



Learning Impact Awards - Competency-Based Innovation

Challenge

A fundamental component of why Florida Virtual School (FLVS) and FlexPoint Education Cloud was created was to bring learning opportunities to students who may not have access to quality education, and art is a great example of that. Whether it's a single student from a small rural community attending a school with limited access to art courses, or perhaps no art teacher at all, or a large school district seeking to diversify their elective offerings for their students, FLVS provides a rich and diverse group of art offerings committed to fostering a lifelong love and appreciation for the beauty of art in our world.

Solution

Florida Virtual School and FlexPoint offer more than a dozen art courses ranging from Middle School Visual Arts to Advanced Placement® Art History. These courses are focused on meeting students where they are, and individualizing their learning experience to meet their needs. The courses also strive to help students discover what they are passionate about in art through hands-on learning, the exploration of art careers, and the use of technology. Students are also able to build foundational art skills regardless of skill level.

Learning Impact Outcomes

Tech and hands-on skills will support students in future employment and other online learning. Through individualized learning paths and project-based learning, our teachers are able to foster creativity and artistic growth in our students. The courses allow students to choose their own supplies and think outside the box. This helps students develop problem solving skills, which are crucial to their learning development.

Return on Investment

Our art courses foster confidence for students to tell their stories, and the skills to listen to the stories of others. Our students become art advocates with real-world skills that can be applied to other courses, careers, or in their everyday life. This past year we added two courses, Middle School Visual Art 1, and Digital Art Imaging 1. Both courses allow students to plan, create, and reflect on their own art through hands on experience. Due to the increased student interest in our art courses, FLVS plans to add three new art courses in the next five years. This will allow us to provide a wide range of learning opportunities to students across the state of Florida.

Additional Thoughts

Florida Virtual School and FlexPoint believe that well-rounded students become well-rounded citizens, and its investment in building a rich and diverse art curriculum is one example of this. The organization's art courses are built on foundational art educational models that ensure quality art education is accessible for all students. Students are provided choice through varied materials options and subjects within module projects. In addition, these art courses emphasize the artistic cycle including responding, connecting, creating, and presenting. FLVS and FlexPoint curriculum is built following the backwards design model beginning with the end in mind. For the art courses, the end is fostering a lifelong love of art.