

The Arts and Innovation Magnet Program receives grant funding from Georgia Council for the Arts

ATLANTA, Nov. 13, 2020—The Arts and Innovation Magnet Program(AIM) was awarded a Vibrant Communities Grant for fiscal year 2021 from Georgia Council for the Arts, a division of the Georgia Department of Economic Development (GDEcD). The Vibrant Communities Grant supports a variety of arts programming opportunities in communities. AIM is one of 70 entities in 53 counties that received more than \$285,000 in funding as part of this year’s awards.

“A thriving arts community creates thousands of jobs and contributes to a healthy and diverse economy. Georgia Council for the Arts is proud to continue to support our state’s arts organizations through the distribution of Vibrant Communities Grants,” said GDEcD Commissioner Pat Wilson. “The arts community needs our support more than ever, and this funding offers immediate assistance in facilitating arts programs that provide meaningful experiences for Georgians.”

AIM is a 6th and 7th grade lottery based magnet program in the Barrow County School System. The program focuses on arts integration and project based learning to engage students in authentic, engaging, problem based learning. The program is open to all middle school students in the school system who apply to attend and are chosen by random lottery. The program is locally funded and relies heavily on donations and grants such as the Vibrant Communities Grant.

The grant will provide professional learning for teachers and lessons for students, by Shannon Green, a local teaching artist and consultant in the area of visual arts. Ms. Green and the teachers at the AIM program will identify key STEM content standards and create lessons and for students. The lessons will be published and disseminated across the school district, state, and nation.

Following precedent set by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), Georgia Council for the Arts used Peer Review Panels to adjudicate applications. These panels included fellow professionals who are experienced in the arts discipline or type of grant being reviewed, or are Georgia citizens with a record of involvement in arts activities, experience and knowledge.

Georgia’s creative industries have a [reported](#) \$62.5 billion impact on the economy, generating roughly \$37 billion in revenue and accounting for about 200,000 jobs in the state.

Click [here](#) to view the recipients of the fiscal year 2021 Vibrant Communities and Cultural Facilities grants.

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About Georgia Council for the Arts

Georgia Council for the Arts (GCA) is a division of the Georgia Department of Economic Development whose mission is to cultivate the growth of vibrant, thriving Georgia communities through the arts. GCA provides grant funding, programs and services statewide that support the vital arts industry, preserve the state’s cultural heritage, increase tourism and nurture strong communities. Funding for Georgia Council for the Arts is provided by appropriations from the Georgia General Assembly and the National Endowment for the Arts.

About the Georgia Department of Economic Development

The Georgia Department of Economic Development (GDEcD) plans, manages and mobilizes state resources to attract new business investment to Georgia, drive the expansion of existing industry and small business, locate new markets for Georgia products, inspire tourists to visit Georgia and promote the state as a top destination for arts events and film, music and digital entertainment projects.