



Cover Sheet

JPE
John P. Ellbogen Foundation

Team Name: Mindfulness through Mosaics
Team Lead Name: Ms. Dana Miller
Team Member(s): Ms. Roxanne West

Salutation: Ms.
Last Name: Miller
First Name: Dana

Middle Initial:
Preferred First Name or Nickname: Dana

Home Address: 805 Richards Avenue
City: GILLETTE
State: Wyoming
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Job Title: Art Educator
Number of Years Teaching: 5

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School Name: Thunder Basin High School
School Classification: High

School Type: Public School
School District: Campbell County School District #1

School Address: 4001 Saunders Boulevard
City: GILLETTE
State: Wyoming
Zip: 82718

School Phone: 307-687-7733
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Principal Name: Dennis Holmes
Principal Email: dholmes@ccsd.k12.wy.us

Current Teaching Assignments: Visual Arts
Current Grade Level: 9 - 12th Grade
Subject Area of Project Activity: Visual/Performing Arts
Estimated Dates of Fellowship: 07/07/2018 - 07/22/2018

Brief Description of Proposed Fellowship: It is our goal to attend both the classical and portrait mosaic workshops offered in Ravenna, Italy. Using mosaics, we will establish a Mindfulness through the Arts program to help combat teen depression and suicide in our school and community.

Number of Members on Team: 2

I've previously been awarded a Fund for Teachers grant: No

Proposal

Brief Description of Fellowship

We live in a state and community that has been plagued with teen depression and suicide; together we want to change our community and students using the arts. Our students live in a community where little to no time is taken for self-care. As art educators it is our goal to not only help our students grow and develop as artists but also as members of our community. We teach our students to read, write, and take tests, with very little thought about the individuals that come into our classrooms each day. Yes, mathematics and literacy are very important--- that is undeniable. Our goal is to provide our students with the skill sets of creation and self-care that they can use throughout their lives. The word mosaic alone means to combine diverse pieces into a coherent whole; is that not our goal as educators? This fellowship will allow us to participate in a mosaic workshop in Ravenna, Italy, the Byzantine mosaic capitol of the world. The workshop teaches both ancient and modern mosaic techniques, while providing the opportunity to view ancient mosaics in a historically significant city. This beautiful global experience cannot help but have a positive healing impact on our school and community.

Fellowship Rationale and Purpose

We currently teach photography and 2-d art, but glass has always been our mutual passion. We love alternative art mediums, and are continually seeking ways to improve our teaching and keep our students engaged. The question driving us is, how can we keep our students focused and engaged while also teaching them about art history? Most students this age are not interested in learning about the history of art. The main reasons for requesting this funding is to travel and learn on-site about this ancient art form. We will then share notes, video and photos with our students. By observing their teachers in a historical setting doing mosaics in the traditional manner, we hope to include some art history. It is our goal to create a more authentic learning experience for our students. Being funded will allow us to learn both historical and contemporary mosaic techniques from masters in the field. We have many learning goals we hope to achieve through this training. First, we hope to research and immerse ourselves in the rich art history and culture of Ravenna, Italy. Second, by working in the traditional and ancient style of mosaic applications, we will have the opportunity to use tools from the past, such as a smalti, marble, hammer and hardie. Third, we will develop lessons to share with our junior high and high school art students. But most importantly we want to create outlets and tools for our students to use outside of the art room when they go into the real world as healthy adults.

Project Description

Our fellowship will begin in the Byzantine mosaic capital of the world, Ravenna, Italy. With an intensive five-day course in standard mosaic practice, we will experience the ancient mosaics in the buildings and art of Ravenna, still standing from the third century B.C., as we learn from one of the leading mosaicists in Italy. Through this course we will re-create a traditional mosaic based on an ancient design used in a floor or wall from a basilica in Ravenna. We will also complete an original piece using contemporary methods. We will learn both the indirect and direct methods of mosaic work, using the materials such as smalti and marble still quarried from the same marble mine used in the third century B.C. Following the first five days of the standard workshop, we will visit Venice for one night and 2 days. Venice is a city well-known for the Biennale Art Festival (La Biennale di Venezia). We will complete a day tour of Venice, visiting the Peggy Guggenheim museum known for its modern art. This museum is housed in an 18th century castle. We will conclude our time in Venice with the Scuola Grande di San Rocco Museum, noted for its collection Tintoretto's. As a side trip from Venice, we will visit Murano, Italy. Murano is an island known for its community of glass blowers. Upon our return to Ravenna, we will continue our mosaic journey with an extension of the standard mosaic workshop. This five-day intensive extension offers an opportunity for us to study mosaic portraiture. This course is designed to gain an understanding of painting with glass, marble and smalti. As in traditional painting, we will explore the various values and proportions used to create portraits and apply these theories to mosaic art and design. In this advanced course, our choice will include either an ancient mosaic portrait to reproduce, or a modern self-portrait. We will learn how the art of cartooning is used to create references in mosaics. Upon our return home, we will begin to incorporate our newly gained knowledge into our current curriculum.

This fellowship will allow us to reach life-long dreams of going to Italy and studying art. Every college art student has sat in an art history class dreaming of an opportunity like this one. The thrill of seeing what have only been images in books will have a profound and life-changing effect on both of us. It will infuse us with a sense of renewed excitement both in our personal and professional lives. But, we will not be the only ones affected by this experience. The fellowship will allow us to create an authentic learning experience for our rural students. Through this opportunity we will be able to create a culturally rich art experience. We presently teach only contemporary mosaic techniques, but with this training we will be more prepared to share the historical/cultural impact mosaics have had on the arts. Our goals for attending this workshop are to: develop an understanding of the process involved in the making of traditional mosaics, learn with other artists from around the world, create mosaics using unexplored methods, and experience mosaics in a place rich in artifacts from the Byzantine era. As a result of our learning, we will share the development and cultural impact of mosaic art. This fellowship will aid us in creating an engaging learning environment for our students.

Student Growth and Learning

The benefits to our students are numerous. To summarize a few, the students will become familiar with another culture. Our primarily rural students often lack any experience beyond a 100-mile radius from where they live. They have a very limited view of other cultures and of history. This cultural awareness will include not only modern day Ravenna but ancient Ravenna. It is important for our students to see us as more than just teachers in the classroom. We are also global learners. The students will have the opportunity to see this city through our eyes as learners, artists and educators. Our active, and deeply focused, participation in this workshop will allow them to view us through those lenses and see us as positive role models. It is our hope that through this new insight, they will develop a sense of mindfulness, or a sense of focus as they create their own mosaics. The impact upon our curriculum will be profound. We will build upon our current instruction in contemporary mosaic design, by imparting our new knowledge of ancient mosaic techniques. Included in this expanded curriculum we will use examples from our experience in Ravenna to emphasize how the ancient artists designed and constructed the mosaics visible yet today. Through our demonstrations, our students will explore and learn about these ancient techniques. They will attempt the process of cutting marble and smalti to incorporate into a project. This fellowship has the potential to influence many.

Benefits to School Community

Through the knowledge we gain, it is our intent to create mindfulness in others by sharing the global impact mosaics have had throughout history. We will reach out to both students and staff members. It is our goal to share our Italian experience by teaching mosaics to our fellow district level art educators. We hope to also share with community members at large, providing training so that they too may develop the focus necessary to create mosaics. Finally, it is our goal to present at the National Art Educators Association convention in 2017 the impact that mosaics have had on our community of learners. By reaching out nationally, we hope to influence many educators not only in the knowledge gained from the fellowship, but in how to receive grant funding for professional exploration.

Plan For Implementation of Learning

PLAN FOR FELLOWSHIP IMPLEMENTATION OF LEARNING: Curricular Unit Plan – Option 1

Unit/Project Outline

Unit Goals:

- Students will learn about the Byzantine Empire and the role that mosaics had in preserving the history of the culture and time.

- Students will explore various mosaic tools and techniques including the use of a hammer and hardie, smalti glass, and marble.

- Students will design a self-portrait.
- Students will demonstrate their knowledge of mosaics by completing their self-portraits using mosaic tools and techniques.

Student Skills:

- Students will create a Prezi Presentation showing the history of mosaics.
- Students will safely experiment with multiple tools and techniques of mosaic.
- Students will incorporate the elements and principles of art to design a self-portrait.
- Students will then create their self-portrait in a mosaic.

General Content:

This unit will be introduced to our students enrolled in Glass and Alternative Mediums. Through class presentations, we will share our Italian experience emphasizing the artistic heritage and compositional quality of mosaics. Our presentation will include photographs, mosaic examples and self-created movies, showcasing the historical record of Ravenna.

Teaching Methods:

Teaching methods will include a digital presentation of our experience in Italy, hands-on demonstrations, and guided differentiated instruction.

Student Outcomes: The students will...

- Understand the role of mosaics throughout history.
- Demonstrate proper mosaic techniques by accurately completing a mosaic.
- Create a mosaic portrait displaying proper compositional quality.

Evidence of Student Learning:

Students will create many different artifacts demonstrating evidence of their learning. First, they will create a presentation in which they must research the evolution of Byzantine art. They will be assessed with a standards-based rubric. Second, students will be assessed through teacher observation in their appropriate use tools and methods. Third, the students will successfully complete a self-portrait mosaic using contemporary methodologies, elements and principles of design.

Budget Narrative

Provide a brief narrative showing evidence of thoughtful planning and research into your specific itinerary. The narrative should explain the rationale for the project's expenses; stipulate a time frame and approximate costs as closely as possible. Include the resources used to arrive at your final itinerary within the narrative. Costs should be realistic in relation to the proposed scope.

If including a technology expense, specify: why the item is necessary for the fellowship's success, why you have chosen the specific brand/type, and whether you have prior experience using the technology. Technology expenses should not be the bulk of your proposed budget, but a necessary tool to successfully complete your fellowship.

Food costs should reflect actual destination rates and cannot exceed \$50 per day/per person.

The budget for this workshop contains a breakdown as follows:

Transportation: In researching International airfares, we found the least expensive flight as of Jan. 27, 2017 is \$1,617 per person, on United Airlines. This flight originates in our hometown and arrives in Bologna, Italy. To get from Bologna to Ravenna, Italy we will take a local train. The cost of this train is \$80.00 per person round- trip. The current cost of a train from Ravenna to Venice is \$18.00 per person roundtrip. We are using current train dates as summer rates are not yet available on the train site. The Euro conversion rate we used was through Google. The water taxi from Venice to Murano on the Grand Canal Boat Tour costs \$42.00 per person round trip.

Lodging: The Palazzo Bezzi Hotel in Ravenna is 106.00 per night for a double room. The total for 13 nights is

\$1378.00. We chose this option because it is less than many of the hotels advertised, plus it offers free breakfast. We will also stay one night in Venice. The Hotel Antiche Figure is currently 204.00 per night for a double room. It is a mid-range hotel that also includes a free breakfast. The total lodging expense is an estimated \$1582.00.

Workshop: The workshop has a price promotion of \$1767.00 when taking both the standard and portrait workshop. The total of both is \$3534.00.

Food: Breakfast is included in all hotels. The per diem of 50.00 per day will cover lunch and dinner. The total for 2 people for the 12 days at the workshop is \$1200.00. We will cover our food costs for our travel days on our own.

Total request for the fellowship: \$9830.00