

**The Program  
Evaluation and  
Research Group  
(PERG)**



**2020 SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS: Connors Elementary School**

“Our work with Side x Side was a positive and meaningful experience for students and educators!” - Connors Elementary School teacher

The Program Evaluation and Research Group (PERG) worked with Side x Side to collect data on Side x Side programming at Connors Elementary School in Lewiston, Maine during the 2019-2020 school year. According to teacher counts, 218 students participated in Side x Side programs and 13 educators and 77 students in grades 4-6 responded to surveys. There were an average of 18 class sessions for each unit of study; 10 content-focused and led by teachers, 8 arts-focused and led by teaching artists.

Classroom Teacher Feedback	
100%	Feel more comfortable with arts integration
92%	Feel more knowledgeable about arts integration
100%	Gained arts learning through their experience
92%	Believe that arts integration contributes to social emotional learning
100%	Plan to integrate the arts with content learning in the future
100%	Believe that teaching artists have a positive impact on the classroom
90%	Found the celebration of learning to be an important element of student learning
100%	Said their school administration is supportive of arts integration

Student Feedback	
78%	Like to express themselves through art or performing
74%	Like making art related to what they were studying
92%	Said working with teaching artists helped to better understand the content they studied
78%	Said teaching artists made learning fun
91%	Were proud to share their work
93%	Learned new things about the arts through this project





Classroom Teacher Reported Student Impacts 2019-2020	Some to Significant Improvement
Attendance	64%
Active engagement in learning	80%
Interest in the content	100%
Understanding of the content	91%
Ability to take creative risks	100%
Learning about the arts	100%
Sense of classroom community	91%
Ability to work well with others	91%
Willingness to participate	91%
Ability to take ownership of their learning	73%
Ability to reflect on what they've learned	91%
Academic self-concept	64%
Willingness to participate	91%

“Side x Side teaching artists were flexible and accommodating to students’ interests and impromptu changes in our schedule. Most of all, they encouraged students but remained attentive and cognizant of students’ social emotional needs. This had to do with the positive relationships that they were able to build with our students within such a short period of time.”

- Classroom Teacher

### Student Quotes

“I saw people’s creativity work. We learned so much more!”

“I learned that everyone does stuff differently.”

“I learned it’s okay not to feel comfortable.”

“It was learning in a new way.”

“I’d also like to say that this was the funnest thing in school.”

