


2011-1012 Featured Grantee Summary

<p>Grantee Name:</p> <p>Angela Winters</p> <p>Title of Project:</p> <p>Teacher Incentive Grant Silk Road to China— Textile Community Project</p> <p>City, State: Norfolk, Virginia</p> <p>Grant Period: June 2011-June 2012</p> <p>Project Contact: Angela Winters</p> <p><u>Telephone Number:</u> 757.625.4780</p> <p><u>Email:</u> akwinters@nps.k12.va.us</p> <p>NAEF Grant Amount: \$827 (Teacher Incentive)</p> <p>Related Webpage:</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p><i>Tieyone Sunkins Silk Butterfly Design</i></p>	<p>Project Description: Students completed an overview of Ancient Chinese art, architecture and artifacts. We brainstormed objects found in nature to inspire works of art as students began the planning process for the silk project. Students studied a variety of batik and textile artists' styles and ideas. Students worked through the entire art process from sketching ideas to a finished silk project for display.</p> <p>Project Goals and Objectives: 1—Students identified how works of art and architecture reflect cultures, historical aspects, regions and the surrounding landscape. 2 – Students worked to create a work of art that reflected the contributions of the Ancient Chinese civilization. 3 – Students examined common attributes in works of art produced by artists within one culture and then compared them to our local artists. 4 – Students used personal art experiences to develop their own voice in their works of art. 5 – Students worked to develop a series of art using a variety of mediums. </p> <p>Description of Activities Supported by this Grant. Students had the opportunity to visit the Ancient Chinese exhibit at the Chrysler Museum of Fine Arts with a detailed lecture from museum staff containing several items made of silk. While at the museum students sketched ideas and took notes to develop their beginning ideas for a silk batik project.</p> <p>Students viewed a presentation that focused on art, architecture and inventions from Ancient China and modern batik artists from a variety of cultures. Students discussed rituals and methods for making art during ancient times in China and in their community during the present. Students went outside to sketch ideas for their projects using nature as their inspiration. Students worked on large project size paper to create an actual size line drawing for their batik design. Students placed the paper design under the wood frame *(I build enough wood frames so each child in one class could use a frame for an extended period of time) holding their 21" x 21" silk scarf. The silk was held on the frame with tacks *(after several attempts to try a variety of attachment methods that were affordable). Students applied liquid wax on the lines of their drawings and allowed the wax to dry. The liquid was safe and much easier to apply than applying hot bee wax. Color lessons explored using mixing techniques, use of warm or cool colors on subject area and on the background. Students also explored textile dye and the variety of applications using brushed, droppers, wet blending and adding additives such as salt to use our learning standard...using unanticipated results.</p> <p>Student work was placed on display and enjoyed by our school community during special events such as the Fine Arts Festival, Parent Programs after school and during the school day by all students in the building.</p>
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Results: Lessons Learned

Our Silk Road to China created a great learning experience. The ability to apply new knowledge using silk batik created a memorable experience that sparked excitement throughout the school. Students could see the results of their new knowledge, making connections between, art, history, research, planning and execution of the design, creating their own unique visual literacy. The most important learning experience developed within this project is the understanding of how other cultures influence and connect everything that we do. Ultimately art defines who we are and builds new ideas for the future. An article in SchoolArts Magazine May issue highlights the project, so we can share our positive learning experiences.

Impact of Receiving this Grant: Each and every student was focused and excited throughout the entire process. They gained historical knowledge, learned to use new materials and learned new skills and methods for a variety of processes. The lesson was a powerful learning experience. Learning is about making connections and once students understand the connections they understand the content and are able to apply that knowledge to everyday experience. This project taught students to think through the processes and apply their knowledge in a variety of situations. As an educator, we discuss the learning process: in math there is only one right answer and in art the possibilities are limitless. The lesson encourages use of higher level thinking skills and application of knowledge through connections. Viewers were amazement as the beautiful gem colors glistened with the light shining through the silk. Creating excitement and enthusiasm will hopefully create a love of learning and encourage students to continue their education and make connections for their future growth.

Grantee Biography: Angela Winters teaches with Norfolk Public Schools in Norfolk Virginia. She also works as a visiting artist and adjunct faculty member in Theatre and Film with Old Dominion University. She is a life long learner and continues to share her new knowledge through innovative learning challenges in the classroom. While her main art interests include textiles and glass, she continues to explore new techniques including animation, printing, digital media, weaving, and ceramic mosaics at her Wyoming art studio. She is member of the Virginia Art Education Association Board and the 2012-13 VAEA Elementary Art Educator of the Year. Angela has been honored with numerous awards including: NPS School Board Commendation of Distinction, NAEF SHIP Grant, NAEF Teacher Incentive Grant, NAEF Teacher Research Grant, Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Aviation Teachers Grant, United Nations Peace One Day art quilt project, and The National Park Foundation National Christmas Tree Display for the Commonwealth of Virginia in Washington D.C.

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National Art Education Foundation

1806 Robert Fulton Drive, Suite 300, Reston, VA 20191

t: 703-860-8000 • e: naef@arteducators.org • f: 703-860-2960 • w: www.arteducators.org/naef