



# Williamsburg County School District

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## **WILLIAMSBURG COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT RECOGNIZED AT ARTS IN EDUCATION FORUM**

The South Carolina Arts in Education Forum is a one-day event for leaders who influence and impact arts education in South Carolina PK-12 schools. The event is sponsored by the Arts in Basic Curriculum. This year's forum was held on January 19, 2024, at the Embassy Suites in Columbia, SC.

The keynote speaker was Susan Magsamen who is the co-author of the book "Your Brain on Art". The Arts Education Data Project was presented by South Carolina Department of Education Visual and Performing Arts Education Associate, Roger Simpson. During his presentation, Williamsburg County School District was highlighted for being the top county in growing arts participation since 2018. Also, the district is rated the highest in the state for providing student access to the arts. The Arts Education Data Project is a national project. The goal of the project is to measure students' access to the arts. The project has gathered data on the arts from South Carolina's schools from 2018-2023. This project is supported by Arts Grow SC, which is funded by the South Carolina Arts Commission and the South Carolina Department of Education through American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) funds. The data board will be released in the near future.

Williamsburg County School District has visual art, band, choral, general music, and orchestra programs. Dance and drama instruction are provided through extended Artist-in-Residencies. Students from the county have won many awards in all art areas. Our mission of the Williamsburg County School District Arts Program is to provide all students with an educational environment rich in the arts, allowing them to create, discover, express, and develop a lifelong appreciation of the arts. Arts are part of a well-balanced education, providing learners with essential skills and knowledge they need to be college, career, and community-ready citizens. If you would like to support the arts initiatives of the school district, please contact Jennifer Holliday, Director of Fine Arts at 843-355-5571 or [jholliday@wcsd.k12.sc.us](mailto:jholliday@wcsd.k12.sc.us).