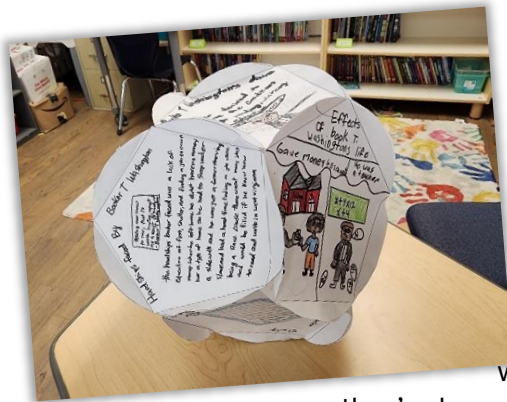


The Confluence

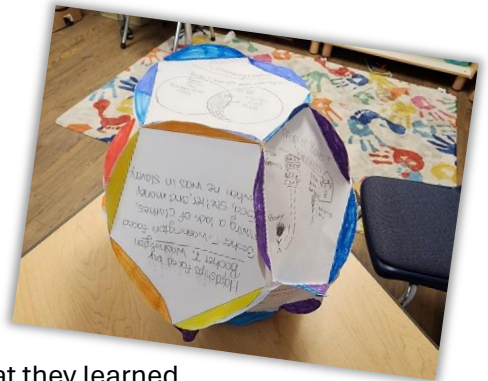
With a grant from the SC Arts Commission, the WeGOJA Foundation is hosting professional development webinars for South Carolina educators that help them incorporate more art into classroom instruction through African American history. Called The Confluence for blending art, history, and education into activities for students, the program is currently accepting pre-registrations from 8th grade civics and history teachers for its second phase in the winter/spring of 2024. Teachers can pre-register at this link <https://www.wegoja.org/theconfluence>.

In its first phase of the 2023-24 school year, The Confluence helped 5th grade social studies teachers in Florence, Horry, and Orangeburg counties discover or re-discover the stories of legacies in South Carolina history. The program featured David Drake, or Dave the Potter, who handcrafted beautiful pottery and wrote couplets on them when reading and writing were prohibited for the enslaved in the 19th century. Also featured was Oveta Glover, who was one of 10 students who integrated public schools in Charleston almost one decade after Brown v. Board was decided.



Each session began with instruction on art elements and principles to help teachers more easily assign art activities to students,

who can then illustrate what they've learned. The sessions ended with discussions on Bloom Balls, an art activity involving drawing on panels and glueing them together into balls to form a story about what they learned.



Teachers assigned Bloom Balls to their students before the Christmas break and brought samples to a show-and-tell in December.

The winter/spring sessions are still under development.

The Confluence is made possible with a grant from the SC Arts Commission, supported by the National Endowment for the Arts.

SOUTH CAROLINA ARTS COMMISSION*



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