Arts Education Policy & Funding

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STRENGTHENING EQUITABLE ACCESS TO ARTS EDUCATION THROUGH THE EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT

The arts and music are included in a definition of a "Well-Rounded Education"

"WELL-ROUNDED EDUCATION.-The term 'well-rounded education' means courses, activities, and programming in subjects such as English, reading or language arts, writing, science, technology, engineering, mathematics, foreign languages, civics and government, economics, arts, history, geography, computer science, music, career and technical education, health, physical education, and any other subject, as determined by the State or local educational agency, with the purpose of providing all students access to an enriched curriculum and educational experience."
ESSA BASICS

Signed into law, December 2015.
Significantly different from its predecessor, No Child Left Behind:
✓ More state authority for accountability
✓ Still requires annual testing in math and reading for grades 3-8.
✓ Limits authority of Secretary of Education in directing state education policy
Title I programs, the USDOE’s largest funding stream, provide supplemental funds to local educational agencies (LEAs) and schools with high numbers or percentages of children from low-income families.

Title II mainly provides funding for professional development. Titles I and IV funding can also be used to support professional development for teachers.

Title IV, part A can support the integration of the arts into STEM subject programs.
We urge Congress to strengthen equitable access to arts education through the *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)*:

- Fully fund ($1.6 billion) the Student Support & Academic Enrichment Grants under Title IV, Part A.

- Increase opportunities for the arts to help achieve Title I objectives and the professional development opportunities for arts educators under Title II.

- Fully fund ($1.1 billion) the 21st Century Community Learning Centers after-school program.
We urge Congress to strengthen equitable access to arts education through the *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)*:

• Provide at least $4 million to the Institute of Education Sciences for the administration of the Fast Response Survey System in Arts Education study.

• Restore and appropriately fund the arts in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), including full and robust assessments in dance, theater, music, and visual arts.
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Arts Education Funding and Research Through the U.S. Department of Education
Improving Access to Arts Education for All Students
ARTS EDUCATION AT THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Arts in Education Funding has Tremendous Impact!

Over 14 years:

- Model Development – ~185 funded projects
- Professional Development – ~over 100 funded projects
- Together, these projects cover over 230 Congressional districts in 33 states
- Multi-year grants transforming teaching and learning for participating schools and communities
ARTS EDUCATION AT THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

FY21 ASK:

Allocate $40 million in Assistance for Arts Education (AAE) funds in FY21.

Support national AAE programs and nationally competition grants as part of a well-rounded education, as authorized under ESSA.

Maximize the impact of federal investment in arts education by immediately disseminating data about outcomes of AAE-funded grant programs.
ARTS EDUCATION AT THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Assistance for Arts Education Appropriations
FY 2002 - Present (in millions of dollars)
ARTS EDUCATION AT THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Essential Talking Points!

▪ USDOE direct grants through AAE are a critical form of federal leadership that help strengthen the arts as part of a well-rounded education.

▪ Assistance for Arts Education programs create model initiatives & partnerships that significantly impact students and educators, particularly in high poverty schools.

▪ A reduction of funding below current level of AAE funding would result in under-funding multi-year project that are in mid-stream.
ARTS EDUCATION AT THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Essential Talking Points!

The arts are included as a well-rounded subject of learning in ESSA.

There are substantial equity gaps in access to a well-rounded education that includes the arts.

Everyone has an arts education story—be ready to tell yours.
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- Joe Manchin (West Virginia)
- Jeff Merkley (Oregon)
- Brian Schatz (Hawaii)
- Patrick J. Leahy, Vermont
Want to know more about Arts Education?

Check out these other sessions:

- Protecting the Arts in Higher Education
- Diving Deeper: K-12 Education Policy