

WOLF TRAP CENTER FOR EDUCATION

The Challenge

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 challenge was to provide a method to deliver continuing education and training to these educators without having to incur the cost and inconvenience of gathering these people together in an instructor led environment. Many of these educators live outside of the United States, and the ability to receive continuing education at Wolf Trap was very limited.

The Solution

Intekras, utilizing a grant provided to Wolf Trap by the Department of Commerce, created a model for sustained professional development through web-based 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. Content was developed and is now delivered through a state of the art Learning Management System (LMS) to users around the world.

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The Result

Mimi Flagherty, Director of Education at the Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning states, “Online training has brought a new dimension that we never anticipated. This exciting technology is enabling us to provide essential training to our members worldwide — faster, easier and at a fraction of the cost.” As new techniques and ideas emerge to develop trainers of early learners, these members now have access to continuing training and professional development from anywhere in the world that internet access is available. Content is easily updated and delivered in a variety of formats and learning tools enabling children all over the world to benefit from Wolf Trap’s progressive training in the arts.

