

Program Name: Weather on the Move

Artist: Harlan Brownlee

Special Requirements:

20' x 30' open space
Please have the floor space cleared prior to the artist's arrival.

Special Points of Interest:

The amount of sunlight reaching the earth's surface is 6,000 times the amount of energy used by all human beings worldwide.

Other programs by this artist:

-Rain Forest
-Simple Machines: Bodies At Work
-The Giving Tree
Anansi The Spider

Workshop Description

Teaching Artist Harlan Brownlee instructs students on the fundamentals of weather phenomena through the use of their bodies and movement.

Focusing specifically on clouds in the troposphere, the workshop introduces cloud types and their associated altitudes directly to dance concepts of level, motif, and shape. Participants use movement skills to learn and communicate information about the structure of the atmosphere and objects in the sky.

Students conclude the lesson using their imaginations to create a cloud dance that represents cloud formations found in the atmosphere.



Curriculum Connections & Educational Objectives

Students will:

- Practice locomotor skills
- Demonstrate control of the . body to create and hold a shape
- Create meaning and relationships with body shapes and placement
- Understand dance as a way to create and communicate meaning
- Understand atmospheric processes and the water cycle

Artist Bio: Harlan Brownlee



Harlan Brownlee understands the transformational power that the arts have to improve the quality of life for individuals and the community. Brownlee has worked for 35 years in the arts education field as a performing artist, teaching artist, and arts administrator.

Mr. Brownlee is on the Kennedy Center's National touring roster for the Changing Education Through the Arts program and has conducted professional development, workshops, and residencies extensively in the Midwest and throughout the United States. Most recently, Harlan was chosen as a presenter for Project Lead the Way's National Conferences and awarded a 2019 Young Audiences National Residency Teaching Artist Credential.

He has designed and implemented hundreds of lesson plans instructing a weekly class at Community School #1 that integrates dance and movement with an emphasis on the subject areas of science and literacy. Harlan has instructed pre-service teachers as an adjunct professor for Rockhurst University's School of Education and the University of Missouri – Kansas City's School of Education.

Mr. Brownlee received his B.F.A. from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and his M.A. from University of Missouri – Kansas City. His performance background includes work for thirteen years as one of the Artistic Co-Directors with City in Motion Dance Theater in Kansas City, Missouri.

List of Resources:

Books:

National Audubon Society Pocket Guide to Clouds and Storms

by David M., Dr. Ludlum, Ronald L. Holle, Richard A., Dr. Keen
Knopf (April 25, 1995)
ISBN: 067977999X

The Weather Wizard's Cloud Book: How You Can Forecast the Weather Accurately and Easily by Reading the Clouds

by Louis D., Sr. Rubin, Jim Duncan
Workman Publishing; Flexi-Book edition (September 1, 1984)
ISBN: 0912697105

First Steps in Teaching Creative Dance to Children

by Mary Joyce
McGraw-Hill
Humanities/Social Sciences/Languages; 3 edition (August 13, 1993)
ISBN: 1559341629

Contact KCYA for more information about this and other programs

816.531.4022
KCYA.org

Vocabulary

Body Shapes: an interesting and interrelated arrangement of body parts of one dancer; the visible makeup or molding of the body parts of a single dancer

Cirrus: a high-altitude cloud composed of narrow bands or patches of thin, generally white, fleecy parts

Cumulus: a dense, white, fluffy, flat-based cloud with a multiple rounded top and a well-defined outline, usually formed by the ascent of thermally unstable air masses

Level: one of the sub-elements of the movement element space. In dance, there are three basic levels: high, middle, and low.

Locomotor: a way of moving from one place to another. Common locomotors include walking, running, galloping, skipping, hopping, jumping, and leaping.

Space: one of the elements of dance; the dancer moves in and through space

Stratus: a low-altitude cloud formation consisting of a horizontal layer of gray clouds



Post-Workshop Activities

1. Explain to students that snowflakes are created by water vapors bumping into tiny dust particles which changes the vapor into an ice-crystal. Then play the snowflake game where students divide up into two groups: one are dust particles and the others are water vapors. Students should slowly and quietly connect to another dancer. Continue until the whole class has connected to form one large snowflake.

2. Students will examine, identify, and record stratus, cumulus, and cirrus cloud formations. Have a day where they can go outside and observe the different clouds. Have them draw, color in, and name the type of clouds they drew.

The ArtsEdge website provides a wealth of lesson plans for teachers to access, categorized by subject matter and grade level: