BRAINY

BRinging Arts INtegration to Youth

Colorado State University
artmuseum.colostate.edu
uca.colostate.edu
BRAINY is a program of Gregory Allicar Museum of Art at CSU with assistance from Department of Art, and the Department of Music, Theatre and Dance.

BRAINY was conceived to provide arts opportunities for students from Title 1 schools in northern Colorado. Since its inception in fall 2009, over 1000 third, fourth, and fifth grade students from Fort Collins, Loveland, and Windsor elementary schools have enjoyed this collaborative, educational program.

BRAINY is meant to:
1. introduce students to the arts
2. demonstrate the role the arts play in our community and culture
3. demonstrate to students that the arts can be part of leisure and/or academic pursuits (with connections to other academic subjects)
4. bring students to a university campus.

BRAINY intends to support and implement the findings of Critical Links and state standards in art, music, theater and dance, as well as, standards from all other disciplines. Pre-visits are made to the schools to orient and expose the students to what they will experience at the UCA. Follow-up in encouraged in the classroom, inspiring arts integration into other academic areas.
In a typical BRAINY session, the kids go through four sessions. The first two in the morning go through visual arts and music, the kids are then served lunch and they return in the afternoon for lessons in dance and theater. Each session focuses on an appropriate age-level curriculum centered on an integrated theme derived from current museum exhibitions.

The interactive activities are designed to complement model content standards in art, music, dance, theatre, social studies, geography and math and to address multiple modes of learning.

Through BRAINY, students get hands on experience in all the aspects of art, but their teachers also learn from the program as well.