

John Bertles

Arts in Education Professional Development & Keynotes

John Bertles is an educator, composer and instrument-builder. He has worked in arts education since 1988 as a teaching artist, administrator, professional developer and consultant.

A workshop leader with the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts National Touring Workshops for Teachers, he is also the founder of Bash the Trash Environmental Arts LLC, which presents performances, residencies and professional development nationwide. He is a former board member of the New York City Arts-in-Education Roundtable.



Workshops:

Building Musical Instruments from Recycled Materials

A Kennedy Center Arts Integration Workshop

In this 3 or 6 hour workshop, teachers learn to create musical instruments from recycled and reused materials, and then use those instruments to make connections to science and literacy. No musical background required! Common Core connections. [VIDEO](#)

Paul Klee and Imagination: Painting with Music, Composing with Images

This workshop explores the creative process through the art - and music - of Bauhaus painter Paul Klee. We'll discover the musical elements in Klee's work, build simple instruments, then compose, notate and perform simple musical pieces based on Klee's paintings – literally composing with images! Common Core connections. [VIDEO](#)

NEW!

Combine John Bertles' Professional Development programs with **Bash the Trash school-time shows** at your local Performing Arts Center to create deeper and more vibrant connections (and save on travel expenses). Take a brochure!

Contact:

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and follow the PD links
to view videos and get more info!

Invented and Graphic Notation

Traditional music notation is a complex language that is hard to learn, but necessary to get to the creative heart of music. Invented and graphic notation can help educators shortcut to that heart while laying a foundation that meshes with the conventions of traditional music notation. Connections to Common Core Math standards. [VIDEO](#)

Music Composition in the Classroom

In this workshop you'll discover how your students can get to the fun of composing as they explore musical ideas. Whether using homemade instruments, recorders, voice or band/orchestral instruments, your students will develop their own creative musical voice. Connections to Common Core Curriculum ELA and Mathematics. [VIDEO](#)

The Sound of Science – Connecting STEM to the Arts

In this workshop participants will explore the deep and broad connections between science and the arts. Through our exploration of acoustics, organology (the study of instruments), and the brain we'll add the "A" for Art and generate STEAM!

Positive Classroom Management for Teaching Artists & Arts Educators

Positive classroom management techniques – as opposed to classroom discipline - can have transformative effects for students. We've compiled the best positive management techniques of master teaching artists from Carnegie Hall and other organizations.

Backwards Design

Backwards design is a planning model that helps tie student art creation, curriculum design and assessment into a unified package. Backwards design can sharpen the focus of a residency or instructional unit, help students to aim for and achieve success, and assist arts teachers in creating more effective lessons.

Arts Entrepreneurship

In this workshop teaching artists and administrators of small arts organizations learn how to incorporate entrepreneurship strategies without compromising artistic integrity.

Keynotes:

Arts and the Environment – Natural Partners: The arts can be a powerful force to help students understand and explore environmental concepts and develop their own personal stand for action on environmental concepts.

Active Engagement for the Modern Learner: Is anyone paying attention out there? In this fast, fun and audience-participatory keynote we'll take a look at how to engage students who have never known a world without the Internet.

Transforming Through Performing Series: A Kennedy Center Any Given Child Workshop

Transforming Through Performing is a series of workshops intended for all those who work in arts education performances for children. We'll examine ways to create performances that work closely with curriculum, as well as ways to trouble-shoot and raise the bar on existing performances by strengthening audience interactions. [VIDEO](#)

Part 1 - Creating Effective Arts Assemblies with the Community in Mind

Part 2 - Strengthening Existing Arts Assemblies