Artists Inspire Grants
Online and In-Person Art Workshops

Support for Schools and Artists from Quebec’s English-speaking communities to connect through hands-on creative experiences - an ELAN/LEARN partnership funded by the Government of Canada's Action Plan for Official Languages

ANNUAL $1500 Grants for English Public Elementary & Secondary Schools 2019 - 2023
Apply now for your school’s 2020 - 2021 ArtistsInspire Grant for Interactive Virtual or In-person Arts & Culture Experiences*!

What is the funding for? Developing students’ creativity through Artist-facilitated virtual or in-person* Arts & Culture experiences:

- **With Qualified Artists:**
  - Eligible Artists identify as members of the English-speaking Communities of Quebec. They represent the diversity of the ESCs’ demographic and cultural communities. Their practices include a wide variety of specialties.
  - If a qualified Artist you know is not yet profiled on our website, please send them the link to New Artists - Who Qualifies? Artists must have experience facilitating in education settings.

- **During the school day:**
  - The goal of the ArtistsInspire Grants is to engage as many Quebec students as possible in hands-on creativity in diverse art disciplines. In the school’s online application, the brief description of planned activities needs to include working with multiple teachers/or classes to learn with eligible Artist(s) in at least two creative periods.

When you’re ready, applying is easy and quick - one contact person from the school sets up the account and enters the information about the school’s plan.
Please note that we only allow one application per school. In the application we ask for confirmation that the principal approves.
Not sure who applied for your school’s grant in 2019-2020? Contact us as we may have to reset your account ID and password if the school contact person needs to change.

We are available to support you by phone and email to answer all of your questions.
ELAN’s ArtEd Team wants to support your school in getting the maximum benefit from your school’s grant - we encourage you to combine our funding with other sources - see examples of our partnerships and inspiration for planning your ArtistsInspire experiences on pages 3 - 6.

*Depending on each school’s COVID-19 protocol, in-person ArtistsInspire workshops are permitted with local Artists where possible to do so safely for both students and Artists. Schools can search for Artists who are available for Virtual Facilitation on the Connect with Artists section of our website.

✉️ artistsinspiregrants@quebec-elan.org
📞 438-979-1171
Connect with our Talented & Diverse Artists & Arts Organizations

Our professional artists have experience facilitating high quality, interactive learning experiences. Since schools closed in March, we have offered online ArtistsInspire workshops, working with students at home and with elementary teachers in their classrooms with students. Artists profiled on our website include Artists
- from every discipline.
- with a wide variety of specialties and lived experiences.

What kind of arts & culture experiences would inspire your students this year? What can work well whether in-person or virtually?

Dance & Movement

When we ask educators which discipline their students have the least exposure to at school, the most frequent answer is Dance! Our Artists can facilitate engaging movement activities that students can do in their chairs, standing beside their desks, walking in a circle around the room... getting students moving in the space available. Amongst our Dance Artists, several specialize in creating inclusive experiences for students with disabilities, both intellectual and physical, ensuring all students can access dance as a means of creative expression. Work with these experts in movement to choreograph in-class routines that give your students an active break in the day.

Film, Digital Media & Photography

To say that video is popular with youth is an understatement! How do we inspire students in their digital citizenship and develop their creative potential using technology? We have Artists to recommend for any level of technology that students have access to, inspiring them to capture images and tell stories in multiple ways. Photos and videos are powerful visual mediums that can help students to achieve competencies aligned with subject-specific learning goals in STEAM, English Language Arts, Visual Art, and more.
**Literary Arts**

Choose from published Authors, Poets, Screenplay Writers, Spoken Word Artists & Storytellers

In addition to engaging students in English Language Arts, our writers can get students writing and speaking to make sense of their learning in other subjects, particularly social sciences - geography, history and citizenship & ethics and religious culture. From the shortest literary form (Haiku) to children's books and award-winning YA/adult fiction, biography and more, we have dynamic literary artists to recommend.

**New!** This year we will be partnering with Poetry In Voice to create an ArtistsInspire version of their popular Poet in Class program. In-person or virtual workshops with well-known Spoken Word and page poets from Quebec’s English-Speaking Communities will be offered between January and June - reserve by applying for your school grant before **November 15th**. Poetry in Voice will connect with you to organize your ArtistsInspire experience. Limited to 15 schools.

**Music & Sound**

Adapting Music education to virtual platforms and figuring out how to safely teach in-person lessons is a challenge that we understand. Our Artists collaborate with teachers to facilitate workshops that bring inspiring music and sound experiences to any class. Activities include listening to natural soundscapes and creating sound libraries, building instruments using found objects, conducting distance choirs or jamming with instruments on Zoom, learning about the history of music genres, practicing individual and collective songwriting and more. How about taking a STEAM approach? Go digital to capture and manipulate sounds using mobile devices and free apps - this virtual age of music education is full of possibility, and our artists will work with you to achieve your goals.
Performing Arts/Theatre

Working with professional actors, designers, comedians, puppeteers, and directors, students can learn about how performing arts and theatre relate to everyday life. Through interactive games, roleplay, and other immersive educational projects, students engage with the theatre emotionally, gain an understanding of how it works and build skills related to communication, teamwork and problem solving. The goal is to make theatre enjoyable and accessible, and to emphasize that when we try to understand characters, we may understand something about ourselves and our own lives. The exhilaration of thinking outside the box, physical engagement in creative expression and storytelling helps students build self-confidence and social skills, and leaves a smile on everyone’s face.

**Black Theatre Workshop** will offer interactive workshops based on themes explored in their February, Black History Month, school tour performance, *Our Fathers, Sons, Lovers and Little Brothers*. Limited to 15 schools.

**Geordie Theatre** will facilitate pre-show workshops preparing students for a live performance of Geordie’s 2Play Tour with the help of their Geordie Theatre School Teachers. Limited to 10 schools.

STEAM

What better way to approach Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM) than through the Arts? STEAM is a hot topic in education, and our most popular theme for teachers who participated in our Online Youth & Family Program. Most arts disciplines involve hands-on creativity that integrates STEM concepts as participants create and build, providing an engaging way to enrich and deepen learning. Experienced STEAM Artists can collaborate with teachers to plan STEAM ArtistInspire experiences through activities drawing on techniques in visual arts, music & sound, design in theatre & dance production and more. Contact us to connect with Artists who specialize in STEAM activities!
Visual Arts

Visual arts offer an opportunity to make sense of the world, to go within, sharpen our perception and unite both hemispheres of our brain. Through drawing, collage, painting, printmaking, sculpting and more, our Artists encourage students to work with materials that are easy to find at home through recycling/upcycling and in nature. Throughout these workshops, participants learn and apply tools, tricks and techniques that will help them to see, question, wonder and recall details. Our Artists are skilled and experienced in working directly with students in a hands-on fashion, and they are equally at ease giving a video conference class. They know how to engage, inspire and keep students involved during the entire art-making process, from inception to completion.

Who am I? Who are we?

Exploring identity and belonging within Quebec’s English-speaking Communities through arts & culture

The concept of belonging is complex. Race, ethnicity, gender, ability, sexuality, age, culture, religion, and language can intersect in many ways, and leave people feeling connected or disconnected, depending on the circumstances. At this time in our world, being able to talk about our differences and the experiences that minority groups face because of racism and ‘othering’ is necessary. While establishing and maintaining a safe space, our diverse Artists provide students with opportunities to dive into issues relating to identity, using art as the medium for exploration.

CLC schools participating in the arts stream of LEARN’s I Belong! initiative can combine project funding with the ArtistsInspire Grant, allowing students to work with multiple artists or collaborate with artists over a longer period of time. Learn more at ibelong.learncquebec.ca
Planning together to Collaborate, Create, & Celebrate - what ensures teachers and students have a 5-Star ArtistsInspire experience?

In 2019-20 the average satisfaction rating for Artist facilitation was 4.75 out of 5. We only had a handful of ratings that were 2 or 3 stars and in every case the cause was primarily a lack of preparation to ensure teachers and Artists understood each other’s needs and expectations. A little planning goes a long way!

Here are the steps involved in planning a successful ArtistsInspire experience:

Connect ➔ Collaborate ➔ Create ➔ Celebrate

Connect: Selecting an Artist to work with is the first step! Not sure who to select or how to proceed? Contact us and we’ll help you. Complete the grant application form as soon as you have started reaching out to Artists. Our most popular Artists and programs get reserved early in the year so please let us and the Artist know you are applying as soon as you can!

Collaborate: Each ArtistsInspire experience is unique! Communication between teachers and Artists before the experience makes a tremendous difference for everyone. Plan to have at least one phone conversation to discuss group sizes, number of visits, scheduling, materials, the artistic process with virtual and in-person adaptations, etc. We recommend that all experiences be planned to take place virtually in the event that in-person facilitation becomes restricted or impossible.

Create: Artists engage teachers and students in the creative process. We highly encourage teachers to create with students whenever possible, validating student engagement and risk-taking. Plan to document the creative process as much as the project outcome.

Celebrate: Plan to celebrate the ArtistsInspire experience in whatever way you can. Showcase students’ creative process and their work by sharing with other teachers, students and parents! Our funding requires that schools submit feedback including photos, video or a link to a school social media post, following the school’s media authorization protocols.

We pay the Artists! As soon as you submit your feedback, we pay the Artists’ eligible fees & expenses. Our online feedback form only takes 10 - 15 minutes to complete! Once you begin your project, we send you a guide to communications, expenses and feedback requirements. Our 2020-2021 Guidelines will also be posted on the artistsinspire.ca website.
Celebrating and Sharing ArtistsInspire Experiences

ELAN ArtEd shares feedback and photos/videos submitted by schools using our online system through:

* Blog posts in the Stories & News section on our website, artistsinspire.ca - search by School Board, Discipline, Theme, and/or by Artist to learn from some of our Year 1 experiences
* ArtistsInspire e-newsletters - sign-up HERE
* Social media - follow us on Facebook and Instagram: @ELANArtEd #ELANArtEd #ArtistsInspireGrants
* YouTube - see the ELAN ArtEd playlist featuring over 30 participant testimonials

CONTACT US NOW if you have any questions about ArtistsInspire Grants - we love to speak with educators and will help you in any way we can!

ArtistsInspire Grants
ELAN Quebec
460 Saint-Catherine St W, Suite 706,
Montreal, QC H3B 1A7

438-979-1171

www.artistsinspire.ca
artistsinspiregrants@quebec-elan.org
https://www.youtube.com/ELANquebec

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