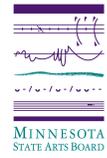




Interact Center for the Arts

UNIVERSE OF FRIENDSHIP

with the Mississippi Creative Arts School



Universe of Friendship was Interact's 2018 residency with the Mississippi Creative Arts School, which is part of the Saint Paul Public School district. For the residency, artists with and without disabilities taught students visual, performing, and literary art skills.

Of the **160 STUDENTS** who participated in the evaluation...



of students said they **HAD FUN**

"It was fun being able to show our friends and family the work we did."
- STUDENT



of students said they **LEARNED AN ART SKILL**

"I didn't know I could be so creative."
- STUDENT



of students said they **LEARNED ABOUT DISABILITY**

"People with disabilities can do things just like us."
- STUDENT

Students in grades 2-3 received about 15 hours of arts learning instruction during the four-week residency. The residency culminated with a theater performance, a display of visual artwork, and a poetry chapbook.

Of the **9 INTERACT ARTISTS** who helped to co-lead the residency workshops...



of Interact artists **FELT THAT THEY GREW AS ARTISTS**

"My focus, dedication, and practicing showed the kids what I could do. It showed that I don't give up."
- INTERACT ARTIST



of Interact artists **FELT MORE CONFIDENT IN THEIR ABILITIES TO LEAD A GROUP OF PEOPLE**

"I feel more comfortable and confident every time I do this."
- INTERACT ARTIST

Of Interact's company of about 90 artists, 9 helped to co-lead the residency. Each Interact artist specializes in the visual or performing arts, and has a disability of some kind.

Of the **11 COMMUNITY ARTISTS** who co-led the residency workshops...



of community artists **FELT THAT THEY GREW AS ARTISTS**

"It was very meaningful to inspire creative energy in the classroom. I am grateful for being able to use my skills and abilities to create a dynamic story."
- COMMUNITY ARTIST



of community artists said they **LEARNED MORE ABOUT DISABILITY**

"It was meaningful to see the unique ways each Interact artist connected to the students. Some stepped into clear roles as leaders and teachers, while others found every opportunity to encourage and model techniques for the students."
- COMMUNITY ARTIST



of community artists said they **WERE MORE COMMITTED TO MAKING THEIR OWN ART ACCESSIBLE TO PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

"Any time I am able to commune with artists from varying backgrounds, it is incredibly meaningful and beneficial to my learning and growth - both as an artist and as an educator."
- COMMUNITY ARTIST

Community artists worked in pairs to provide visual, performing, and literary arts learning instruction, with assistance from Interact artists.