Testimonials from Spring 2019

88% of classroom teachers said that the residency impacted them in some personal or professional way.

From classroom teachers:

- I want to continue this as a powerful way for students to reflect about themselves.
- This residency impacted me because I was able to see my students creativity flourish with mediums they hadn't ever used. It motivated me to create more art projects with my students.
- I have watched the artist work with my students and bring out their creativity. I have been made aware of how I can use her methods to work with them. It has also encouraged me to bring other poetry into my curriculum.
- I wrote poems too! I forgot how much I enjoyed writing poetry when I was younger, so it was fun to go back to that creative writing place!
- I took away some good ideas of how to incorporate this medium with my future classes.
- I really enjoyed every lesson she taught. I admired her way of expressing herself.
- It reminded me how magical it is for children to make music each day.
- I was surprised at how the artist made such a beautiful and whimsical project seem so simple.
- So nice to collaborate and see how other ideas and styles.
- Really enjoyed having another teacher share their talents and teaching!
- I loved artist's warm ups. I will continue to use them in my classes year after year.
- It reminded me how important small group work is, and how much better it can be when guided by a strong teacher. Eileen allowed them to go off on tangents, and be creative, and then was able to pull them back into their focus.
- Gave me some great ideas for songs and some great classroom management techniques.
- Inspirational women coming into my classroom sharing the same goals!!!! It makes me inspired again as a teacher when I have similar like mind people enter my classroom and show me all these different skills we can now use with our students.

From teaching artists:

- Students decreased their overall level of frustration experienced in trying something new.
- One student in particular was acting out, refusing to do many of the activities. I asked him to lead an activity. From that moment on, he connected to me and to the rest of the class. Such a change!
- The most poignant day of the residency occurred on the last day of our residency. A 4th grader who took very little risks during the previous session ended up “teaching” his buddy in the special day class the entire process and then proceeded to teach other children. He soared in his confidence and risk taking.