



Arts Education Weekly News Blast

February 6, 2017

Classroom Resources

One of a Kind: All-Female Afghani Orchestra Plays Europe

Ahmed Sarmast dreamt of sharing the richness of Afghani music with the world while providing unique opportunities for young females in Afghanistan to study traditional music and instruments. In a bold move, he formed an all-female orchestra comprised of 30 members, some of whom are homeless or living in an orphanage. Students in the orchestra represent a variety of regions from around Afghanistan, yet all dedicate their time to learning about music with Sarmast at the Afghanistan National Institute of Music. Hear young female musicians speak about their decision to study music and their experiences traveling as a group. [Afghani Orchestra](#)



Northern Clay Center: Margeaux Claude, Plaster Mold Demonstration

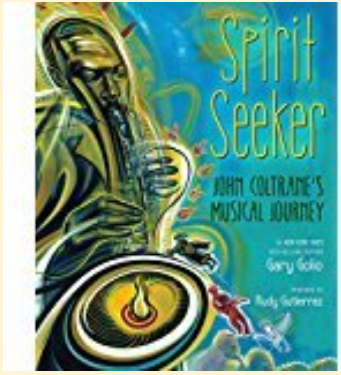
Watch Margeaux Claude demonstrate how to create a plaster mold as part of Northern Clay Center's YouTube channel. In this mostly silent short film, Claude shows the complete cycle of mixing plaster, setting it, sculpting it, and signing the finished piece. [Margeaux Claude](#)

ArtsEdSearch

Have you ever been asked by your school principal or PLC leader to find an article about arts education as part of the school's professional development program? Finding current and reliable arts education research can be tricky, especially when teachers have little time to scour academic journals for just the right piece. ArtsEdSearch is a clearinghouse for studies that examine arts education in a variety of educational settings. If you need quick, free access to research, consider visiting [ArtsEdSearch](#).



Music Book Profiles

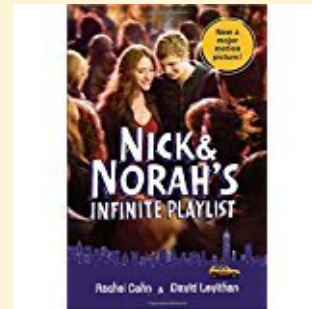


Spirit Seeker: John Coltrane's Musical Journey
By Gary Golio; paintings by Rudy Gutierrez (Grades 4-7)

This book tells the story of the legendary jazz musician, from his deeply religious childhood to his career as a boundary-breaking musician who found inspiration in his own unique approach to both spirituality and music. [Spirit Seeker](#)

Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist

By Rachel Cohn and David Levithan (Grades 9 & up)
Nick frequents New York's indie rock scene nursing a broken heart. Norah is questioning all of her assumptions about the world. They have nothing in common except for their taste in music, until a chance encounter leads to an all-night quest to find a legendary band's secret show and ends up becoming a first date that could change both their lives. [Nick and Norah's Playlist](#)



Minnesota Educational Theatre Association

The Minnesota Educational Theatre Association is a statewide organization serving theatre teachers and professionals as both a source for networking and professional development. It “strives to promote and advance theatre education” in Minnesota “by creating connections, planning and executing CTAM conference sessions, partnering with other theatre arts organizations to plan, execute and host an annual spring forum, and to work on advocacy in the state.” META is also affiliated with the Communications and Theatre Association of Minnesota (CTAM); members get access to both META and CTAM.

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[META](#)

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