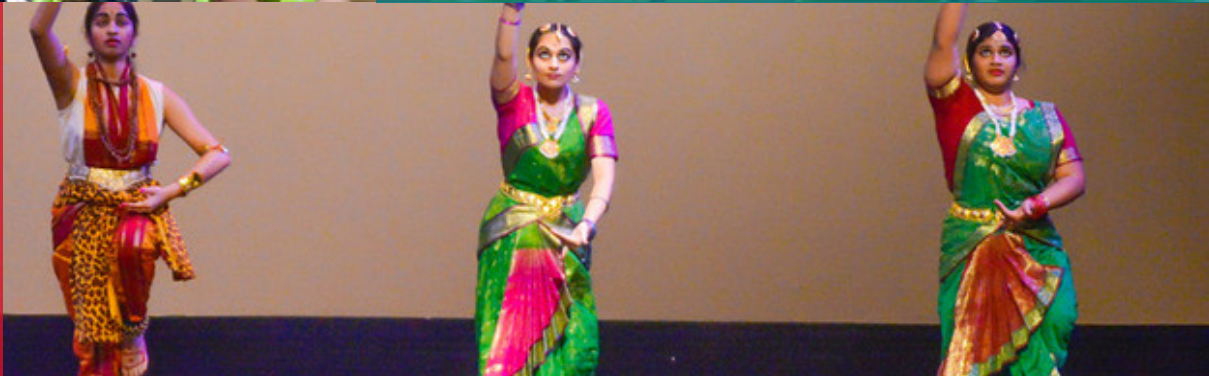




DANCE

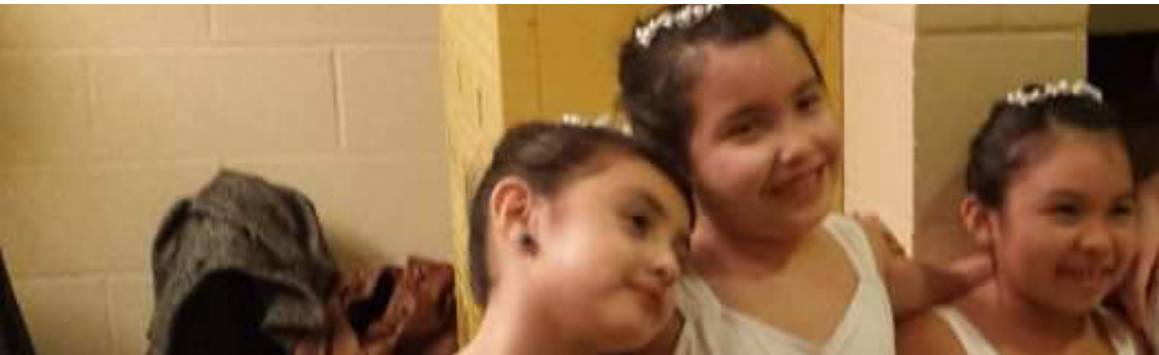


CULTURE



Global Education Center

Passport to Understanding School Outreach



MUSIC

ABOUT US



The Global Education Center is a nonprofit arts education center for students, teachers, artists and the community in the area of multicultural, anti-bias education. Founded by anti-bias education specialist Ellen S. Gilbert in 1996 after more than twenty years of providing multicultural arts programming in area schools, Global Education Center has worked with over one million children in their 29 years, including the 150 schools and 35,000 children that they reached in 2025. This work is accomplished through the Center's primary outreach program, Passport to Understanding.

Using the arts as a pathway to understanding the various cultural, ethnic and religious groups residing in our community, the Center's staff, teaching and performing artists present sensitive, dynamic and highly participatory programming that creates experience that aid in:

- dispelling myths
- dismantling stereotypes
- unlearning biases
- alleviating fears

with a goal of creating an environment of inclusion and a climate promoting wellness and emotional well being.





PASSPORT TO UNDERSTANDING

Global Education Center's longest running and most successful program has been and continues to be Passport to Understanding, an interactive school outreach program offered both on-site at the Global Education Center and off-site at local schools or educational centers.

Through this program we offer the following activities:

- Interactive cultural museum presentations
- Concert series for school groups
- Performances at area schools
- School international festivals
- Drum, dance and literary arts residencies in area schools
- Professional development opportunities for teachers
- Cultural resources for teachers

The Passport to Understanding program combines the aesthetic and the academic by utilizing Global Education Center's large group of teaching and performing artists from a wide variety of cultural, ethnic and religious groups to share the stories and traditions of diverse cultures through various art forms. Our teaching artists are not only trained academically by the Center in anti-bias protocol but also receive continuing education and professional development through work with Master Artists from around the World, brought in by Global Education Center to enhance their repertoires and provide a more authentic and knowledgeable experience for the children.

In the following pages you will find out more about each activity and the curriculum that is implemented to create greater cross-cultural understanding and respect in your classroom.

INTERACTIVE CULTURAL MUSUEMS



Our interactive cultural presentations are the backbone of the Passport to Understanding program at the Global Education Center. These presentations involve a proactive, arts-based approach to multicultural education that is designed for children aged three through middle school to help build cultural sensitivity, awareness, understanding and respect within the diverse classrooms of today. Relying heavily on the arts of different cultures, these presentations help foster an awareness of the similarity of all basic human needs common to all members of the human family - the need for food, clothing, shelter and recreation and for love, laughter, respect and acceptance. Using poetry and literature, storytelling and drama, music and dance, fine art, folk art and artifacts, these explanations help to promote, in an active hands-on fashion, global awareness and concern, respect for the individual and for all people, and an understanding that fairness and justice are basic human rights for all.

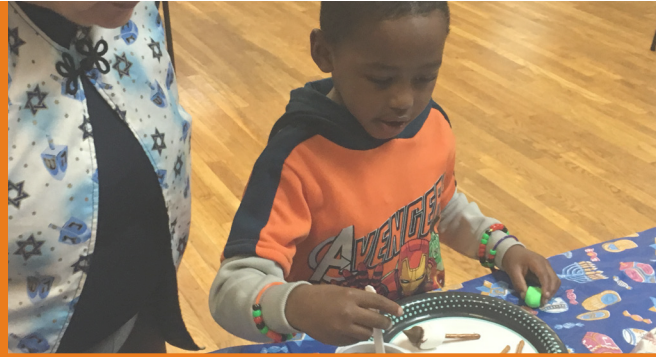


During the course of a year, students explore both the differences and the similarities between the experiences of immigrants, refugees, migrant workers, people whose ancestors were brought here as slaves, and the indigenous people of the land that we now call the United States of America. Students explore the cultures of the many different people who dwell in America by experiencing their differing concepts of beauty, of art and of life-ways. Students explore times during our nation's history when being "different" has caused suffering and injustice for both individuals and entire groups. Students are encouraged to reflect on these moments in history, not to judge or to pass blame, but to think about alternative ways to interact with people who are different from themselves and to learn to share empathy and maintain respect in the face of cultural and religious differences.

Visits to various cultures through their arts include a glimpse at some major historical events, but focus primarily on contemporary arts, lifestyles and issues. Students then explore the presence of that culture within their own communities and search for parallels between various cultures. These explorations include acknowledging those aspects unique to a culture that would make settling into mainstream American difficult and discussing ways in which we might make all of our citizens - and future citizens - feel more welcome.



INTERACTIVE CULTURAL MUSUEMS



Creativity and cultural awareness are blended in Global Education Center's hands-on cultural museums. Each unique museum presentation is a highly participatory immersion in a diverse culture and its artistic and cultural traditions. Through storytelling, games, clothing, instruments and artifacts, children will learn the aesthetics and academics of diverse cultures from around the World.

The following cultures are available for Interactive Cultural Museums:

- NATIVE AMERICAN POW WOW
- NATIVE PEOPLE OF ALASKA (including Inuit, Haida, Tlinglit, Tsimshian)
- NATIVE PEOPLE OF THE NORTHEAST (including Anishinabe, Iroquois)
- NATIVE PEOPLE OF THE PLAINS (including Lakota)
- NATIVE PEOPLE OF THE SOUTHEAST (including Cherokee, Choctaw, Seminole)
- NATIVE PEOPLE OF THE SOUTHWEST (including Hopi, Zuni, Navajo)
- NATIVE PEOPLE OF HAWAII (including the Polynesian Islands)
- COMING TO AMERICA (including Early European immigrants)
- THE PEOPLE OF CHINA
- THE PEOPLE OF INDIA
- THE PEOPLE OF JAPAN
- THE PEOPLE OF KOREA
- THE PEOPLE OF EAST & WEST AFRICA
- THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLE OF AUSTRALIA
- THE PEOPLE OF MEXICO & CENTRAL AMERICA
- THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH AMERICA
- THE PEOPLE OF NORTH AFRICA & THE MIDDLE EAST
- FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS (including Kwanzaa, Chanukah, Advent, Las Posadas, Diwali, Ramadan, and Yalda)

FEES:

\$5 per child per presentation

There is a minimum daily charge of \$250 regardless of the number of students (i.e., if you only have 30 students, it would be \$250 instead of the \$5/child)

ASSEMBLY PERFORMANCES



Global Education Center has a diverse roster of performing artists available for in- school assembly performances. These performances incorporate music, movement and narration that engages students in multicultural experiences that showcase our commonalities, stimulating introspection and cross-cultural dialogue. Whether the group is big or small, Global Education Center guarantees an interactive immersion into the cultures of the World.

Some of our most popular assemblies are:

RHYTHM RAP:

Rhythm Rap is a powerful journey through percussion traditions from around the world, sharing the power of drumming of many cultures throughout time.

RHYTHMS OF AFRICA:

This is by far the Center's most popular assembly performance, sharing the dynamic rhythms and dances that emanated out of The Great Mali Empire of West Africa. These traditions continue to influence music throughout the world and remain some of the most powerful rhythms in existence.

RHYTHMS OF THE AFRO-LATIN DIASPORA:

This lively and fun presentation brings together African, Cuban, Peruvian, Brazilian and Flamenco traditions through drumming, dance and narration that helps participants to understand the vast Afro-Latin Diaspora, highlighting our shared African roots, our common stories and the similarities of our artistic traditions.

RHYTHMS OF THE ISLANDS:

This assembly is a journey through the dance and music traditions of Polynesia (Hawai'i, Samoa, Tahiti and the Maori of New Zealand) OR the steel drum traditions of Trinidad. We journey to these far-off places to help bring to life the artistic traditions of a variety of island cultures.

RHYTHMS OF LIFE:

Rhythms of Life is one of Global Education Center's most popular assemblies. With a combination of drumming, dance and storytelling, several artists transform the stage into an aesthetic and academic immersion into different cultures with opportunities for audience participation. This unique performance includes a variety of cultures, often booked in conjunction with school international festivals and fairs. Length of these assemblies depends on number of performers selected.

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS:

Festival of Lights, one of our longest running presentations, includes performances representing various holiday traditions and the similarities that they all share in their use of lights. The performance includes storytelling, dance and music from Kwanzaa, Chanukah, Advent, Christmas, Las Posadas, Dwali, Yalda, and Ramadan. This is a great way to showcase the diversity of children and celebrate their similarities rather than their differences.



ASSEMBLY PERFORMANCES

JATAKA TALES & MORE:

Jataka Tales is a dance presentation created by professional Bharatanatyam teacher and dancer, Monica Cooley of Kala Nivedanam School of South Indian Dance and Music. Bharatanatyam is an ancient dance form that is centered in storytelling through symbolic movements and intricate full body gestures. This helps to make this assembly especially perfect for children as they can learn not only the dance gestures but traditional stories and morality tales that are central to the Indian culture and which cross many cultures and religious traditions.

KARUNA SHAKTI:

Karuna Shakti is a dance drama that explores how contemporary global issues and human problems like discrimination, bullying, warfare and environmental degradation can be addressed through the power of compassion. It is presented in the exquisite dance style of Bharatanatyam, an ancient classical art of South India, performed by Monica Cooley, a respected performer and teacher of Bharatanatyam with over thirty years' experience.

THE SPIRIT OF NATIVE AMERICA:

The Spirit of Native America offers an intimate journey through the music, dance and stories of the indigenous people of our nation. Traditions will vary depending on artists who are performing.

THE BOSCH INSTITUTE:

The Bosch Institute is a creative collaboration between poet, Thandiwe Shiphrah, and musician, Daniel Arite, in which they create innovative audio collages of music and spoken word. Participants are challenged to think outside of the box to use their words and their music to create a unique way to communicate their feelings and call upon their inner artist.

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES:

Throughout each year, the Global Education Center hosts world renowned touring artists for short-term or long-term residencies. During these residencies, performers are available for school assembly performances. Sample artists include Kevin Locke Native Dance Ensemble, flamenco singer and dancer Chayito and Teresa Champion, Singers of United Lands – just a few of the many artists we have hosted in the past year. Check our website for a list of visiting artists for the coming year.

FEE: Assembly fees vary depending on number of artists and number of performances, typically ranging from \$750 to \$3,500.

Assemblies can be scheduled by contacting Global Education Center at ellen@globaleducationcenter.org or by calling (615) 292-3023.

For those schools that are in need of financial assistance, you can apply to bring Global Education Center to your school under the Student Ticket Subsidy Grant through the Tennessee Arts Commission. Please visit their website at www.tnartseducation.org for more information.

ARTISTS IN THE SCHOOLS: DRUMMERS



The Global Education Center has a diverse roster of resident and affiliate artists who are available for classes, workshops, lecture-demonstrations and performances in area schools. These classroom presentations are great interactive engagements that can help bring diverse cultures to life and create cultural awareness and understanding that is needed to create a culturally sensitive classroom community.



Through our work, the Global Education Center has found that one of the most unifying elements for cross-cultural understanding and respect is the drum. Percussion instruments, the drum in particular, are the oldest instruments in the World and have been used throughout all time by most cultures at some point in their development. From the earliest log drums to the contemporary drums of today, the voice of the drum continues to tell the stories of all people. Whether used in rituals and traditional ceremonies or in contemporary celebrations and performances, the drum evokes a power that can move us to tears or inspire us to rise on our feet and dance in jubilation.

Recognizing the powerful significance of the drum for affirming the connection of all people over all time throughout the World, we are taking our drums from various cultures into the schools for group instruction in drum rhythms from around the World. Through the generosity of several public and private foundations, the Global Education Center has enough drums to teach an entire class in one sitting with each participant having an instrument. Our percussion teachers are trained to handle individuals, small groups or entire classrooms of up to twenty-five students.



We recommend class sessions of 30 minutes for young children and 45 minutes for older students. Rhythm instruction available includes world rhythms from diverse cultures.

FEES: Vary per drum style and teaching artist, ranging from \$150 to \$250 for a one-time workshop; \$75 - \$100/class for ongoing series



ARTISTS IN THE SCHOOLS: DANCERS

The Global Education Center has dancers from a variety of cultures who can teach dance through on-going classes and/or one time workshops for assemblies, including:

- AFRICAN DANCE
- AFRO-CARIBBEAN DANCE
- CHINESE DANCE
- CLASSICAL INDIAN DANCE
- HAWAIIAN DANCE
- LATIN DANCE
- MIDDLE EASTERN DANCE
- AFRO-CUBAN DANCE
- CAPOEIRA
- NORTH AFRICAN DANCE
- FLAMENCO & SPANISH DANCE
- MEXICAN FOLKLORIC DANCE
- NATIVE AMERICAN DANCE
- POLYNESIAN DANCE
- URBAN HIP HOP
- AFRO-BRAZILIAN DANCE
- AFRO-PERUVIAN

FEES: Vary per culture and frequency, ranging from \$300 for a one-time workshop to \$75 to \$150/class for ongoing series



TEACHER RESOURCES



Global Education Center is praised as a national model for multicultural arts integration. Through leadership and guidance from our Executive Director, Ellen Gilbert, who has more than 40 years of expertise and experience in early childhood education and anti-bias work, our work not only brings diverse art forms to the classroom, but helps teachers and administrators create culturally sensitive and welcoming classrooms.

The following teaching resources are available:

CULTURE BOXES: Culture boxes are interactive classroom resources that contain artifacts, books, toys, games, clothing, instruments and/or music from specific cultures. These all-in-one programs can be used in conjunction with a Global Education Center assembly and/or drum/dance residency or as stand-alone opportunities to share diverse art forms within the classroom.

FEES: \$25 per week to borrow; \$500 to \$750 to purchase

Please note that boxes can be picked up after 3 pm and must be returned by 5 pm on the day due or a late fee of \$10 per day will apply. Global Education Center Culture Boxes can also be delivered to your school for an additional \$5 fee.

MULTICULTURAL TEACHER INSTITUTES: The Global Education Center offers several two-day Multicultural Arts Institutes for teachers. These two-day workshops are professional development for teachers in multicultural arts integration for which they can earn in-service credits. The Multicultural Teacher Institutes are made possible with partial funding from the Tennessee Arts Commission Arts in Education program.

FEES: \$25 per day

Dates to be announced annually.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS: Ellen S. Gilbert, Founding Director of Global Education Center, is available for teacher in-service workshops, as are several of the Center's teaching and performing artists. Sample workshop topics include:

Busting Stereotypes, Building Respect with Books

Evolution of Multicultural Education and Making It Relevant Today

Acknowledging, Understanding & Dismantling Subtle Forms of Bias in our Schools

Pathways to Understanding Cultures through their Arts

Rethinking Holidays

The December Dilemma

FEES: \$350 per workshop

Consultation with schools and community organizations are available for a fee of \$150 per hour.

CREATING COMMUNITY

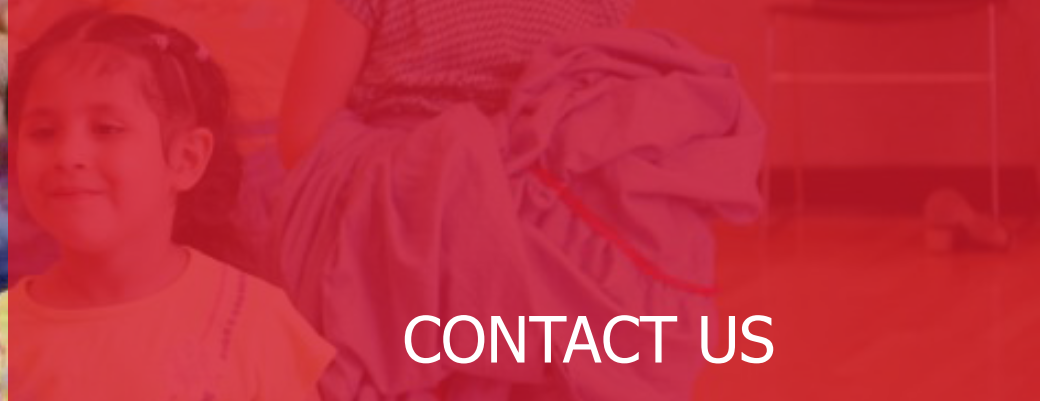


The Global Education Center works in many schools and has a reputation for professionalism. We work diligently to provide the following things to each classroom:

- Prompt arrival and departure from the classroom to insure little disruption to the teacher's agenda
- Constant communication with teachers to insure that they understand that Global Education Center provides anti-bias education and training. Many of our activities are fun and physical but our mission in each classroom goes beyond gross motor skills. We are trained to teach children about diverse cultures and have fun while doing it. Each movement has meaning and all activities serve a purpose.
- A fun and engaging classroom. Our artists provide aesthetic and academic activities for each classroom and we aim to create a space that creates mutual understanding and respect.
- Many opportunities to return to your classroom. The Center has resources and access to grants for which individual teachers can apply to bring us into your classroom and to provide even more education and cultural experience. This can be a great way to have your class stand out from the rest and have your students excel. Please contact Executive Director, Ellen Gilbert, for more information at ellen@globaleducationcenter.org.

Also there are a few things that we don't provide.

- As a contracted artist with your school, organization or center, our focus is instruction and not discipline. We are unable to address disruptive behavior and will lean on the authority and instruction of the classroom teacher.



CONTACT US

The Global Education Center is excited to be a part of your classroom community. We hope that we will be an asset to you as a teacher and a pathway to creating cross-cultural understanding and respect to the children that we teach.

If you have any questions about Global Education Center, our programming or our curriculum, please feel free to reach out to us at anytime.



Global Education Center



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Global South
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615.292.3023

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