

ARTSPLUS • Arts-in-Education Program

ARTSPLUS is an arts-in-education program directed and taught by **Andrea Ariel, Artistic Director of Andrea Ariel Dance Theatre**, based in Austin, TX. Founded in 1995, the program follows the belief that creativity is essential to nurture and develop the whole child.

ARTSPLUS is available for programs in schools and community centers. A specific program is designed by working closely with the needs and goals of principals, teachers, and program directors for grade levels PreK-12.

ARTSPLUS offers a unique experience aimed to empower students to explore realities, relationships, and ideas through creative dance, music and theater. The program advances learning by incorporating TEKS subjects in math, science, language, and social studies. This diverse content engages and motivates students through active learning, critical thinking, and innovative problem solving. **ARTSPLUS** crosses disciplines and furthers student progress in learning dance, music, and theater as well as their academic achievement using creative movement and theater structures. The program provides a foundation and vehicle for physical development, well-being, and creative expression integrating learning in other academic contents and disciplines, individually and in groups, while fully supporting SEL.



For program planning and pricing please contact: Andrea Ariel, Artistic Director and Teacher
512.423.0457
andrea@arieldance.org

• Classroom Residencies & Master Classes

Residencies can be a one-day workshop or a program held 1-6x's per week for grade levels PreK-12 for 1-12 weeks.

The program can follow our dance/creative movement-based curriculum or be focused on a particular theme focused on a TEKS academic subject.

Examples of possible themes – or create your own! (A specific theme is not necessary to do the program.)

Energy, Force & Motion – Through movement we will explore different forms of energy, various kinds of force, as well as mass, matter and gravity including magnetic force and simple machines.

Organisms & Their Environments – Our creative investigations will explore everything about nature including flowers, plants, butterflies, bees, animals and their habitats, as well as food chains and different biomes of the world.

Our Solar System – As space travelers, students will explore the different planets and their terrains, the sun, moon, and stars as well as rotation, orbits, gravity and constellations.

An Ocean's View – Dives into a deep exploration of everything about oceans including learning about the ocean zones, sea animals and plants, ocean biomes and food chains.

• Large Group Assembly Workshops & Company Performances/Lecture Demonstrations

Bring together multiple classes for a large group movement workshop, company performance, or lecture demonstration that will provide an interactive and learning experience for students of all grade levels. *To work out details, please contact Director, Andrea Ariel.*

• Choreography for Programs for Student Performances

Choreography or movement staging for any theme, subject, play or musical will be created with students for performances by the students. *To work out details, please contact Director, Andrea Ariel.*

• Professional Development for Teachers

ARTSPLUS offers professional development for teachers through workshops and co-teaching curriculums in the classroom with defined goals that lead to sharing strategies for using movement and other structures to enhance learning across all subjects.

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FOUNDATIONS

Through observation and perception, inquiry and understanding, ARTSPLUS creates the foundations from which students will develop a perception of self, relationships to others and the world. By gathering information from subjects using the senses, students have the opportunity to react to sensory experiences, such as sight or sound, through physical and dramatic play. Students will develop awareness of the body's movement using this sensory information while moving/dancing, and demonstrate basic kinesthetic and spatial awareness individually and in groups.

The program identifies the concepts of wellness for healthy lifestyles and demonstrates body science applications through dance genres, styles and vocabulary. Students will also explore and demonstrate dance movement elements through space, energy and time; and identify and explore concepts of line, shape, color, texture and form through movement.

By gaining an understanding of principles of design, including repetition/pattern, movement/rhythm, and balance - visually, musically and through movement - students will identify similarities, differences and variations in movement, sound and visual stimulus, and the environment through the senses. They will identify same/different beats/rhythms, louder/softer, faster/slower and other musical patterns including changes in tempo, dynamics, contrast and repetition, and rhythmic/structural patterns in movement.

Through this program students will develop self-awareness, and awareness of human relationships, and the environment through physical and dramatic play; they will explore space using expressive movement; imitate sounds integrated with movement expression; imitate and recreate objects in physical/dramatic play.

CREATIVE EXPRESSION

Students will develop creative expression by communicating in physical form and engaging in artistic thinking, while building positive self-concepts, relating interpersonally and integrating knowledge with other content areas. This can include communication of ideas through original movement exploration and creation, and expression of creative thoughts and ideas by the invention of movement and images that combine concepts of lines, shapes, textures, forms, space and relationship to other in space. At all levels this leads to an exploration of composition elements, improvisational skills and choreographic processes. This is furthered by movement studies using rhythmic skills and spatial directions; exploring and demonstrating expressions of ideas or emotions individually and in groups.



ARTSPLUS fosters reflective thinking, and supports the development of disciplined effort and progressive problem-solving skills. The program utilizes both gross and fine locomotor and non-locomotor movement skills, alone and with others, and also in relation to a varied repertoire of music.

HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL RELEVANCE

ARTSPLUS aims to increase the students understanding of heritage, traditions and diversity of the world. The curriculum identifies the use of art in everyday life and relates movement and dance concepts to other disciplines. It develops awareness and sensitivity to differing experiences and opinions by interpreting stories, content and meanings in a variety of stimuli.

Students will explore diverse cultural and historical experiences through fables, myths, or fairytales in physical and dramatic play. They will have the opportunity to recognize the cultural significance of dance and theater by identifying historical figures and their contributions to history. By interpreting movement characteristics of historical and cultural dance and physical theater forms, they can come to recognize a dance or theater style representative of one's heritage or environment.



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PROGRAM EVALUATION

Evaluations of the ARTSPLUS programs are conducted by Andrea Ariel with teachers' participation. Students can be assessed on a scale of 1-5 at the beginning and end of the program to measure their development, improvement and advancement of skills and concepts introduced.

Evaluation of content and skills includes creative thinking, improvisational skills used to explore different elements/ content, body awareness and articulation, body moves exploring qualitative distinctions, spatial awareness, understanding of locomotor/non-locomotor movement, understanding of time (rhythm, tempo, accent, duration, etc.), the understanding of force, weight and flow of movement and in relation to time, learning and composing with rhythmic patterns in relationship to music and other content, communication and cooperation with others while working with partners and in small and large groups, taking opportunities and testing out leadership abilities, engagement of inquiry and dialogue and accepting constructive criticism toward promoting creative and critical thinking. Additionally, there will be an evaluation by classroom teachers of Ms. Ariel and the program regarding effectiveness, communication and accomplishment of specified goals.



More About ANDREA ARIEL

Andrea Ariel is the Artistic Director of Andrea Ariel Dance Theatre and a teacher of dance, creative movement and theater for children and adults for over 30 years. She holds a Master of Fine Arts in Dance from the University of Illinois where she was the recipient of the Creative and Performing Arts Fellowship Award. Since 1995, Andrea has developed and taught many arts-in-education programs including The Self-Portrait Project and ARTSPLUS held in Austin, Texas at Brooke, Metz, Lee, and Rosewood elementary schools and also at affordable housing community centers including Fairway Village and Oak Creek Village. Recent programs include Brentwood, Highland Park, Summit, Widén, Linder, Joslin, and Hart elementary schools. From 2004-2019, she was the Lead Teacher and Supervisor at Creative Arts Studio in Brooklyn, NY, developing and teaching creative dance and theater curriculums for summer programs while also leading a Junior Counselor Program for 11-14 yr. olds. She served as the Creative Director for Austin's Leap of Joy, Care to Dance program from 2015-2022. As a teaching artist on the Texas Commission on the Arts Touring Roster, Andrea taught a three-week residency with 5th graders for the Paris, TX Independent School District. Her other teaching credits include the DanceReach Program at University of California-Santa Cruz; University of Illinois, Champaign County Schools Gifted Performing Arts Program; Texas State University; Austin Community College; and the University of Texas in Austin.

Contact:

Andrea Ariel, Artistic Director and Teacher
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ARTSPLUS • Arts-in-Education Program**Previous Experience:**

ARTSPLUS programs have been previously held at Brooke, Lee and Metz Austin ISD Elementary Schools for 1-12 week residencies beginning in 1995. Over the years, Ms. Ariel has taught some of the same students from kindergarten through 5th grade and has experienced their advancement over this time. David Huff and Kathryn Stuart at Lee Elementary developed one of their Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills curriculums through material they learned from Ms. Ariel's residencies with their combined PE/Music classes.

Recent programs include Barbara Jordan, Linder, Widén, Perez, Joslin, and Hart (Title 1 Schools), Brentwood and Highland Park Elem. grades PreK-4th (CLI Arts Partner), and a Dance Across Austin after-school dance program at Northwest Rec Center.

Testimonials:

"Ms. Ariel's curriculum is based upon the shared concepts and vocabularies of dance and music. The children are encouraged to explore movement and dance in a safe and nurturing classroom environment and challenged to express their artistic and academic creativity. The children at Lee Elementary have greatly benefited from Ms. Ariel's program. They are more confident in their artistic abilities and more secure in taking risks. Ms. Ariel has a teaching style that is captivating for the students. They embrace the concepts and creativity that she introduces and take it to the next level. Student's enthusiasm level is at an all time high! They understand how to express themselves physically and with their own unique personalities in a free flowing environment with no expectations to impede desire. Ms. Ariel is so well organized, and she has a natural way with children to bring out the best in them."



"Ms. Ariel's program also provides exposure to an art form that is not accessible to all students. Learning from working artists who serve as role models, as well as teachers, further enriches the children. Ariel Dance Theatre has strengthened the P.E. and Music programs at Lee Elementary. The students were very excited, enthusiastic and engaged from the moment they walked into the gym until it was time to be dismissed. Ms. Ariel is always developing new ways to teach and get the children fully immersed and involved. I've work with Ms. Ariel for over 10 years and I always enjoy her creative, professional style of teaching. She is a natural when it comes to teaching children. Her style of tapping into their creative minds and abilities is a joy to watch. I only wish we could have Ms. Ariel longer."

David Huff, P.E. Coach, Lee Elementary

"Concepts of music and physical education are reinforced in the program, which also led to the students' understanding of connections to science, math, and other academic subjects through movement. Ms. Ariel is a very enthusiastic instructor and her passion for her work is evident in her teaching. Students are always excited to be involved in the program. The instruction helps to reinforce the state TEKS music, art, and P.E. The children learn to work together, collaborate ideas and improvise for different activities. It encourages creative thinkers. We love having Ms. Ariel, and hope to see her again next year!"

Regina Mabry, Metz Elementary

"Ms. Ariel's teaching leads students to let go of inhibitions and become highly engaged. Students become more overt - even the introverted ones. The explorations of space, movements with their bodies, and movement in space with each other was all very cool. Ms. Ariel works so well and communicates so well with the students - they are all engaged! I wish we could have the program for more days and more time each time Ms. Ariel comes. Fabulous program!"

Kathryn Stuart, Music Teacher, Lee Elementary

"Thank you so much for dancing with our Bulldogs and teaching them science in a creative and engaging way! We are so thankful and will miss you! We loved having you in second grade and look forward to seeing you again."

Lia Nudelman, Highland Park elementary