



For Immediate Release

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Media Release

Music around the world at St. Andrews Math and Science

**St. Andrews School for Math and
Science**

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Charleston, SC – Infusing arts into education is a passion for Vickie Klatt, Teacher of the Year at St. Andrews School of Math and Science. Formerly a teacher at an arts academy in Greenville, SC, she saw first hand the benefits to implementing various methods of learning.

Klatt is in her second year at St. Andrews and wanted to share her passion for the arts with her third-grade students. The idea of bringing in an artist-in-residence came to fruition thanks to a grant she recently received from the South Carolina Arts Commission which receives support from the National Endowment for the Arts.

With the grant money, Klatt was able to contract with Jeff Holland, owner/founder of drum4work to host almost a week worth of classes called “Music Around the World.”

“Geography is our new third grade curriculum this year and his musical instruction goes hand-in-hand with what we’re learning about in different parts of the world, the diverse cultures, and music,” said Klatt. “Music Around the World also has a STEAM component and Mr. Holland uses artifacts, various forms of dress, and musical instruments to demonstrate how others around the world live and interact. He educates the students about the importance of music in many different cultures, especially the use of percussion instruments. His program ties in with our science and math curriculum and reinforces what we’re doing here in our classrooms. Mr. Holland has given our students the opportunity to connect to their own cultures, as well as with the wider world.”

Students were able to play instruments all while learning about other human societies. Even virtual students were able to enjoy Holland’s “journey around the world” via ZOOM.

Holland is the school’s first-ever artist-in-residence, and Klatt was awarded another grant for a visual arts instructor to come next school year.

“The students love this type of learning. It reaches students who might not otherwise be engaged in the classroom,” said Klatt. “Learning through the arts helps increase a broader understanding of a subject area and fosters a greater appreciation for the arts. It really touches those kids who might be shy or who can make a connection to what is being taught. You just never know what kind of lasting impression the arts can have on a child.”

For more information, contact the Office of Strategy and Communications at (843) 937-6303.

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About the Charleston County School District

Charleston County School District (CCSD) is a nationally-accredited school district that is committed to providing equitable and quality educational opportunities for all of its students. CCSD is the second-largest school system in South Carolina and represents a unique blend of urban, suburban, and rural schools spanning 1,300 square miles along the coast. CCSD serves more than 50,000 students in 87 schools and specialized programs.

CCSD offers a diverse, expanding portfolio of options and specialized programs, delivered through neighborhood, magnet, IB (international baccalaureate), Montessori, and charter schools. Options include programs in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); music and other creative and performing arts; career and technical preparation programs; and military.