**2014 TAA Select Participant Evaluation Quotes**

Theatre

I look forward to TAA like Christmas every year. I am so thrilled to have valuable and relevant techniques to take back to my school and community. *– Nicole Arnold, Middle TN Drama/Classroom Teacher.*

TAA is the most remarkable, valuable, pertinent and inspiring opportunity for professional development and personal enrichment*. – Nicole Arnold, Middle TN Drama/Classroom Teacher*

This is the best professional development in the nation – Every administrator should send teachers – it will change the students who will then change the world! *–* *Drama Teacher from West Tennessee*

An absolutely wonderful week to ignite my energy for the upcoming school year. I can’t wait to share with my students. Thank you for making me feel special. *–* *Cynthia Beatty, East TN Classroom Teacher*

This year has been the best one yet. All 3 clinicians were positive, happy, uplifting people. *–Stephanie Bastin, Middle TN Drama Teacher*

TAA is the reason I can face another year… *– Stephanie Bastin, Middle TN Drama Teacher*

In the end, it is the journey that I am most appreciative of because I can bring my TAA journey experience to my students so they can begin their own journey. *– Middle TN Drama Teacher*

It is inspiring and affirming. A safe environment in which to be free to try new things and re-spin old knowledge. *– Gus Gillette, Middle TN Drama Teacher*

I’m a theatre teacher and Tennessee Arts Academy is my happy place!!! *– Gina Kelley, Middle TN Drama Teacher*

An Amazing and overwhelming experience that has energized and rejuvenated me and made me excited for a new year…Thank you for a great week! Every instructor was passionate about their area. All info was relevant and pertinent to use immediately in class. *– Middle TN Drama Teacher*

Just when I think TAA can’t get any better, I am delightfully proven wrong. *– Middle TN Drama Teacher*

I learned more in the LONG week than I have ever learned about theatre in my lifetime. I hope to be able to come back in the future. *– Stephanie Herron, West TN Classroom Teacher*

This week has been absolutely stupendous! I have gained strategies to incorporate in my classroom for higher-order thinking and class participation. *– Middle TN Elementary/Lower Middle Theatre – Teacher 2nd Grade*

This year was great! The clinicians were so outstanding! This is really my favorite week of the summer. My tool bag is packed and I’m excited to share ALL of this with my students and faculty members. *– Becky Reeves, West TN Classroom Teacher*

A beautiful walk through a creative environment. *– Sherry Scoville, Middle TN Classroom Teacher/Librarian*

Life changing. *– Middle TN Drama Teacher*

Musings gave me such inspiration! It gave me hope! I’m thankful. *– Cynthia Leach, Middle TN Music Teacher*

Visual Art

I truly leave this Academy feeling centered and highly motivated with amazing ideas, techniques, and lessons. Having lived in New York and teaching there the first 20 years of my teaching I can honestly say this training I received at your Academy far outweighs any other training, ever! Because you treat the whole person! Thank you. ♥ *- Kim Bohn, Middle TN Art Teacher*

Every Summer I come…I go away w/Renewed Sprit to Be the creative person I long to Be…and to share my heart and art w/students so they too will be the creative people they are! *– Elizabeth Perthel, Middle TN Art Teacher*

I really benefitted from having my eyes reopened and my spirit renewed through the art experiences and relationships with fellow art teachers. *– Middle TN Art Teacher*

This was the most inspirational week of my summer, I’m ready! *– Middle TN Art Teacher*

I do not need milk but, Arts got to Have It!!! *– Ann Wolfe, West TN Art Teacher*

The academy serves to renew my heart for teaching. I felt respected and honored to be an art teacher – Thank you.  *East TN Art Teacher*

There is no other PD out there like TAA that values art teachers and most importantly listens to our needs in today’s classroom. *– Middle TN Art Teacher*

How is it possible to be so tired and so energized at the same time? *– Sheila Stubbs, Middle TN Art Teacher*

I can’t start my year without TAA! It gets me revved up! Such quality professional development! *– Janis Nunnally, Middle TN Art Teacher*

The fanning of the creative flame in the visual arts sessions makes me not want to retire, but go back and set ‘em all on fire! *– Bill Shinn, East TN Classroom Teacher*

Music

Best money any school system could spend. *– Middle TN Music Teacher*

So very glad I came. The clinicians were absolutely fabulous!! I feel so blessed by all I’ve learned. *– Middle TN Elementary Music Teacher*

I can’t start school without coming here each year! Inspirational every year! *– East TN Music Teacher*

This has been transformative in giving me vision of what I can do, and providing the tools to get there. *– Braden Bell, Middle TN Music/Drama Teacher*

As always, the quality of my craft has been positively impacted…This institution is an essential tool in the effort to continually improve overall education in Tennessee. *– Atticus Hensley, Middle TN Music Teacher*

TAA has motivated me and empowered me to grow personally and professionally in the coming year! *– East TN Music Teacher*

These instructors taught me and gave me tools and ideas to use in my classroom and expand the music ability of my children. *– Amber Adler, West TN Music Teacher*

Thank you for continuing to encourage me to teach my students with GUSTO. This reminds me why I do what I do and that I love making music!  *Mary Lauren Rethorn, East TN Music Teacher*

The Academy equipped me with new tools for my teaching toolbox so I can build more beautiful works with my students. *– West TN Music Teacher*

The faculty were wonderful! I can use everything next year! *– Lisa Crunk, Middle TN Music Teacher*

TAA is an amazing experience for anyone in the arts. It is highly organized with faculty who are extremely specialized in their content and knowledge to meet the needs of students. The organization is a well-oiled machine and every person feels totally welcomed. The musers are most encouraging and inspirational, especially this year 2014. *– Barbara Gibson, Middle TN Music Teacher*

I came in feeling nervous and overwhelmed, and I’m leaving inspired and motivated! *– Nicole Smallwood, Middle TN Music Teacher*

I have been to many different professional development/workshops. Not one of them ever comes close to the amount of information learned as what is learned at TAA. Coming to TAA is worth every penny. *– Nicole Stimmel, Middle TN Music Teacher*

Can’t wait to come back! Cannot put a value on the week except to say it was priceless. What a gift! We go forth and teach our future adults with joy and excitement!  *Betty Miles Julian, East TN Music Teacher*

Not only was it “perfect” weather this year, the entire week of events, culinary experiences, and instruction was PERFECT. *– Tammy Marks, East TN Music Teacher*

You all rock. *– Matt Smyth, Middle TN Music Teacher*

Every year, TAA finds a way to speak to what I need. Never know how y’all read my mind/heart, but you do. Thank you. *– Anne Snider, Middle TN Music Teacher*

This year has been especially amazing! Allen Hightower and Vicky Furby were the best faculty that I have had in years! Thank you. *– Middle TN Music Teacher*

Thank you for a high quality, inspirational week, yet again. I always leave with a boost to my year’s motivation and tools for the year – a week to anticipate! *– Brenda Jewell, Middle TN Music Teacher*