



Window On a Wider World is dedicated to enriching the education of Texas Panhandle students through arts, science and cultural experiences.

WOWW is modeled after a highly successful program of arts education integration in Dallas, Texas, called Dallas ArtsPartners, a program of Big Thought. WOWW is a unique collaborative partnership between the Amarillo Area Foundation, West Texas A&M University, Region 16 ESC and Region 16 school districts, and participating arts, science and cultural organizations of the Texas Panhandle.

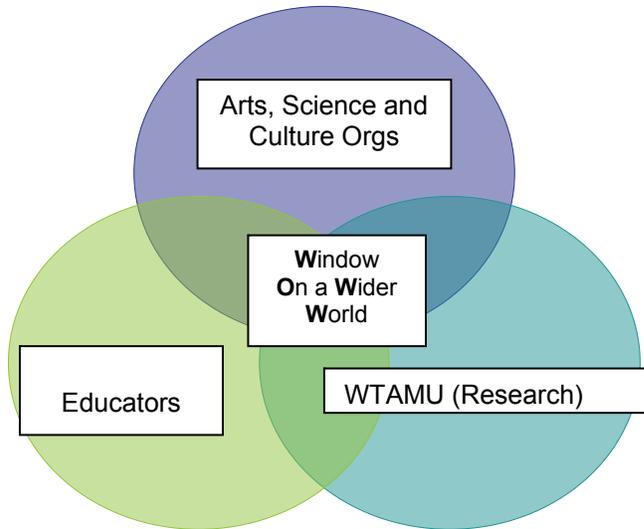
In 2001, the Harrington Foundation as part of the Amarillo Area Foundation, granted funding to the Globe-News Center to develop an education program that would meet the needs of the rural Panhandle. It has evolved into a program whereby WOWW is a facilitator for local arts, science and cultural organizations and educators. A visual outline of this facilitation model is on the following page of this Guide.

For the past few years we have consulted the expertise of Big Thought and adapted their program to meet the education needs of the Texas Panhandle. We completed a successful pilot year 2006-07 with 7 schools; 5 schools of AISD, Mary Allen Elementary in Stratford and Wellington Elementary in Wellington. Arts, science and cultural organizations provided over 130 education programs in a first-ever Educators' Resource Guide that WOWW published for 2006-07. Over 2,700 students in our pilot schools experienced programs from arts, science and cultural organizations that WOWW funded and over 10,000 student admissions provided enriched learning in and out of the classroom setting. We expanded the program to include 21 schools for 2007-08, 39 schools for 2008-09, 43 schools for 2009-10, and will continue to add campuses each year so that all K-5 schools of Region 16 will be invited to participate. WOWW provides an updated Educators' Resource Guide yearly as well as an online searchable Guide located at <http://www.windowonawiderworld.org>.

Participating non-profit organizations provide wonderful education programs in the Educators' Resource Guide and WOWW provides funds of \$5 per student for educators to utilize those programs for integration in their curriculum or they may apply the funds toward transportation costs to/from the programs. We offer the Guide as a resource for all educators. We appreciate your participation and interest in WOWW.

If you know of other interested arts, science and cultural non-profit organizations of the Texas Panhandle who can provide education opportunities for our students, let us know. Together we can successfully provide alternative ways of teaching and learning, making life-long connections for every student, and better prepare our children for tomorrow in an increasingly challenging world.

Focus: Curriculum integration with TEKS



Community Arts/Science/Cultural Partners

Alibates Flint Quarries Nat'l Monument & Lake Meredith National Recreation Area
Amarillo Art Institute at Sunset Center
Amarillo Botanical Gardens
Amarillo College Lamplight Youth Theatre Company
Amarillo College Suzuki String Program
Amarillo Family YMCA
Amarillo Little Theatre Academy
Amarillo Museum of Art
Amarillo Opera
Amarillo Public Library
Amarillo Symphony
Amarillo United Citizens Forum/Black Historical Cultural Center
Amarillo Zoo
American Quarter Horse Hall of Fame & Museum
Carson County Square House Museum
Citadelle Art Foundation
Don Harrington Discovery Center
Fannin Middle School
Friends of the Aeolian Skinner Opus 1024
Hutchinson County Historical Museum
Kwahadi Kiva Indian Museum & Event Center
Lake Meredith Aquatic & Wildlife Museum
Lone Star Ballet
Palo Duro Canyon State Park
Palo Duro Metro Chorus of Sweet Adelines
Panhandle Plains Historical Museum
The Amarillo Jazz Society
Amarillo Symphony
West Texas A&M University
Wildcat Bluff Nature Center
Window On a Wider World

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Modeled after Dallas ArtsPartners, a program of Big Thought in Dallas, Texas [Window On a Wider World \(WOWW\)](#) is the facilitator of arts, science and cultural programs of the Texas Panhandle, educators and the Globe-News Center for the Performing Arts. As a partnership between the Amarillo Area Foundation, WTA&M University, Amarillo Independent School District, Region 16 ESC, and participating arts, science and cultural organizations in our area, [WOWW](#) provides funding for designated schools to spend on programs in the Educators' Resource Guide. Over 150 programs from 31 participating organizations allow enriched education opportunities for Texas Panhandle students.

The designated campuses (WOWW schools) will use the funding to purchase arts, science and cultural experiences listed in the [WOWW Educators' Resource Guide](#) for their students. By integrating these experiences into mandated curriculum, classroom teachers can:

- Blend together multiple content areas
- Prepare students for TAKS testing
- Provide meaningful and relevant learning experiences for students

To support successful integration of arts, science and cultural experiences, [WOWW](#) provides:

1. **Funding**—each school will be allocated \$5 per child based on their mid-September enrollment.
2. **Materials**—[Copies of the WOWW Educators' Resource Guide will arrive on their campus during the month of August](#) Each campus will receive copies of the Educators' Resource Guide for every teacher which is also available online in a searchable database of programs.
3. **Fall Booking Day** —A WOWW Rep will facilitate a day of booking programs for each school. This is a day set aside for the school's site-coordinator and a WOWW Rep to meet with teachers and teaching teams to select programs for the entire year that will integrate well with grade level curriculum. Site coordinators will be free of regular duties for this scheduled day to help teachers schedule programs for the entire school year.
4. **Campus Professional Development**— Throughout the school year WOWW Reps are available to collaborate with site coordinators, teachers, principals and curriculum and instructional staff determined by each school's need. In addition, WOWW Reps are available to help organizations with their programs, curriculum ties and TEKS (Texas Essential Knowledge & Skills) objectives.
5. **WTA&M University research**—Our goal is to provide validity to the integration of art, science and cultural programs in the core curriculum, as it relates to test scores, attendance, and campus environment. We appreciate your cooperation with regard to the research that will be established by West Texas A&M University in this project.

Process for Partnering Organizations

- 1. For the wonderful programs your organization has created/developed for education, request the program forms from WOWW in electronic version.**
- 2. Submit your education programs to WOWW for publication in the Educators' Resource Guide by the 1st of June. Any program submitted to WOWW after June 1st will be published in the online version ONLY, in the searchable database of programs.**
- 3. When WOWW schools have their FALL BOOKING DAY with their site coordinator and their WOWW Rep, they will contact your organization to confirm programs, times, dates, students etc. too book the programs.**
- 4. Use the form on our website <http://www.windowonawiderworld.org/Educators.htm> to submit your Verification of Program to WOWW. It is user-friendly and will be submitted directly to our office. Once we have the Request for Program form from the WOWW school, AND your Verification of Program form, we will issue a WOWW approval code. Make note of this code for your records.**
- 5. After the experience of your program by students of WOWW schools, you will submit to WOWW an invoice for payment of the program which must include the WOWW approval code. Be sure to have exact number of students served and the correct date of program.**
- 6. Upon receipt of your invoice with the information stated in step #5, and the WOWW approval code, we will make a payment to your organization for the program requested and experienced by the students.**

WOWW Glossary of Terms

Allocation A pool of money held in trust by WOWW on behalf of a campus. This money is restricted for the purchase of arts, science and cultural experiences provided by WOWW providers, listed in the Educators' Resource Guide.

Approval Code (by WOWW) This is a signature, date and special code issued by WOWW for approval of a program from a provider in the Educators' Resource Guide.

ArtsPartners located in Dallas, Texas, is part of a larger organization known as Big Thought; a learning partnership that inspires, empowers and unites children and communities through education, arts and culture. It is a highly successful program of arts integration and is the model that Window On a Wider World has embraced.

Experience Active participation in events or activities which lead to the accumulation of knowledge or skill, such as field trips, on campus programs, residencies, etc.

Extension Activities Lessons or activities that take place after an arts, science or cultural experience that allow students to use, apply or transfer their new knowledge, making a learning connection experience.

Field Trip Any arts, science or cultural experience that takes place at a location other than a school campus.

Instructional Considerations The 'whats' and 'hows' of teaching with focus on curriculum and instruction. What students learn and how they learn are mutually supportive. By offering multiple ways of learning, instructors can ensure that all students have access to the richest possible learning experiences.

Integration Blending, fusing, the act of combining into an integral whole. In education, integration requires focus on curriculum and instruction—'what' and 'how' of teaching. Blending arts, science and cultural experiences into the curriculum making for a 'whole' experience.

Matching funds Each school district is encouraged to match arts, science and cultural spending equal to 25% of their school's total allocation from WOWW.

On Campus Program Any arts, science or cultural experience that takes place on a school campus. This may include experiences in the classroom, the school's auditorium or cafeteria.

Preparation Activities Activities or lessons that take place before an arts, science or cultural experience that is intended to introduce and immerse students in the content and form of the experience, which enables them to build upon prior knowledge and skills.

Provider A 501 (c)3 non profit organization who has submitted programs for the Educators' Resource Guide to be utilized as part of arts, science and cultural programs integrated in the curriculum.

Residency Any arts, science or cultural experience that takes place on campus, by an artist or docent, usually one or more visits.

Site Coordinator Campus liaison to WOWW responsible for scheduling a school's collaboration, tracking of the school's spending of WOWW allocation, and generally overseeing and supporting everything that WOWW provides for their school.

Support Activities Teacher-led actions or activities that take place during an arts, science or cultural experience that support or scaffold student learning including pre and post activities.

Voucher A 'certificate' which indicates a school's total WOWW funding allotment for the school year.

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