



Arts Integration for Math Educators A PSAE Mini-Conference

March 19, 2026
SC Department of Education Offices
849 Learning Ln, West Columbia, SC 29172

Agenda

9:00 AM - Welcome from Palmetto State Arts Education & SC Department of Education

9:10 AM - 10:10 AM - Round 1

Attendees will be divided into two groups. During each round, educators will have the opportunity to attend each workshop.

10:10 AM - 10:20 AM - Break

10:20 AM - 11:20 AM - Round 2

Attendees will attend the other workshop with the same group.

11:20 - 11:50 - Creative Space and One-On-One Coaching

Educators will be given space to tailor the lesson plans from both sessions to their classrooms.

Workshop Leaders will be on hand to consult teachers on an individual basis, plus SCDE education associates from both math and the arts will be available to consult with teachers on identifying the appropriate standards from each area.

11:50 - 12:00 - Closing & Wrap-Up

Workshop #1

Join Melissa McCrary, Arts Integration Expert, Dance Educator, and with Making Arts Connect, LLC, in a workshop on integrating dance education into mathematics lessons. For upper elementary and middle school educators, Melissa will present a lesson on probability and dance movement. For lower elementary educators, Melissa will present a lesson on geometry and creative movement.

Melissa McCrary is a lifelong dancer and educator who began training at age three and later earned her B.A. in Dance from Winthrop University, a Master of Education from the University of South Carolina, and is completing a Ph.D. in Global Leadership. She taught dance in South Carolina public schools for 17 years and is currently the Dance Educator, Fine Arts Lead, and Arts Grant Manager at Chester Park Elementary School of Fine Arts, as well as the dance facilitator for the SC Arts Leadership Success Academy. A past SCDA Dance Educator of the Year, Melissa is deeply involved in statewide arts leadership through curriculum development, assessment work, and service on multiple boards and committees.

Workshop #2

Join Alphonzo Choice, Arts Integration Expert and Math Educator in a workshop on integrating visual arts into mathematics lessons. For middle school, Alphonzo will present a lesson on determining the volume of right prisms and pyramids while building 3D sculptures. For elementary, Alphonzo will present a lesson involving concepts of perimeter and area while creating 2D artworks using pattern and design.

Alphonzo Bio

Alphonzo Choice II is an educator with a background in middle level mathematics and science and a strong belief in being a lifelong learner. He earned a Bachelor's degree in Middle Level Education (Math and Science) from Claflin University and a Master's degree in Education Administration from the University of South Carolina.

He taught 7th and 8th grade mathematics and science and has facilitated professional development for school districts and educational conferences, supporting first-year teachers and college students in instructional practice and professional growth. As a Teacher as Curator participant, he collaborated with educators to design innovative learning experiences and curate meaningful instructional resources. His teaching philosophy is simple: "Be a Student First."