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INTRODUCTION

As we approach the end of yet another delightful and triumphant year, let's take a moment to reflect on all of the adventure, knowledge and encounters this year has brought us. Here at J Rêve International, we have spent another year traveling the globe, working to make a positive impact in the arts.

Keep reading and hop in the time traveler with us, just for a moment, as we reminisce on our 2017 year in review!

PARIS GLOBAL ARTS & CULTURE PROGRAM

As part of our Global Educator Arts & Culture Program, we traveled to Paris, France in February with a group of educators. Participants from around the world joined us, all visting Paris for the first time. Through tours of art museums and collections, such as the UNESCO Art Collection and various other exhibitions, participants had the opportunity to enjoy the beauty of the works of some of the most iconic French artists – from van Gogh to Picasso, and more.



Participants attended a live performance at the historic Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord.



A stroll on the Champs Élysées before visiting the Louis Vuitton Foundation art museum.

"This experience was like a Paris bootcamp! We experienced a great amount of art, culture and food within a short amount of time. I came home feeling artistically inspired and motivated!"

Autumn S., New York, NY



Movement lesson in Paris with choreographer Fabricia Martins



The program included a visit to the renowned Louvre Museum

Our Paris trip was one that will not quickly be forgotten. Participants had many cultural experiences that can be incorporated into their work and classrooms. From the culinary lessons, to the exchanges with artists, cultural programmers, and educators, to the museum and historic monument visits, the experiences opened our eyes to the uniqueness, variety and depth of French and Francophone culture.

CUBA



Cuba participants take selfies at Viñales after visiting tobacco farms



Guided classic car tour made stops at the historic Plaza de la Revolution



Everyone enjoyed a relaxing beach day at Playa Del Este

Our next stop on the globe was Cuba! Also as part of our Global Arts & Culture Exchange Program, we visited Havana, Cuba in April and there was not a single day or activity that disappointed. As we did things like visit an organic tobacco farm, visited areas with some of Havana's most incredible landscape and went shopping in the local markets, we had the opportunity to be fully submerged in the culture surrounding us.

Participants returned home with personal experiences that they will carry with them forever. The opportunity to experience first-hand some of the most culturally specific and some of the most beautiful things Cuba has to offer is something educators can use to transform their classroom.

"This experience was amazing. The Cuban people were warm and friendly; very welcoming. It was fascinating to learn the Cuban side of the situation before the revolution."

Marci M., Rochester, NY

DC STEAM+ ARTS INTEGRATION INAUGURAL CONFERENCE

Of course, after traveling the globe – from Paris to Cuba – we had to incorporate a trip right at home, in the United States, into our annual itinerary.

In July, we welcomed several guest speakers, educators, and other community influencers from around the globe to our STEAM+ Arts Integration Conference. Delegates from leading arts and education institutions in the nation enlightened participants. Additionally, tours of art galleries and other monuments offered insight into the way STEAM+ Arts Integration can be applied and be useful in classrooms, artist's work, and the workplace.



DC Conference participants learned about Arts education funding at the National Endowment for the Arts



Program included a visit to the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture



Guest speaker Dr. Christine Mann Darden enlightened guests at AIA headquarters

Stay tuned for more details on our next conference, coming up in 2019! To get involved, contact info@jrevesteam.com.

STEAM+ ARTS INTEGRATION BOOK RELEASE TOUR

This year has brought about an opportunity to further our reach on illuminating the importance of arts in schools through our new publication, STEAM+ Arts Integration, and the start of our national book tour. STEAM education is a hot and growing topic, and this book – a product of 12 contributing authors, champions arts education as a critical part of the learning process. You can purchase it now on Amazon!



Plai Place Dallas book talk guest Jasmine Holmes with Jacqueline Cofield

Available on
amazon

The book tour, for STEAM+ Arts Integration: Insights and Practical Applications, officially began on October 14, 2017. “We made our way to NYC on December 14th for an impactful STEAM+ discussion. Upcoming 2018 book talks will be announced soon. Stay tuned!

To schedule a talk, contact Rachel@jreveinternational.com.



Panelists discuss STEAM+ Arts Integration best practices in Dallas



Queens, NY book talk guests at Aerospace & Science Academy



Quick read in Washington, DC where the book debuted, Summer 2017

“Attending the STEAM+ Conference in July, and purchasing the book has been among the best investments our school has made. We’re already implementing so much from what we’ve learned.”

Evita Sanabria, Principal, Aerospace & Science Academy PS 127. Queens, NY.

UPCOMING 2018

While 2017 was an exciting year, full of adventure, we are now excited to look ahead to what the future of 2018 has in store for us! We have already begun working on the logistics to conquer another year of educating on the importance of STEAM and the critical part that arts education plays in learning.



If you thought 2017 was a big year, just wait until you see what all we have up our sleeves for 2018! Just to get you excited, here are a few things on our itinerary: the launch of our Global Cowork Culture program, which offers members a creative international and collaborative workspace opportunity, our “In Search of the Light” documentary film on African American artists abroad and our upcoming global travel program.

We are gearing up for yet another year full of learning and adventure!

Want to go global?

We can schedule a custom program for your company or group! Please contact rachel@jreveinternational.com.



Featured speaker Mary Anne Rose Gentry and Cofield meet in NYC to discuss the documentary film project.



Artist Ed Clark at Notre Dame in Paris, being interviewed by Cofield

ABOUT J RÊVE INTERNATIONAL

At J Réve International, we are a group of artists, educators, programmers, students and advocates who are passionate about the arts. We aspire to cultivate creative game-changers globally. We believe that visual and performing arts, creative education and global exchanges generate cross-cultural awareness while transforming lives and communities.



Each year, Jacqueline Cofield welcomes participants in Havana, Cuba



Artists Julie Mehretu, Kehinde Wiley and Ed Clark with Jacqueline Cofield in Dakar and NYC respectively.

Our name says it all – Réver means to dream, and we are dedicated to realizing a better world through arts engagement. Through events, publications, programming and global cultural exchanges, we diligently work towards our goal of better preparing educators, artists, students and government for the growing intellectual demands of arts fields, innovative workplaces, and classrooms.



Paris 2017 cohort after a cooking lesson with the Académie de l'Art Culinaire du Monde



Paris 2016 cohort at the Fulbright Foundation

Of course, we can't change the world overnight, but through our continued efforts of educating and equipping current and future leaders with the necessary skills, experiences, knowledge and networks, we are one step closer to making a difference.

CONGRATULATIONS

Each year, we are elated to see the progress of our various program participants and even staff within our J Rêve International team. Seeing their successes and their progress is part of what drives us each day to keep doing what we are doing, and we are most excited to give them the recognition and congratulations they so rightfully deserve. Here are just a few accomplishments of those individuals we would like to recognize as we go through our 2017 year in review:



Justin K. Shaifer

"The J Rêve International STEAM+ conference was an excellent opportunity to connect and build with like-minded individuals in the STEAM education space. I'm definitely planning to return next time!"

Justin K. Shaifer, a participant in our STEAM+ Arts Integration conference in Washington, DC, recently left his full-time tech job at Accenture to found FascinateSci, LLC and Fascinate, Inc, and serves as CEO of both companies.

These organizations are designed to excite students about STEM. He now runs a team of Fascinators— early-career scientists who produce digestible STEM content, and is raising funds to bring the 'Magic Cool Bus' to underrepresented middle and highschoolers. He is also a manager of special projects at ReAgency, a science marketing company. He has been featured on multiple radio stations, podcasts, and articles for his efforts in STEM education. Congratulations, Justin!

Next, we would like to take a look right inside our very own team and honor one of our own, Alicia Morgan. Alicia recently completed the J Rêve International Global Arts Education Fellowship. She was also an integral part of planning our STEAM+ Arts Integration conference.

Alicia has recently joined the Frontiers of Flight Museum in Dallas, TX as Vice President of Education and Programs.



Alicia Morgan receiving 'Emerging Leader in STEAM Award' from Jacqueline Cofield at the STEAM+ Arts Integration Conference.

"Being a part of the planning and execution of the inaugural J Rêve International STEAM+ Arts Integration Conference in DC and one of the contributors for the Anthology released has been a blessing. I am thankful to Jacqueline Cofield for investing in my dream career and honoring me with the Emerging Leader in STEAM Award during the conference in DC. In my new role, as Vice President of Education and Programs at Frontiers of Flight Museum; I can absolutely say becoming a Global Arts Education Fellow is the starting point of where my engineering and arts integration career begins."

Thanks, Alicia, for everything you do and congratulations on the completion of your fellowship program!

Last, but certainly not least, we must take a moment to recognize a talented filmmaker, Solo, also known as Souleymane Ouedraogo, who completed our 2016 J Rêve International Global Artist Residency in Paris. He has had the privilege of working on a full season on Spike Lee's new series on Netflix, She's Gotta Have It, and we are so proud of his work.



Souleymane Ouedraogo as featured in Netflix's "She's Gotta Have It"

"I am presently working as a grip on various productions in New York City while putting the finishing touches on my script for my first feature film. I had the privilege to work on Denzel Washington's film, Fences as well as a full season on Spike Lee's new series on Netflix, She's Gotta Have It." Great job, Solo!

Thank You



As our 2017 year in review is coming to a close, we would just like to take a moment to say, "THANK YOU!" to everyone who has played a role in our success this past year. It truly takes a dedicated team to pull these events off and a group of driven clients thirsty for more knowledge to attend our global programs. We couldn't do what we do without you. So, Thank You!



Our 2017 STEAM+ Arts Integration Conference Partners



We would also like to say a special thank you to DIVERSITY IN STEAM MAGAZINE and SCHOLASTIC magazines, who donated editions of their esteemed magazines to our STEAM+ Arts Integration Conference 2017. Also, a thank you to our STEAM community for attending book talks around the country. Lastly, thank you to everyone all of our partners at our STEAM+ conference.

We wish you all happy holidays and a happy New Years as the end of this year draws near! Wishing you all creativity and productivity in 2018! See you next year!

Remember, if you would like to get in touch with us, we can be reached via YouTube, Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, and by email at info@jreveinternational or phone at 646-535-0594.



LETTER FROM THE FOUNDER



Cofield playing violin in elementary school

As a child, I was fortunate to have a variety of visual and performing arts classes at my school and in my community. I played the piano, violin and saxophone throughout my elementary, middle and high school years, respectively. Because my school had a theater club, I had the opportunity – and took it – to regularly attend their performances and even sing in the choir myself.

I can fondly recall learning the opera 'Carmen' by Georges Bizet in the 5th grade – in fact, it is still my favorite opera to date and one of the reasons I'm still an opera lover.

Furthermore, my school published an annual poetry book featuring my classmates' and my poems, Penprints, and I still have copies to this day. It was great to have arts in my school experience.

Years past and I went on to go to college at NYU. Additionally, I attended Tisch School for the Arts and this is where I furthered my experiences through working with NYC artists, internships at top creative firms, visits to world class museums (regularly), collaborating with creative peers, and participating in study abroad programs.



Cofield's piano recital in elementary school

Today, through J Rêve International, I am passionate about ensuring the same opportunities are afforded to students today. And, it is this passion that inspires an abundance of the work I do globally around arts education. By creating opportunities for artists, students, and teachers, I am confident that I am helping make that difference. By affording them the opportunity to learn about different cultures and how this can be incorporated into their learning, they are equipped with the knowledge to engage students and encourage them to engage in the arts.



Cofield curated an art exhibition at the Dak'Art Biennale 2014. Dakar, Senegal.

As we go into 2018, I hope everyone thinks about ways they can support and engage arts education, contemporary artists, and emerging arts firms like J Rêve International. Together, we can go further and do more. Here's to a new year filled with an abundance of new experiences and learning opportunities. I hope to see you there!

Jacqueline Cofield
Founder, J Rêve International