

**Goldin Foundation for Excellence in Education**  
***Exemplary Projects Awards***

The following Exemplary Projects are recognized for their outstanding contributions in classrooms, schools, and communities. They may serve as sources of inspiration for replication and/or adaptation in your school districts or communities. Information includes description, vision, process, audiences served, and recommendations for implementation.

Exemplary Awards recipients are willing to share further information about their projects. They may be available for professional development, consultation, and modeling, to be individually arranged. (See "Contact" information.) Please use the links to connect to profiles of the projects.

***Baby Brain Connection: Parenting for Early Childhood Literacy***, a special project of the Goldin Foundation for Excellence in Education, is a train the trainer model for 1) Parent Providers and 2) Parents of babies and toddlers that provide background information about *Early Brain Development* and ideas and activities for *Talking, Playing & Interacting*, and *Reading*.

***Chautauqua Institution Arts Education***, a year-round arts education resource for youth, teachers and families in Chautauqua County, N.Y. and neighboring communities, provides authentic, inspirational, and engaging artistic experiences in drama, music, play writing, literature, opera and visual arts.

***Residencies for Exceptional Students*** offer underserved students with disabilities extended engagement and experiences with music and the arts.

***Battle of the Books*** is a lively academic competition that improves reading comprehension, builds vocabulary, and teaches teamwork and good sportsmanship.

***Professional Development for Teachers*** offers professional development workshops in which arts integrated teaching techniques are described and modeled, and also include observations by Master Teaching Artists in schools.

***Opera Invasion in the Schools*** provides immersive experiences in opera, making opera more accessible, using arts integration techniques to advance learning standards in music and English Language Arts.

***The Climate Literacy and Energy Awareness Network (CLEAN)*** addresses the societal impacts of a changing climate by supporting educators and their students in teaching climate and energy topics effectively. CLEAN is co-lead by a team from the University of Colorado, Boulder, the Science Education Resource Center at Carleton College and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

***Cleveland Public Theatre*** in Cleveland, Ohio, has two major projects that promote performing arts, literacy, and personal and interpersonal skills.

***Brick City Theatre*** is an afterschool and summer performing arts and academic enrichment program for over 500 children ages 5-14 living in public housing. The on-site program promotes children's positive sense of self and community through exposure to the performing arts.

***Student Theatre Enrichment Program (STEP)***, the longest-running arts-based education and workforce development program in Cleveland, has served over 1,000 at-risk inner-city teens, primarily African-Americans, for 22 years to write their own brand-new play and perform it on tour across the city.

The ***Education Foundation of Sarasota County: Technology and Innovation Initiatives*** in Sarasota, Florida invests in innovative programs and initiatives that enrich the learning experience for countless students and teachers. Technology and Innovation are integrated into its many initiatives and have evolved through the years to adapt to 21<sup>st</sup>-century education demands and help prepare Sarasota County students for college, careers and beyond.

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**Facing History and Ourselves**, Brookline, MA, integrates history, literature, and human behavior with ethical decision making and innovative teaching strategies to enable secondary school teachers to promote students' historical understanding and connections to current events, critical thinking, and social emotional learning.

**Kids4PeaceBoston (K4PB)**, a regional program in Boston, MA, educates, trains, and inspires Christian, Jewish, and Muslim youth from diverse backgrounds, ages 12-18, to become interfaith peace leaders. K4PB creates opportunities for both youth and their families to build relationships from across faith and other boundaries and become ambassadors for coexistence and justice.

**Kids4Peace Jerusalem** is a grassroots interfaith youth movement dedicated to ending conflict and inspiring hope in Jerusalem and other divided societies around the world. It brings Jewish, Christian, and Muslim youth of Jerusalem and their families together, to create a community of leaders acting for lasting change.

**Learning in Concert** is an educational outreach program of the New Bedford Symphony Orchestra in New Bedford MA, that provides local schools with authentic, concept-based arts integration learning experiences designed around shared concepts that connect classical music to other subject areas across the curriculum.

**Needham's Art in Bloom**: a collaboration between Needham, MA High School Art Department and Beth Shalom Garden Club creating a free community event showcasing student artwork with floral interpretations by garden club members. All are showcased for a weekend at the local library and other town facilities. This event attracts an ever-increasing community audience.

**Norwood High School Global Citizenship Program** in Norwood, MA provides students global awareness and competency in 21<sup>st</sup> century skills, integrating academic achievement, co-curricular activities, community service, and international travel.

**Reach Incorporated** in Washington D.C., is an out-of-school time program through which teens, who struggle with reading, are hired as elementary school literacy tutors and supported in becoming children's book authors, resulting in reading improvement for both the elementary school students and their teen tutors.

**Sinamune** in Quito, Ecuador provides musical education, training, therapy, and participation in an orchestra for children and young adults having special needs.

The **Summer Reading Program at the Boston Arts Academy (BAA)** in Boston, MA, is a 5-week intensive intervention that takes talented high school students and artists who are reading *years* below grade level, and empowers them to develop their reading skills from 1 to 4 grade levels in 1 summer.

**Urban Improv** in Jamaica Plain, MA uses interactive theater workshops and improvisation to teach violence prevention, conflict resolution, decision making, and impulse control. The program's innovative curriculum helps students deal creatively with major issues in their lives; it is truly a rehearsal for life.

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**Wellesley Centers for Women** is a research and action institute at Wellesley College, MA, which advances gender equality, youth education, social justice, and human wellbeing.

**NIOST**, the National Institute on Out-of-School Time, a program of Wellesley Centers for Women at Wellesley College, continues to support the healthy development and wellbeing of children, youth, families and

communities by improving the quality, availability, and sustainability of programs during out-of-school time, including before school, afterschool, expanded learning time, summer, camp, and vacations.

**Open Circle**, a program of the Wellesley Centers for Women at Wellesley College, provides a unique, evidence-based **social and emotional learning program** for grades K-5 that 1) proactively develops children's skills for recognizing and managing emotions, empathy, positive relationships and problem solving, and 2) helps schools develop a community where students feel safe, cared for and engaged in learning.

**The National SEED Project** (Seeking Equity and Diversity) is a 31-year leader in peer-led professional development that promotes greater equity, diversity, and positive change from within organizations for more equitable schools campuses, workplaces, and communities.

**Work, Families, and Children**: For more than 25 years, the Work, Families and Children research group (WFC) has studied the lives of children and adults, and the workplaces, early care and education programs and families in which they live, work and grow. Based on this research, WFC has developed innovative programs and materials for practitioners, policymakers and advocates.

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