kathryn V Mayo-Hudson*
 Jeri and Bruce McFarlane
 Laura Mehren
 Scott Metzinger
 Rebecca Miller*
 Max M. Miller/Tonkon Torp*
 Susan & Bernard Miller*
 Ron Miller
 Mary Minor
 Jonathan Mishkin
 Matthew Morozovsky and Alison Starkey*
 Carole Morse/PGE*
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 Virginia S Mullen
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 Linda Nelson
 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
 Doris M Schwab
 Sue Scott
 Patti Seely
 Carole Shellhart
 Elyse Shoop
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 Kim Strelchun
 Evan Stuart
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 Randy Tennant
 Jeffrey Terill
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 and Bree Woodruff
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 David Traisman
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**Donors who contributed \$250 or more to the Imagination Fund campaign, or who hosted qualifying campaign events*

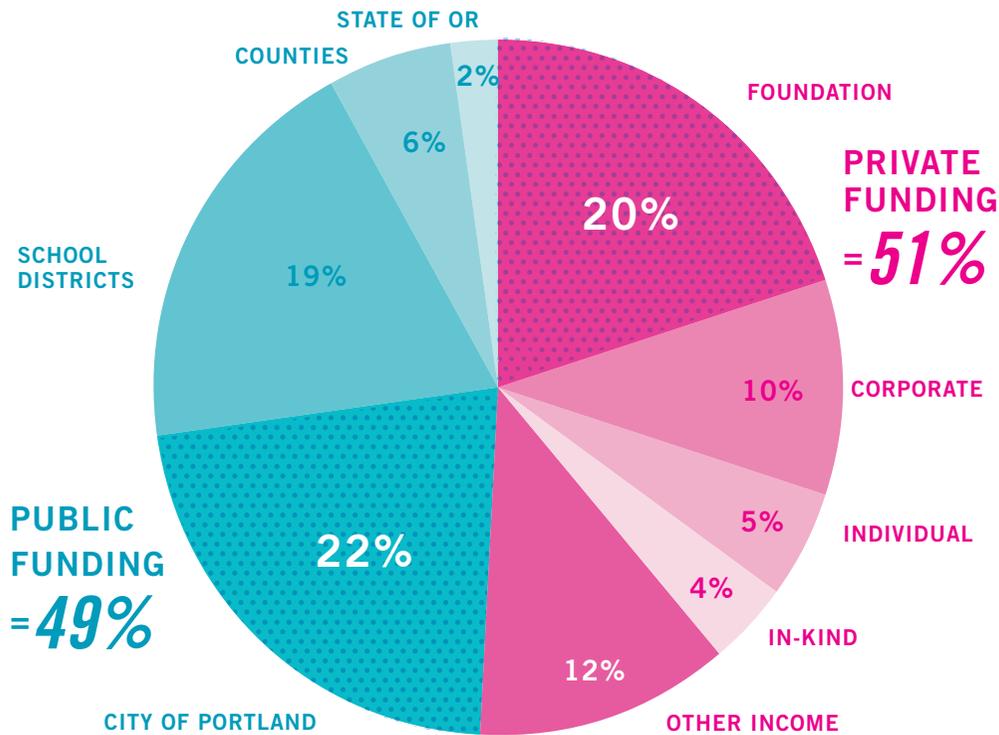
▼ **VISUAL ARTIST** Beth Bundy worked with school staff at Oregon Trail Academy in Boring, introducing them to design thinking by creating prototypes. Teachers were then ready to bring these concepts to students, in collaboration with Beth's classroom residency. Photo by Beth Bundy



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.**



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

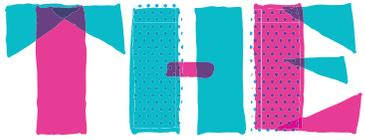


Meyer Memorial Trust

Concordia Foundation



BNSF Railway Foundation



7/1/12-6/30/13

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*volunteers who invested more than 15 hours

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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

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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

RIGHT BRAIN

INITIATIVE

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

“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