

# Sherman Center announces 2020-21 research fellow

## Center for Early Learning in Urban Communities

The Sherman Center for Early Learning in Urban Communities is pleased to announce its 2020-2021 research fellow, Monica Dale, Music Coordinator & Adjunct Faculty in UMBC's Dance Department.

Ms. Dale will work with early childhood educators at Arundel Elementary School to investigate the effect of MusiKinesis® on prekindergarten students' music and movement skills, executive functioning, and kindergarten readiness. MusiKinesis® is an original way of teaching music and dance based on principles of the traditional Swiss Dalcroze method and developed in contemporary America. MusiKinesis® has garnered positive feedback since its inception for preschool children in the 1990s, but Ms. Dale's project will be the first to test its effectiveness through an experimental design.

The Sherman Center award will allow Ms. Dale to expand knowledge about the effects of intentional exposure to the arts on young children's social, academic, and physical development while strengthening UMBC's relationship with Arundel Elementary School. Please join us in congratulating her on this innovative and exciting project!

*The Sherman Center request for proposals for the 2021-22 funding cycle will be announced in September and proposals will be due in January 2022. For more information, please visit the Sherman Center website: <https://shermancenter.umbc.edu/>*