**Creative Movement Inspirations**

Immerse yourself in kid-tested movement lessons!  Participate in movement warm-up ideas for children ages 3-14.  Experience movement units for older students and take time to process these experiences with colleagues in a Professional Learning Community model.  Various topics addressed include:  visual art as an impetus for movement, verbs as a way to choreograph, assessment as a student driven activity, and movement accompaniment as a motivator.  Give your 4th-6th grade curriculum a jump start and your room a movement make-over with ideas from this session!

**Assessing the Impossible**

During this data driven time, it can be hard to create assessment partnerships in the Orff classroom that stay true to our philosophical roots.  Come explore how to create checklists for creative endeavors.  Involve students in the process of “Assessment as Learning,” and explore research to support your pedagogy.  This active workshop will involve case studies and use various Schulwerk media, especially movement, to create frameworks for a teacher-student partnership in creative environments.  All techniques are research supported and kid-tested!

**Movement Accompaniment and Movement Improvisation**

Movement accompaniment is a vital tool for the music and movement educator. It enables the guide to facilitate artistry, often using only the body and voice. How do you practice these skills so that you can facilitate artistic experiences and movement accompaniments for your children? Explore the use of the singing voice, speech, body percussion, small percussion instruments and even the recorder as tools for wonderful music making in your classrooms. This session will begin with the breath and then facilitate partner and small group work to fine-tune your skills. The session ends with inspirations from recorded music, props, and visual art, creating opportunities for safe and empowering movement improvisation moments for yourself and your children.

**Early Childhood**

A chapter can create their own early childhood focused session and choose from the five possible topics listed below.

**Community Music and Movement for Early Childhood**

Come experience the magic of community building and introductions through music and movement activities. These activities and mixers will be specifically molded for work with younger friends. Ideas could be used in a classroom or at a community music and movement night with parents and teachers!

**Movement Accompaniment, a Teacher's Critical Tool**

Movement accompaniment is a vital tool for the early childhood educator. It enables the guide to facilitate artistry, often using only the body and voice. How do you practice these skills so that you can facilitate artistic experiences and movement accompaniments for your children? Explore the use of the singing voice, speech, body percussion, small percussion instruments and even the recorder as tools for wonderful music making in your classrooms. This session will begin with the breath and then facilitate partner and small group work to fine-tune your skills.

**Singing and Movement Games for Early Childhood**

The backbone of any early childhood program is singing games. Come brush up your collection. Be ready to collect new ideas and perhaps even share your favorite song. This session will help you plan your first lessons that can carry you through the year. All songs and games in this session are favorites of a long time educator and have been kid-tested throughout many years of teaching. Be prepared to move, play and add some wonderful pieces to your repertoire.

**Props, Poems and Stories, an examination of how to select the best materials for sensory work in early childhood**

Is your closet full of props, books and ideas? Do you sometimes feel overwhelmed with the amount of stuff in a toy store or a bookstore? This session will explore how to identify quality props and literature for optimum music and movement experiences. You will see some examples of props that hold “magic” for little ones, learn from the beautiful aesthetic of approaches such as Montessori and Waldorf, and examine books in small groups to identify what works best for music and movement environments. This session offers a wonderful opportunity to purge your closet, think about new ideas and share visions for a classroom make over.

**Singing for the Classroom Teacher**

Are you a preschool educator who wants to use more music and movement in your classroom? Would you like to improve your singing voice? This safe and gentle session gives singing tips for the non-music major. What are the best ways to present a song? How do you get a starting pitch? What is the best range and for what ages? Are their fun ways to explore the voice with children? What is an instrument that I can learn to accompany singing? How do I preserve my voice as a teacher? These topics and all the answers to your singing questions will be answered in this welcoming session.