

Spring 2017 In-School Residency: Pre/Post-Survey Results

ACC has four main GOALS:

- 1) Increase knowledge of and cultural pride in traditional and modern African cultures.
- 2) Build skills in African dance, drumming, and visual arts.
- 3) Build self-esteem, confidence, and social skills.
- 4) Increase motivation and enthusiasm for participation in the arts and other academic learning activities.

Before the completion of the ACC In-School residencies:

- 43% of students agree that they understand the meaning and history of traditional African music and dance. (ACC Goal 1; Question 1 C - pre-survey)
- 29% of students agree that they know how to use narrative dance elements and music as a way to create and communicate. (ACC Goal 2; Question 3 S - pre-survey)
- 57% agree that music, narrative dance and art activities make everything in school more interesting. (ACC Goal 4; Question 13 ML/T - pre-survey)

At the completion of the ACC In-School residencies:

- 83% of students agree that they understand the meaning and history of traditional African music and dance. (ACC Goal 1; Question 1 C - post-survey)
- 62% of students agree that they know how to use narrative dance elements and music as a way to create and communicate. (ACC Goal 2; Question 3 S - post-survey)
- 64% of students agree that they feel better about themselves and have more confidence in their abilities after ACC. (ACC Goal 3; Question 15 S/C - post-survey)
- 75% of students agree that music, narrative dance, and art activities make everything in school more interesting. (ACC Goal 4; Question 13 ML/T - post-survey)

At the completion of the ACC In-School residencies:

RESULTS:

- 100% of teachers/administrators/facilitators agree that their students understood the meaning and history of traditional African music and dance taught during the residency. (Goal 1; Question 1 C – Post-Survey)
- 86% of teachers/administrators/facilitators agree that their students increased knowledge of and cultural pride in traditional and modern African cultures. (Goal 1; Question 8 C – Post-Survey)
- 100% of teachers/administrators/facilitators agree that their students used traditional African dance and music as a way to create and communicate. (Goal 2; Question 2 S – Post-Survey)
- 100% of teachers/administrators/facilitators agree that their students built self-esteem, confidence, and social skills. (Goal 3; Question 9 SE – Post-Survey)
- 100% of teachers/administrators/facilitators agree that their students increased motivation and enthusiasm for participation in the arts and other learning activities at school. (Goal 4; Question 10 ML/T – Post-Survey)

TEACHING ARTISTS:

- 86% of teachers/administrators/facilitators agree that the ACC artists: (Questions 1-10 TA)
 - Were knowledgeable.
 - Were prepared for each session.
 - Communicated information clearly.
 - Began and ended classes on time.
 - Used effective classroom management.
 - Related well to students of all abilities and adapted sessions to meet individual needs.
 - Encouraged student reflection about their own and others work.
 - Were flexible and easy to work with.
 - Focused on teaching the content and the skills outlined in the results section above.
 - Followed school/organization rules and organizations.

ORGANIZATION:

- 86% of teachers/administrators/facilitators agree that ACC was organized. (Questions 1-5 0)
 - The residency was well planned and organized.
 - Communication prior to the residency helped me clearly understand the purpose of the program.
 - Communication about the residency dates and times were clear.
 - Attendance roster for sessions was up-to-date.
 - Feedback and evaluation materials were clear, doable, and timely.

TEACHER/STAFF EVALUATION COMMENTS **Spring 2017 In-School Residencies**

“One of the biggest improvements in students that I see is their confidence level after having a performance. They are timid and self-conscious prior to the performance and some students have anxiety about performing. However, after the completion of the performance, students are often relieved and more confident. Another benefit is their increased knowledge and awareness of African culture. Many students understand concepts better if they are hands-on. ACC provides several hands-on learning opportunities for students to grasp the beauty of African culture!”

“We loved all of our teaching instructors for each session!!!”

“Wonderful! I thought the communication was great this year.”

“ACC is a unique program that offers valuable experiences for students that they cannot get anywhere else!”

- **Erika Hall, International Studies Teacher, Beveridge Magnet Middle School**

“I believe the students benefit from seeing people and art from other cultures. When they are involved in practicing firsthand art forms from all over world, it further strengthens their ability to understand and master cultural awareness. The more experience and learning they are incorporated in, the more diverse their knowledge becomes of the world.”

“It is a great experience for any middle school student, to be able to participate in the program to get more firsthand experience of how other cultures and ways to express themselves from other parts of the world.”

- **Burke Behne, Individuals and Societies Teacher, Lewis and Clark Middle School**

“My group was a bit reluctant at first, but by the end they all agreed it was a fun and worthwhile experience. It was good for the African American students to learn more about their culture, and beneficial for the non-African American students to gain some understanding about another culture.”

“I would recommend this program to other organizations, schools, and educators.”

“So impressed with how much was accomplished in such a short period of time.”

“I enjoyed this as much as the students.”

- **Suzanne Croisant, 7th Grade Teacher, Lewis and Clark Middle School**

“The students were interested in the material and it added to previously learned content.”

“I would recommend ACC to other teachers to enhance student learning about African culture.”

- **Katherine Kisby, 7th Grade Teacher, Lewis and Clark Middle School**

“The students that were the one who kept to themselves in the classroom really came out of their shell during those lessons.”

“This is a way for students to get a better understanding of the African culture.”

“Mr. Charles was well prepared and worked great with our students.”

“Ms. Gabby worked well with our students.”

- **Todd Bockelmann, 6th Grade Teacher, Kellom Elementary School**

“Students were very excited to participate on our ACC days. They enjoyed the engaging activities and hands-on projects.”

“I would recommend this program. It is laid out nicely and provides a wonderful foundation and hands-on , engaging activities that teach about and celebrate Africa!”

- **Kim White, 5th Grade Teacher, Belvedere Elementary School**

“One major benefit was the students did learn about Africa and stopped believing the stereotypes they knew before.”

“Though my students did not reap as many of the benefits as I had hoped, this is still an excellent program. I hope to work with ACC again.”

- **David Anderson, Music Teacher, Monroe Middle School**

SPRING 2017 IN-SCHOOL RESIDENCIES
Student Written Evaluation Responses

ACC has four main GOALS:

- 5) Increase knowledge of and cultural pride in traditional and modern African cultures. **C: Culture**
- 6) Build skills in African dance, drumming, and visual arts.
- 7) Build self-esteem, confidence, and social skills. **S/C: Self-Esteem/Confidence**
- 8) Increase motivation and enthusiasm for participation in the arts and other academic learning activities. **M/L: Motivation to Learn**

Think about what you have learned throughout your experience with African Culture Connection. Write a well-structured paragraph in response to the prompt.

Written Evaluation: 1-C; Goal 1 (21 response examples)

In the African Culture Connection (ACC) classes, you have learned many things about traditional and modern African culture. Tell us what African drumming and dancing can show us about African culture. Use specific examples.

Written Evaluation: 2-M/L; Goal 4 (33 responses examples)

Describe one thing you were most excited about learning in the African Culture Connection (ACC) classes. What made this stand out to you? How was it different than other things you learn in school? Describe how your motivation to learn things in this way has stayed with you in other things you do. Be specific in using examples.

Written Evaluation: 3-S/C; Goal 3 (28 responses examples)

How did you feel when you learned you would have to perform in a final celebration performance to end your ACC classes? How do you feel NOW after completing the classes? Think about yourself and whether your level of confidence has changed. Use specific examples.

Lewis and Clark Middle School:

- 1- "I think that ACC is a good program. They taught us a lot about African culture." Ben Beiermann **1-C**
- 2- "I got to learn about many things in Africa. I think it was an amazing experience getting to be in this program." Julissa Gallegos **1-C**
- 3- "African drumming and dance can show many things. These include communication styles, lifestyle, and work." Alex Trevino **1-C**
- 4- "Drumming taught me how simple beats can tell a whole story. When we did dancing my body was able to move in ways it has never moved before." Hannah Ajogbeje **1-C**
- 5- "In dancing we learned how to tell a story with your body and mind. People need to try new things and go out of their comfort zones, and we totally did that." Rosine Selemani **1-C**
- 6- "Dancing is a way to tell your culture and to keep it alive." Lester Larios **1-C**
- 7- "The dancing in African culture shows that many of the traditional dances have impacted and influenced dance today. Both drumming and dance show how art is such an important role in this culture." Kylie Westphal **1-C**
- 8- "The dance that we learned was called the Sofa dance, like the rhythm we played on the drum. Sofa meant to hunt. We learned that many dances are for different special events." Keely Lopez **1-C**
- 9- "This is a fun way of learning different things. Instead of just sitting in a classroom and taking notes we were able to have some hands-on activities. This experience has let me see ordinary objects in a new way." Keely **2-M/L**
- 10- "I was really excited to learn about the drums and jewelry. I want to continue learning these things in the future." Kayla **2-M/L**
- 11- "When we did drumming I could express myself. It was like I was in another world. That's why I liked drumming the best." Emilio P.G. **2-M/L**
- 12- "Dancing in the African Culture Connection helped me become more independent and confident." Julissa Gallegos **2-M/L**
- 13- "I was most excited for drumming because I love music and the way it can tell a story. It also gave a more hands-on experience, and that is how I like to learn." Kylie Westphal **2-M/L**
- 14- "Dancing is a lot different from school because it's more active and energetic and you're learning history while you do it. Dancing turned African culture into something to appreciate and learn about while having fun." Raquel Philbin **2-M/L**
- 15- "I thought it was going to be hard. At the end I said, "I learned it", and I was proud of myself." Lester Larios **2-M/L**

- 16- “Drumming actually made me want to come to Humanities class.” Eli Hushle
2-M/L
- 17- “I feel very proud of performing at the end when we got it down. It will be something I will never forget.” Anthony Beyna **3-S/C**
- 18- “I feel more respectful towards other traditions. Also, I think my confidence has been better.” Marshal **3-S/C**
- 19- “I feel proud of myself for completing these classes.” Cody Markham
3-S/C
- 20- “I feel satisfied now that the classes are finished because now I know more things about the African culture.” Kayla **3-S/C**

Belle Ryan Elementary:

- 1- “African drumming and dancing show that people in African culture continue to do old traditions and they express themselves using music.” Saetia **1-C**
- 2- “The African cultures are beautiful. Art, dancing, drumming – they can all tell a story.” Mat **1-C**
- 3- “The ACC classes taught us about a different culture and that doesn’t happen very often. We also got to try African food and it was pretty good. I don’t think I would’ve ever tried it if ACC did not introduce it to us. The dancing was very different. The drumming was very cool as well.” Daisy **1-C**
- 4- “African dancing can be used for many occasions such as for fun, for celebrating a good hunt, or for celebrating a special occasion.” Jackson **1-C**
- 5- “African culture shows rhythm and movement. You can feel the rhythm and want to dance to it.” Eduardo **1-C**
- 6- “I was most excited about the dance. You get to move your whole body and have fun.” Saetia **2-M/L**
- 7- “ACC had many exciting parts. Especially the food, ‘yum’. In school we learn math, reading, etc. We don’t learn about dancing, drumming, or the African community.” Mat **2-M/L**
- 8- “It is different from school things. You learn about the African culture. It motivates me to learn about other cultures.” Si **2-M/L**
- 9- “ACC is different from school because ACC teaches me about African culture, like food, drumming, dancing, etc. This makes me have new experiences and to always try something new.” Jesus **2-M/L**
- 10- “I loved the drumming. It was my favorite part. Mr. Charles was the best.” Keyland **2-M/L**
- 11- “The drumming teaches us to work together and have fun.” Randy F. **2-M/L**
- 12- “I was thrilled about the drumming part. I thought I could never do it because it looked really difficult. But I learned that you can do anything if you put your mind to it.” Jackson **2-M/L**
- 13- “I felt very nervous. But, now I feel very confident and proud of myself.” Christian **3-S/C**
- 14- “At first I thought, ‘oh my’, because I am not really a dancer. But, I got more confidence and performed in front of the whole school. I feel like I have

done something amazing, which I have. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity. My confidence bar went from a 10 to a 110. Thanks, ACC.” Jackson **3-S/C**

15- I felt so nervous because I never did this in front of anyone. After the speech I gave at the final performance I felt so confident like I can do that any day. On a scale of 1-10 my level at the beginning was like a 2. After I overcame it my confidence was at 7.” Mat **3-S/C**

16- At first I was scared, but when it was that day I was fine. I played and danced my best, and it felt good when everyone said, ‘good job’.” Keyland **3-S/C**

Catlin Arts Magnet:

- 1- “We learned a lot about drumming and dancing in ACC. I learned how drumming played a big role in African history like with communication and storytelling. I learned how African culture is very interesting and beautiful.” William Kafka **1-C**
- 2- “What ACC taught me about African culture was that they use natural resources for a lot of crafts. They also taught me that Africa works hard to achieve things.” Malik Reed **1-C**
- 3- “In African Culture Connection classes I learned many things. Like how life was in Africa. How they made drums, or what jewelry represents over there in Africa.” Kimberly **1-C**
- 4- “I loved all of my lessons with jewelry, drumming, and dancing.” Sydney Jenkins **1-C**
- 5- “I really enjoyed these new and different African traditions. They were awesome!” Mia Perales **1-C**
- 6- “In ACC we learned many different things about dancing and drumming, and how it shows African culture. Both dancing and drumming express different emotions.” Lucy Reid **1-C**
- 7- “Thank you, ACC, for teaching us how to dance and drum.” Nicolas Quiroz **1-C**
- 8- “I was most excited when I was told that we got to taste food from Africa! But tasting it has a whole other story, OMG the bursts of flavors! It was one of the best things I’ve ever tasted.” Logan Starre **2-M/L**
- 9- “It wakes my body up.” John **2-M/L**
- 10- “I was most excited for the jewelry and making something of my own. I always liked designing things. So, that’s why it really stood out to me.” Diana **2-M/L**
- 11- “I like ACC because we get to learn about a different culture. It is different than other things we do in school.” Nicolas **2-M/L**
- 12- “I always wanted to know how to specifically play & keep the rhythm of the drums. When I finally got to play the drums I noticed how much you have to focus.” Broobeyr **2-M/L**
- 13- “It was amazing when we started ACC and got to learn about Africa. The things I’ve learned while dancing will probably help later on when I go into

- middle school and high school, because it helps with listening and self control that can be used in everyday life.” Lucy Reid **2-M/L**
- 14- “I was most excited about the drumming. I like that we learned about the different rhythms. We would never know how to drum if it wasn’t for ACC.” Broghan **2-M/L**
- 15- “The thing that excited me the most was dancing. Dancing is unique in African culture because when you dance their way you move all of your body.” Delaney **2-M/L**
- 16- “I am going to be sad that it is over. I can assure you one thing – I won’t forget about it.” Anthony Drake **3-S/C**
- 17- “After completing the classes I feel I have learned a lot about modern African and Africa’s ancestry. I also think that Africa is more interesting now that I have learned about it. I enjoyed ACC and had fun while doing it.” William Kafka **3-S/C**
- 18- “Through ACC I have made a lot of fun memories. I wish ACC was longer because it was the bomb-dig-itty.” Mia Perales **3-S/C**
- 19- “I felt nervous and scared. But, after the performance I was proud that I participated in it. Thank you for everything you taught us.” Nicolas **3-S/C**
- 20- “The classes were very fun, a bit unusual and different, but fun, because it was something new.” Delaney Nielsen **3-S/C**

Beveridge Arts Magnet:

- 1- “When we learned Sofa hunting dance in ACC we learned a story of a hunt told through the dance. We learned that they dance the Sofa dance after a successful hunt. I liked it because it was all a lot of fun. If I could, I would do it again.” Nico **1-C**
- 2- “The ACC class opens up your world, and your perspective beyond the United States.” Mateo Mancha **1-C**
- 3- “Not only did we learn about Africa, we learned about how to work and move as a unit. It was a much more fun way to learn compared to opening up a text book and reading. I think more classes should teach in this fun, effective, hands-on way.” Bella **1-C**
- 4- “Through ACC I debunked the stereotypes that I grew up believing were true when I learned about African civilizations.” Jeray **1-C**
- 5- “African drumming and dancing has changed me from thinking about Africa to knowing about Africa.” Micah Prescott **1-C**
- 6- “In an article we read in class, it talked about how in Africa, “rhythm is life”. From reading that article and what the ACC instructors talked about, I now understand how dancing and drumming play a huge role in African culture.” Aden Gibson **1-C**
- 7- “When we did the Sofa dance we were telling a story through body movement. When we were drumming, we were communicating through music.” Ciara **1-C**
- 8- “I’m learning about a whole different culture than mine, and that is what stands out ‘cause you get to do/try new things.” Yami Hdez **2-M/L**

- 9- "This program gave me an opportunity to try cultural food from Africa that I couldn't get anywhere else." Milton Jenson **2-M/L**
- 10- "I think the drumming and food were the best parts. The drumming was exciting and you could feel the beat and rhythm everywhere." Calvin McCarville **2-M/L**
- 11- "My favorite thing was the drumming which we presented at Culturefest. It was a lot of fun because our parents were able to see all our work in ACC." Nico **2-M/L**
- 12- "ACC provided a much different style of learning. Instead of just sitting around in class, I got to learn hands on which was a nice change." Adah Gibson **2-M/L**
- 13- "One thing I was most excited about was the African dancing. The different dance moves seemed interesting to me and the stories that came with them." Araceli Fuentes **2-M/L**
- 14- "ACC has changed my motivation a lot. It showed me to be myself and do what I like to do, dance." Aidan Dowling **2-M/L**
- 15- "I found it surprising that it motivated me to work harder in everything I do." Youssef El-Kasaby
- 16- "Before the performance I was kind of nervous. But, once we walked on I was much more calm and ready to drum. After the performance I was very relieved. I was also kind of proud – it was so fun." Mateo Mancha **3-S/C**
- 17- "This has definitely changed my confidence. The drums gave a really positive vibe." Milton Jenson **3-S/C**
- 18- "At first I felt scared and shy. I never thought I would have to perform. As we practiced I got more courageous, and better. My confidence level rose a lot." Youssef El-Kasaby **3-S/C**
- 19- "When I found out that we were performing I felt a stronger need to work hard and do good when we practice dancing and drumming. I feel like I am a better team player and have better rhythm from Mr. Charles' strict beat. After this experience I feel more confident." Bella **3-S/C**
- 20- "At first when I learned I had to perform, I was very nervous. I didn't want to dance in front of everyone. Now that the performance is over, I feel glad that I did it because then I would not have learned that I like to dance. My confidence level is very high. Now I would be excited to do it again." Aidan Dowling **3-S/C**
- 21- "When I learned that we had to perform, I felt scared. Now that the performance is over, I feel like I would do it again because I really liked it. My confidence level is high. I was proud of myself." Nico **3-S/C**

Belvedere Elementary:

- 1- "I learned that when they dance there, they are telling stories and achievements."
Dai'Aunna **1-C**

- 2- "Drumming can be used to tell stories or communicate and celebrate."
Gabriee **1-C**
- 3- "Drumming was used during ceremonies and celebrations, as in a person becoming an adult, a death, or even birth. Dancing is the same – it usually happens when there are special events." Cierra **1-C**
- 4- "It means a lot to me when I get opportunities to do this drumming and other stuff." Prince Nichols **1-C**
- 5- "Drumming can be used to tell stories or communicate and celebrate."
Gabriee **1-C**
- 6- "I know that in ACC, drumming and dancing can make you feel good." Isreal **1-C**
- 7- "Dancing is all about telling a story and telling about their ancestors from the past in Africa." Blake **1-C**
- 8- "The people of Africa are proud of who they are." Diamond Smith **1-C**
- 9- "My motivation to learn things in this way has stayed with me in other things I do." Serenity Wilbert **2-M/L**
- 10- "What I liked the most was the dancing because it took everything off my mind, and I was able to just focus." Aliyah **2-M/L**
- 11- "I was most excited to learn about drumming because I felt like I was apart of a group." Zariya Turner **2-M/L**
- 12- "I really liked the days we drummed. I remember my beat from the heart. Mr. Charles did a really nice, excellent job at teaching. Ms. Sondra is also awesome at teaching the dances." Kandice Griffy **2-M/L**
- 13- "When I learn things in this way, I learn more." Mia **2-M/L**
- 14- "I was most excited about making the necklaces with Ms. Sondra because I got to express my true nature about the art." Achelem W. **2-M/L**
- 15- "Beating on the dry skin of an African drum, and feeling the sound and rhythm crawl through me." Damari **2-M/L**
- 16- "I feel confident and happy. This truly is the best program ever." Damari **3-S/C**
- 17- "I am proud because I was chosen to perform drumming and dancing."
Aliyah **3-S/C**
- 18- "I was shocked and scared. But, now I am confident that I will do amazing at the celebration." Janya Veland **3-S/C**
- 19- "In the beginning I felt scared. Now that we have practiced a lot I am not scared. I am confident and feel strong to dance." Lidia **3-S/C**

Kellom Elementary:

- 1- "ACC lets us learn African cultures so we can some day teach it to other people." Farouk Y. **1-C**
- 2- "I like to do dancing the most, because I show my feelings with it." Damiyan D. **1-C**
- 3- "ACC helped me learn a lot about Africa. I thought Africa was a bad country, but I was wrong." Taeh Wah Paw Htoo **1-C**

- 4- "Drumming lets us learn how to listen to each other and pay attention." Olivia **1-C**
- 5- "Drumming was my most favorite, because I love music and it gets me into a good mood." Tameem S. **1-C**
- 6- "ACC shows you that Africa has a history of great things." Mekhi **1-C**
- 7- "Drumming and dancing are important to the people of Africa, because they use these to celebrate and communicate with one another." Damiyan D. **1-C**
- 8- "I loved the dancing classes because I feel so free and full of energy." Warda I. **2-M/L**
- 9- "I like that they teach us about hotels in Africa, art, and culture, and I want to travel there now." Sut Mai Aung **2-M/L**
- 10- "I was excited to learn their dance, art, and culture. It was interesting and really fun. I loved my experience in ACC – yeah!" Adna Abdi **2-M/L**
- 11- "It was different than other things I've learned. Now I want to learn more about cultures." Kevin **2-M/L**
- 12- "One thing I was most excited about was learning the culture. I love learning new cultures from around the world. ACC was a very different experience." Miguel L. **2-M/L**
- 13- "I was most excited to learn about Adinkra stamping, because I do love art. To get to know another type of art was very interesting." Keifa Said **2-M/L**
- 14- "I feel I know everything about ACC and Africa. It is special that I learned about African drums, dance, and art!" Adna Abdi **2-S/C**
- 15- "I was really excited about the performance because I got to show family and friends what I learned about this wonderful continent." Warda I. **3-S/C**
- 16- "I feel confident because I did good and I worked hard. I feel accomplished" Andrea W. **3-S/C**
- 17- "At first I was very nervous, thinking I would fail. But, when I noticed I was getting better, my confidence raised up making me feel good about myself. I'm not scared anymore." Samira Ali **3-S/C**
- 18- "I feel like I could visit West Africa and already know what to do once I get there." Miguel L. **3-S/C**
- 19- "I feel good knowing new things that I never knew before." Fabiola **3-S/C**
- 20- "I felt nervous at first, but then when my ACC teachers taught me I felt confident." Miguel **3-S/C**

Monroe Magnet Middle School:

- 1- "I liked drumming the best because it is a beautiful sound and make you happier" Paw Mu **1-C**
- 2- "I liked making the Adinkra cloth the most. It was very creative." Ivan Degante **1-C**
- 3- "The activity I liked most was playing the drums, learning how they're made, and how different sounds are made from the drum." Trever Kellogg **1-C**
- 4- "x." Azumi Kuchma **1-C**

- 5- "I am most proud of myself for learning about African culture and even experiencing their ways of life." Bway Waho **3-S/C**
- 6- "I am most proud of learning about a new culture." Davion Jones **3-S/C**
- 7- "I am most proud of doing everything the best I – it made me more brave and strong." Aminah Salad **3-S/C**
- 8- "I am most proud of myself for going out of my comfort zone." Cree Mar Po Nyaw **3-S/C**
- 9- "I am most proud of learning new things, being creative, and being myself." Trever Kellogg **3-S/C**
- 10- "I am most proud of myself for not giving up on all the activities that were most hard. It feels great." Ivan Degante **3-S/C**
- 11- "I am most proud of trying my very best at listening and focusing." Maytha Kyawin **3-S/C**
- 12- "I am most proud of knowing how to drum and dance. It felt like I was learning my own culture." Ktray Paw **3-S/C**
- 13- "I am most proud of myself for doing everything in ACC, like art, drumming, and dance." Sun Pro Htoo **3-S/C**