



**SummerVisionDC**  
Professional Learning in the Nation's Capital  
July 18-21, 2017 | Washington, DC

# SummerVision DC 2017: Eight Years of Museum Boot-Camp Expands a Professional Learning Community

In July, 24 SummerVision DC educators traveled to Washington, DC, from 16 states for a museum boot-camp experience that explored the breadth of eight DC art museums. Since 2010, SummerVision has been experienced by over 292 visual arts and other educators, representing teaching levels ranging from K-12 to higher education, arts organizations, and museums. Taking advantage of summer break to gain a new creative and reflective perspective and to develop “new eyes” within an evolving professional learning community (PLC), participants engaged in multidisciplinary arts connections as they experienced the rich offerings of DC museums.



Carol Henry, Lead Interpreter, and Renee Sandell, Director.

Designed to help participants gain first-hand knowledge about using the museum as an educational resource, SummerVision DC (SVDC) 2017, directed by Renee Sandell with Carole Henry as lead interpreter, provided an intensive expeditionary learning experience through on-site, object-specific explorations of artwork and behind-the-scenes examination of the museum itself as a work of art. The program is guided by Henry's text *The Museum Experience: The Discovery of Meaning* (NAEA, 2010) and Sandell's Form+Theme+Context (FTC)<sup>™</sup> Palette for Decoding Art and Museums as Works of Art. Using *Marking & Mapping*<sup>™</sup> to link studio experience with critical response, participants visually documented the learning process utilizing a “Portable Studio” with materials from SVDC sponsors Blick Art Materials, Canson, and Sax School Specialty.

Museum educators led interactive tours and conducted activities that inspired SVDC participant experiences, expanding possibilities for the classroom and future museum visits. In 2017, museum learning sites and museum educators included the National Gallery of Art (Elisa Patterson, Marjorie Johnson), the new National Museum of African Art (Deborah Stokes), National Museum of African American History and Culture (Kayleigh Bryant-Greenwell, Loren Miller), National Museum of Women in the Arts (Deborah Gaston, Adrienne Gayoso, Ashley Harris), The Phillips Collection (Donna Jonte), National Building Museum (Theresa Esterlund, Caitlin Miller), Smithsonian American Art Museum (Elizabeth Dale-Deines, Geoffrey Cohrs), and National Portrait Gallery (Geraldine Provost Lyons, Vanessa Jones). Each museum provided participants with useful educator packets.

Blended learning and social media continues to support our evolving professional learning community. Using Facebook ([www.facebook.com/groups/160602843997493/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/160602843997493/)) to connect before, during, and after the four-day intensive experience, participants shared photographs, visual journals, and insights, with plans to meet at state and national conferences, including the SVDC reunion at the 2018 NAEA Convention in Seattle. Plan to join us next July 17-20 for SVDC 2018 and become a part of this professional learning community.

—Renee Sandell, SummerVision Director

For more information on SummerVision DC, visit <http://naea.digication.com/SummerVisionDC/Home//> and [www.arteducators.org/events/summervision-dc](http://www.arteducators.org/events/summervision-dc)



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