

## **Abstract**

### **The STELLAR Project:**

**Strategies for Technology Enhanced Learning and Literacy through ART**

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The STELLAR Project is a collaborative professional development initiative involving five high poverty rural school districts in Lane County, Oregon; the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art (JSMA); the Lane ESD; the Oregon Writing Project (OWP), and the University of Oregon's Center for Advanced Technology in Education (CATE). The goal of the *STELLAR Project* is to provide participating teachers with intensive and sustained professional development in evidenced-based strategies for teaching the visual arts and informational writing in ways that lead to the following teacher outcomes: (a) increased knowledge and skills in teaching the visual arts using the highly successful *Visual Thinking Strategies*; (b) increased knowledge and skills in teaching informational writing aligned with the CCSS; and (c) increased knowledge and skills in using digital tools and online resources for promoting visual literacy and informational writing across the curriculum. It is anticipated that successful adoption and integration of the STELLAR Project's unique professional development program will lead to the following student outcomes: (a) enhanced visual literacy in the arts; (b) improved writing of informational text, with special focus on critiquing, constructing, and writing well-supported arguments; (c) increased digital literacy skills for learning; (d) the integration of visual literacy, thinking, and informational writing across the curriculum; and (e) proficiency related to national standards in visual arts (NAEA), writing informational text (CCSS), and use of technology for learning (ISTE).