This week’s Tennessee Arts Academy was awesome, amazing, inspiring and life-changing.

I feel that this is the single most well planned and executed PD I’ve attended in my 15 years in education.

I came with an open mind and I am leaving with a full heart! Thank you!

This is the single greatest opportunity for all (not just arts) teachers. It inspires creativity, introspection, passion, compassion, reflection and collaboration. It reminds us why we do what we do and helps us to continue to grow so that we may spread our love and knowledge with others.

WWWOOOWWZZZAAA!!!

Each year the Academy refills the cup of teachers and lets them know that while we may be islands in our schools we are not islands in the world. We are the core.

Thank you for always re-charging my batteries and helping to prepare me for the coming year. I’m ready to head into the upcoming work!

Thank you for your dedication in finding generous, knowledgeable individuals who graciously spend their time and talent with us. They feed our souls and fuel our teaching!

This incredible educational experience has been transcendent, transformative and has prepared me to go back to the classroom with new skills and creativity and on fire to spread the arts.

This week has allowed me the ambition to continue teaching music for many more years to come! Thank you!

Sooo phenomenal! I’m so sad it’s over. It is like five days of excellent arts camp for adults in the summer! Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!!!!

It’s an experience of a lifetime!

Musings - - Wonderful combination of serious, funny, talented, insightful, stimulating, and MORE. Loved them ALL!

The administrative preparation and implementation of TAA is second to none. Helpfulness, energetic, positive, and involved/engaged sets the tone!!

This has been transformative; I feel recharged and ready for the year.

Tennessee Arts Academy was a wonderful experience. I felt so valued and appreciated, and my passion has been recharged by the knowledgeable, engaging, fun presenters. Thank you so much for this experience!

Thank You for making me feel like everything and anything is possible with and for my students! I AND THEY “CAN” Fly!

TAA was wonderful! Uplifting, re-fueling, simply amazing!
TAA has become essential to me. At this point, I can’t imagine starting the year without attending. Thank you for the inspiration.

TAA is always the BEST way to get excited, invigorated, and inspired for the upcoming year! Thank you for all you do.

Each year I ask, “How can they make it better?” And each year they do!

Art teacher heaven on Earth!

Best investment I ever made! This is my happy place.

One of the best conferences I’ve ever attended!! The TAA is in a league of its own.

I always leave TAA as a better person. The experiences at the Academy are rejuvenating – even life-changing.

TAA reignites my creative flame. It starts my school year off encouraged!

TAA is the most relevant, refreshing, and rewarding professional development. If there is a way, I will always attend TAA!

TN Arts Academy is an amazing program. What better way to learn and grow as an educator than to put yourself into the shoes of your students and experience it from their view. Thank you for this!

I feel so rejuvenated every year after TAA, like I can tackle another school year!

I leave TAA feeling informed, inspired, energized, and appreciated.

TAA gave me community, inspiration, encouragement, and education. EVERY STATE NEEDS AN ARTS ACADEMY.

We are extremely fortunate to have this opportunity at T.A.A. This week is the best value for fine arts professional development we can get. Every year, I have new tools in my classroom toolbox to use. Thanks to all who work to make this week happen.

TAA always is a vehicle in which to recharge my soul, spirit, mind and body.

A great group of teachers

Once again, TAA has served to recharge me as an individual and prepare me as a professional.

Teachers are so beaten down and so overly managed – that this event is one of the only things that serves to recharge confidence and soothe the soul. TAA is an island paradise!

Halleluiah! Finally a PD conference that’s beneficial to me.

This conference makes me a better teacher.

All the presenters were excellent and presented thought-provoking and useful content.

I thoroughly enjoyed not only all of the thought-provoking guests we had – but the affirmation that I am “doing things right.” I appreciated time – and so many ideas and being able to hear where all other leaders are in their places of “battle.”
As an elementary school principal, I would strongly encourage all principals to attend TAA. It is intense but absolutely worth every minute. Left feeling energized, appreciated and enlightened.

This is my first experience coming to a TAA conference and I am blown away by the sheer magnitude of creative intelligence: Research, high quality classroom offerings, rock stars in every discipline with the musers and interludes. Absolutely amazing – thank you for valuing arts teachers in this way.

Dru and Amanda are fabulous – Dru is our district leader and I am so proud to be an arts educator in a district that supports this work. Thank you, Atticus.

Not only were these teachers among the best I’ve ever encountered at TAA, they are among the best I’ve ever encountered anywhere. Zack Fine is a treasure. He is authentic, driven while seeming relaxed, and astonishingly qualified. Chauntee’ gave us desperately needed information with grace and elegance. Josh was inspiring.

AWESOME INSTRUCTORS

This year at the Academy was another amazing time to grow, learn, live, and laugh.

It was a fantastic experience. I can take the strategies back to my library and make literature come alive!!

Col. Holtan was definitely an added asset to the awesome Administrator’s track with Dru, Amanda, and Atticus. The week was packed with intensive leadership opportunities for emerging leaders and district leaders in kind. The professional development and inspiring arts advocacy is second to none and by far the best in the nation.

Everything outside of the core sessions was very entertaining and enjoyable. I didn’t know what to expect with the musings and interludes, but I thoroughly enjoyed them! The core sessions were so beneficial and I enjoyed those most.

This week is an annual tradition for me and is instrumental to my progress as an arts educator.

Loved it! Exactly what I needed. So much packed into one week!

I love coming each year. The facilitators are amazing – David Chambers is AWESOME!

Our instructors were amazing!

I realized a great music lesson doesn’t need the best room or the best instruments – a great music lesson needs compassionate teachers that are ready to “open minds” and “shape hearts.”

Thanks as always to the staff and organizers! The week is fabulous!!

Loved all the clinicians! Excellent year as usual!

So appreciative of the hard work that is put in to each year of TAA. It is the most professional PD that I attend. Couldn’t do without it!

I truly enjoyed this entire week! I made new friends from not only the entire state of TN but the nation! The presenters were first class, the staff was cordial and accommodating, the facilitators were encouraging without nagging. I will come as long as I can afford to do so!
I truly enjoy the total experience. The clinicians are well prepared. The performances impeccable. I really like meeting teachers from others parts of the state and getting ideas from them.

Loved every single second.

Each instructor taught from an area in which they believe in and are passionate about – this led to deep and enriching conversations and collaboration. I’m also thankful for Todd Shipley’s sessions – we need him as an advocate for us as we try to impact change in local districts.

To be valued to be understood, to be renewed, is not to be missed. This week will change you…for the better.

This week changed my life, my teaching, my outlook – for the better!

Re: Josh, Zack, Chauntee ’ – They were all amazing and the variety was wonderful even if it all didn’t fit in my class/stage. They were incredibly charismatic, knowledgeable, friendly and open. KUDOS! KUDOS!

TAA is the quintessential PD experience and yet it gets better every year.

The lower/elem. visual art instructors were a perfect complement to each other. Both had different styles and techniques but gave valuable information that I will definitely use in the future.

It’s like cramming an entire MFA year into a week. I am in love with the Academy. The caliber, graciousness and passion of the guests and instructors is unparalleled.

The presenters were wonderful. I look forward to each day’s activities – They were very knowledgeable and prepared – I will go home teaching Art differently!

As always, this year’s instructors connected with us personally and professionally. They inspired our hearts and our minds.

I LOVE OUR TEACHERS.

I am tired, but it is a good tired. I enjoyed every minute and am so thankful for the opportunity.

Thank you for choosing such talented clinicians who are also terrifically personable. Thank you for the diversity of instruction, instructors, and performances.

I want to get every classroom teacher in my school to come next year! The musings were so motivating and inspirational, Thank you!!

Thank you again. Your efforts are astoundingly appreciated. I don’t know how you do it, I am grateful, and I Love You all!! Thanks to Pat & Thane!!!

Revitalizing…a great way to refresh ourselves and get ready for the new year.

I find myself yearning to return each year to refill my tank. I’m afraid of what I may miss if I do not return.

Kim is an excellent facilitator – Very helpful and inviting to others.
It is always an amazing time at TAA. Row and Fairfield were absolutely next level. Jerome was the best facilitator.

Great instructors! Truly captivating the entire time!

The core sessions were incredible this year. The energy of the clinicians has me recharged and excited to get things ready to go back to school.

Instructors were fantastic and the love and passion of their teaching was felt all week.

The staff was super helpful and informative. 😊

The overall experience was absolutely amazing.

After 10 years of teaching, I needed TAA for not only professional support, but to help refocus on my personal artistic goals. TAA is a summer camp for teachers ♥!

I had a great time. I was amazed at the experience and skill level of my instructors.

An experience like this is invaluable to a beginning teacher. Thank you TAA for providing and supporting the arts teachers!

I love spending time with people who understand and support what I do.

Even after 30 years in the classroom, TAA still provides new ideas to try, new music to sing, and inspiration to keep on going (and loving it!).

“I’ll be back.” – The Terminator

Most meaningful PD I have ever been to…3 years and it’s still building my knowledge.

The TAA Visual Art instructors (elementary) were contemporary, flexible lessons, amazing, well prepared and sooo kind and helpful.

All the staff and teachers were absolutely amazing!!! I have learned so much! Definitely would come back! Can’t wait to share all I learned with my students.

I think the musers were the best I’ve ever seen! Usually I kind of have a tough time because it’s right after lunch. NOT THIS YEAR!

This was great for my soul!

It was a beautiful week and re-lit the fire in my soul as a teacher and student of the arts. Lauralee was such a sweet and passionate teacher. I feel honored to have gained the wisdom of such talented people this week!