

WOLF TRAP

Foundation for the Performing Arts

stART smART Network

Creating a learning community in early childhood education through technology and the performing arts

The **Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning Through the Arts** inspires and **motivates teachers, encourages literacy** in young children, and promotes a **love of the arts** for teachers and students alike. Through residencies and workshops, **Wolf Trap Teaching Artists** provide early childhood educators with performing arts techniques and strategies for the classroom — but what happens when their time with Wolf Trap is over? The **stART smART Network** will create a model for **sustained professional development through distance learning**, so that teachers may continue to receive the benefits of the Wolf Trap Institute, long after their initial work in the classroom with a Wolf Trap Teaching Artist.

- The pilot phase of the stART smART Network is a three year, \$2.2 million initiative that will utilize Internet technology and digital video recording to launch a web-based application that supplements in-person training.
- Over \$1 million has been raised so far including \$705,000 from the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration TOP grant and significant support from the National Endowment for the Arts, The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, and The Boeing Company.
- A new state of the art facility, the **Center for Education at Wolf Trap**, will serve as a hub for the stART smART Network.
- The Wolf Trap Institute will provide services in DC, Maryland and Virginia. New York City Wolf Trap Program, sponsored by the Creative Arts Team at New York University, will bring the stART smART Network to New York communities, while communities in Tennessee, Arkansas, and Mississippi will participate in the Network through Delta Wolf Trap Program, sponsored by the Crittenden Arts Council, West Memphis, AR.
- Dissemination to all of the Wolf Trap Institute's 15 regional programs after the initial launch of the network is currently being planned.



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