

PowerUP Jax Fall 2016 Grant Winner

7. **Jane Monks**
Mt. Hermon Exceptional Student Center
Subject/Grade: Grade levels Pre-K through Post-high, Visual Art and Music
Project Title: Mt. Herman Art Festival

Summary of Project:

Our school is planning an art festival in November. On the first day, we plan to have a musician come who sings and plays a variety of rhythm instruments and allows the students to have hands-on opportunities to play the instruments. On the next two days the students will be involved in creating a variety of art pieces. Some of the pieces will be done as group projects that will be displayed around our school or will be given as gifts to business people who partner with our school. The students will also be making a picture to take home. The students will be using glue and painting using brushes, sponges, and the wheels of toy cars. They will be using the bottoms of water bottles to dip in paint and then stamp flowers onto a canvas. We have a lot of art materials we can use, but we need funds to pay for the musician who is coming and to purchase acrylic paints, canvases, and wooden frames for our art projects.

How many students will be directly involved? Explain any further impact on other students, teachers, the school as a whole, and/or the community.

Approximately 140 students will be involved in this festival, along with all the teachers, paraprofessionals, and therapists at the school. Many of our students' parents also participate in the activities with their child. The activities at our art festival impact everyone in the school because the visual art that is created will be displayed. Also, some of the art the students create is given to members of the community--business people who partner with our school.

How will the project specifically increase student learning? Be sure to explain the project's connections to existing learning standards. Be clear about what new skills, knowledge, and/or dispositions the students will acquire.

The students at Mt. Herman are intellectually disabled, and the majority of them are physically disabled as well and need opportunities to encourage them to move their hands. By participating in enjoyable activities, such as creating art and hands-on playing of musical instruments, the students are encouraged to move. Most of the art projects they create will be group projects, so they will increase their skills of learning to work with others. They will be able to explore a variety of art tools and textures, increasing their tactile stimulation. They will be introduced to a variety of musical instruments and will have opportunities to participate in playing them and hearing the different sounds and rhythms.

What is your plan for evaluating the success of your project? What artifacts (photographs, samples of student work, testimonials, etc...) would you use to demonstrate the effectiveness of the project?

When the art festival is finished, the students will have participated in making 30 pieces each of three different art projects and 150 of another project. Photographs will be taken of the students participating in the hands-on musical activities and the art projects.