



## Our teaching artists weigh in:

*Giving our students the opportunity to be creative sparks joy. The activities in a **Global Arts** workshop engage the students' minds, hearts, and spirits. This creative process keeps the students focused and present. Through participating in **Global Arts**, students realize that they have the agency to shape their futures as well.*

Laurine Towler, Theater

*The arts and artistic expression are powerful ways to heal from all kinds of trauma, and to find avenues of communication - whether verbal, non-verbal, or physical - to describe and discover oneself. Exposing children to **Global Arts** specifically allows them to explore a whole new artistic language and vocabulary, which provides new ways for them to tap into their creativity and freedom of expression.*

Devika Bhise, Classical Indian Dance & Music

*Our workshops support the idea of equity, diversity and inclusion by turning each group into a village. We have the students create an original name for their village and we emphasize the importance of each individual by getting as much input as possible from everyone. A village needs many different gifts and talents to function.*

Caren Calder, Women of the Calabash

We are here to partner with you and to be a resource for your teachers and students. **Together, we can harness the power of the arts to engage, inspire, and build community.**

Please visit our website at

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Dear Friend:

**Symphony Space and the Global Arts program want you to know that we are here to partner with you in building a creative and restorative school experience for your students.**

### What is Global Arts?

**Global Arts: Cultural Literacy & Heritage** is a passport to the world that brings the arts of diverse peoples and cultures into students' lives. Using the arts as primary source documents rich in information about the people who created them, we conduct in-school and virtual hands-on workshops, interactive assemblies, afterschool programs, and community events. We engage students of all ages and abilities through authentic experiences in the music, dance, storytelling, theater, and art of **Africa, Asia, Latin America, Native America,** and **Early America.**

Our professional artists are expert teachers—passionate guides to and ambassadors of the cultures they represent—and our program has been a champion of equity, diversity, and inclusion since 1980. We partner with teachers and students to deepen cultural understanding of traditions and their influences on today's culture through critical thinking, collaboration, creativity, and communication.

*When **Global Arts** draws connections between social studies, writing, and the arts, our students get a learning experience that they wouldn't otherwise have access to—in class or at home. When students learn a new dance, they are developing coordination skills; when they learn a new song, they are practicing presentation skills; and when they write an original piece in a group, they are cultivating team building skills.*

Kathlyn Wilson, Teacher, Arts Coordinator at PS 235/Lenox Academy

### Why Global Arts and Why Now?

**Global Arts** plants seeds for a lifelong love of learning. Students' and teachers' voices matter, and we listen. We know the pandemic has been an extraordinarily challenging time for everyone, most especially our students. We are committed to working together to make school a healing and joyous experience. How can **Global Arts** help students recover their emotional balance and love of learning?