

## **Baggett Elementary School Awarded ‘Arts Education Program Grant’ from Georgia Council for the Arts**

**ATLANTA – July 10, 2024** — Baggett Elementary School was awarded an Arts Education Program Grant from Georgia Council for the Arts, a strategic arm of the Georgia Department of Economic Development, for fiscal year 2025. The Arts Education Program Grant supports arts programs for K-12 students, and helps fund programs from visual arts to music or theater, to dance and creative writing. As part of this year’s Arts Education Program awards, 75 entities in 22 counties will receive more than \$540,000 in funding.

“These grant dollars are vital funding that will allow for the continued development of the creative workforce that employers in Georgia are seeking,” **said Georgia Council for the Arts Director Tina Lilly.** “Georgia Council for the Arts is excited to help our arts communities foster educational opportunities for young people that encourage self-confidence and problem solving, and we are grateful to the Georgia General Assembly for providing this support to improve quality of life across the state.”

Georgia Council for the Arts received applications from nonprofit organizations, government entities, public libraries, schools, and colleges and universities delivering arts programs to K-12 students. Arts education programs receiving funding include afterschool and summer arts programs, arts integration and STEAM programs, and teaching artist residencies.

“Baggett is excited to expand our partnership with the Alliance Theatre, bringing job-embedded professional learning to our teachers in K-3<sup>rd</sup> grade through Artist in Residence programs!” said Mitch Green, Principal of Baggett Elementary School. “Baggett is well on the way to STEAM certification. The addition of GCA funds will continue to help us grow our commitment to Arts Integration. We’re so excited to expand the work that has already taken place in all kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade classrooms into our 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classrooms.”

Funding for these grants is provided through appropriations from the Georgia General Assembly and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Georgia Council for the Arts (GCA) uses Peer Review Panels to judge and review applications following standard practices set by the National Endowment for the Arts. Panelists are GCA Council members and fellow professionals who are experienced in the arts discipline or type of grant being reviewed, or are citizens with a record of arts activities, experience, and knowledge.

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### **About Georgia Council for the Arts**

Georgia Council for the Arts (GCA) empowers the arts industry in Georgia and artists around the state to cultivate healthy, vibrant communities that are rich in civic participation, cultural experiences, and economic prosperity. As part of the Georgia Department of Economic Development, Georgia Council for the Arts provides grant funding, programs, and services statewide that support this vital industry, preserve our cultural heritage, and create increased access to meaningful arts experiences. Visit [gaarts.org](https://gaarts.org) for more information.

### **About GDEcD**

The Georgia Department of Economic Development (GDEcD) is the state’s sales and marketing arm, the lead agency for attracting new business investment, encouraging the expansion of existing industry and

small businesses, locating new markets for Georgia products, attracting tourists to Georgia, and promoting the state as a location for arts, film, and digital entertainment projects, as well as planning and mobilizing state resources for economic development. Visit [georgia.org](http://georgia.org) for more information.

### **About Baggett Elementary School**

Baggett Elementary School, now entering its 10<sup>th</sup> year of existence, is committed to providing our highly diverse student population of over 1,000 students with meaningful, purposeful work through STEAM and project-based learning (PBL) where all students see themselves as capable of changing the world. At the local school, students and teachers partner with experts in the community to address local, school and community-based challenges through the integration of grade level standards and the use of creativity, critical thinking, collaboration, communication, and citizenship. Baggett is committed to providing our students with learning experiences that truly open doors to future opportunities that will help to break the cycle of poverty in our community.