



Bridging the Divisional Gap: Misconceptions and Challenges of Working across Grade Levels

This session will initiate building a bridge between the following divisions: Preservice, Elementary, Middle, and Secondary. Preservice students and current art educators will be presented with resources and strategies necessary for transitioning into the art education field or between the grade school divisions from experienced practicing teachers. Attendees will be encouraged to explore their misconceptions, grade level practices, and opinions pertaining to working with all students K-12. Participation will ensure gaining insight on current issues, the receipt of knowledge that will address concerns, as well as discovery of a potential pathway to assist with a smooth transition into teaching at any grade level.

The session will consist of a forum of a teacher representative within each division and a moderator from the Preservice division. Each presenter will provide an overview of working within their perspective grade level(s), this over view may include: an exploration of best practices for developing success in the classroom through behavior management, assessment, skill levels, tenure, evaluations, scheduling, and student teaching. Secondly, the moderator of the session will ask the panelists predetermined questions based on how their respective divisions can assist with offering support and guidance throughout times of transition. Attendees will take part in a Q&A, providing the opportunity to ask questions related to working within the Elementary, Middle, and Secondary grade levels.

As the field of arts education is constantly evolving and changing, the need for versatility amongst all grade levels is a need that will be beneficial to all art educators. These changes include but are not limited to: teaching & learning styles, curriculum mapping K-12, leadership, and collaboration across art focus areas. Preservice and current teachers of the arts have an opportunity to add to their professional development by acquiring K-12 information and experiences. Grasping the understanding that we can teach all if we are versed and knowledgeable about whom and what we are teaching. Fear, misbelief, and timely opportunities can assist in creating a blockade, and limit experiences for both students and teachers. With this in mind, this session is designed to encourage and empower art educators of all levels to take on challenges, excel in their teaching, and share their knowledge with students of all grade levels. Building a bridge between the divisions of K-12 Art Education is about ensuring success, mentoring, and conquering misconceptions associated with such a transition.

Preservice

A forum of teachers working within Elementary, Middle, and Secondary divisions will provide knowledge, support, and guidance through best practices and individualized question responses related to their respective age groups.

Flash Learning; 50 minutes