



ABC PROJECT

Arts in Basic  
Curriculum

## Summer Arts Education Institutes



In 1995, the ABC Project created a ground breaking summer institute for arts teachers based on a constructivist educational model, with roots in the Bay Area Writing Project, the California Arts Project, and the premise of master teachers teaching teachers. The Curriculum Leadership Institute in the Arts (CLIA) focused on curriculum, instruction, assessment, and technology in the implementation of the SC Visual and Performing Arts Framework. It helped build partnerships with artists, community arts organizations, and higher education and provided free materials, books, 3 hours graduate credit, and room and board for all participants.

Built around the CLIA format, the ABC Project has continued to create additional relevant institutes for arts teachers. SC Arts Leadership for Success Academy (SCALSA) was developed in 2001 for teachers with three or fewer years' experience and critical needs teachers to help curb the high dropout rate of new arts teachers within the first 3 to 5 years of teaching. SCALSA focuses on the development of standards-based arts lessons, strategies for ADEPT success, long-range lesson planning, classroom management strategies, identification of teaching and learning styles, arts education advocacy, and development of multi-arts professional networks.

The ABC Project tracked all SCALSA participants though the first 5 years of the institute. Out of the 239 SCALSA participants, only 11 teachers had left the profession at the end of five years. With the staggering statistics on teacher retention, SCALSA continues to prove that the essential teaching tools, strategies and techniques, and a strong network provide a solid foundation for success in teaching.

The ABC Project also created Arts Assessment, Arts Teacher and the Special Learner, Dance and Theatre Technology, and CLIA II: Leadership and helped in the creation of Arts Teacher as Artist, Music and Technology, and the Creative Teaching in the Classroom Institute.

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