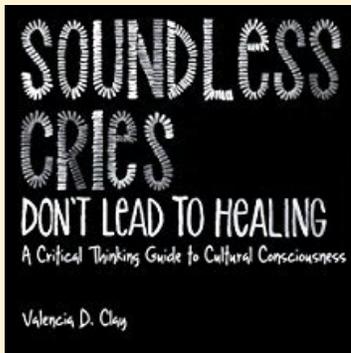




Arts Education Weekly News Blast

March 20, 2017

Classroom Resources



Valencia Clay: Soundless Cries Don't Lead to Healing

The US Department of Education recently profiled Valencia Clay, a Language Arts teacher from Baltimore, Maryland. Clay has published a book titled *Soundless Cries Don't Lead to Healing: A Critical Thinking Guide to Cultural Consciousness*. In it, she addresses the concerns many students of color face as they navigate the daily experiences of schooling

in a K-12 environment. [Valencia Clay](#)

Functional Inventions

From the producers of the *Art of Education* podcast comes a maker-driven lesson plan called, *Functional Inventions*. Teachers can lead middle schools students through a STEAM lesson exploring the connection between functional design and aesthetics. As an extension, students could further explore the role of marketing on design elements to better understand how social context influences the choices we make as consumers. Tied to national visual art standards and free to the public, this lesson guides students through a critical discussion of form versus function while encouraging youth to consider how aesthetic elements are tied to functional features of objects we use everyday (like a cell phone case!). [Functional Inventions](#)

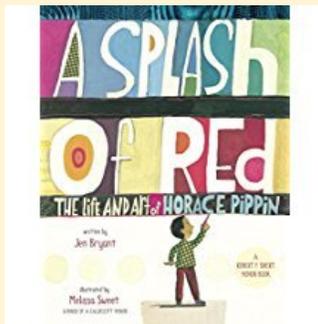




Mastering Self-Assessment: Deepening Independent Learning through the Arts

The New Mexico School of the Arts uses a series of tools to teach students how to self-assess during the creative process. They encourage reflective practice by sharing professional examples of work, by teaching academic language specific to their discipline, and by allowing students to participate in peer feedback. This article provides several examples of feedback protocols (ie, fishbowl discussion, post-in note critique, or visual thinking strategies) and explains why it is important to give students the opportunity to self-assess. [Mastering Self-Assessment](#)

Book Profiles: Visual Art



A Splash of Red: The Life and Art of Horace Pippin

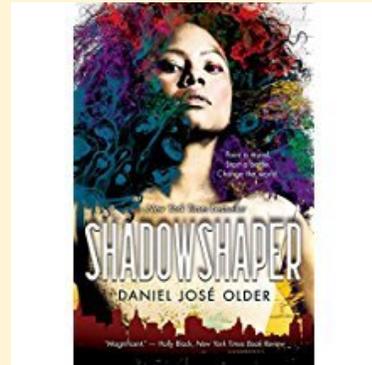
By Jen Bryant and Melissa Sweet (Grades K-4)

The authors present an illustrated introduction to the life and work of artist Horace Pippin, describing his childhood love for drawing and the World War I injury that challenged his career. [A Splash of Red](#)

Shadowshaper

By Daniel Jose Older (Grades 7-12)

Sierra Santiago planned an easy summer of making art and hanging out with her friends. But then a corpse crashes the first party of the season. Her stroke-ridden grandfather starts apologizing over and over. And when the murals in her neighborhood begin to weep real tears... Well, something more sinister than the usual Brooklyn ruckus is going on.



National Endowment for the Arts

As a federal agency devoted to preserving the cultural and artistic heritage of the country, the NEA provides myriad support for artists, arts organizations, and arts educators across the country. Its goal is to ensure Americans have the opportunity to engage in robust arts experiences, and much of its programming supports this vision. Currently, the NEA provides [grant funding](#) and support in a variety of [artistic fields](#). Chairwoman [Jane Chu](#) recently addressed proposed budget cuts to the NEA that would eliminate the agency completely.

[National Endowment for the Arts](#)

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