



NAEP RELEASE EVENT INVITATION

The Nation's Report Card on Student Achievement In Music and Visual Arts to be Released June 15

Report of 8th-Grade Achievement is First Since 1997

- WHAT:** Release of *The Nation's Report Card: Arts 2008*, presenting the performance of U.S. 8th-grade students in music and visual arts on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). The arts assessment was administered to a nationally representative sample of 7,900 8th-grade public and private school students. Approximately one-half of these students were assessed in each arts subject. Student achievement results are presented nationally for 8th graders, including comparisons to results from 1997, the last time NAEP administered the arts assessment. The Report Card also provides information on student and school background factors related to achievement in music and visual arts.
- WHO:** **Stuart Kerachsky**, Acting Commissioner, National Center for Education Statistics
National Endowment for the Arts, Senior Policymaker (TBA)
Eileen Weiser, National Assessment Governing Board Member and former Michigan State Board of Education Member
David W. Gordon, Superintendent of Schools, Sacramento County, Calif., and Reporting and Dissemination Committee Chairman of the Governing Board
- WHEN:** **Monday, June 15, 2009, 10 – 11 a.m. EDT**
- WHERE:** **WVSA ARTiculate Gallery and School for ARTs in Learning, Great Room**
1100 16th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20036
- RSVP:** **Please direct RSVPs to Nell Bang-Jensen at nbangjensen@communicationworks.com or (202) 955-9450 ext. 318.**

Copies of *The Nation's Report Card: Arts 2008* and complete data from the 2008 arts assessment will be available online at <http://nationsreportcard.gov> at 10 a.m. EDT on June 15, 2009.

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The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is the only nationally representative, continuing evaluation of the condition of education in the United States. It has served as a national yardstick of student achievement since 1969. Through The Nation's Report Card, NAEP informs the public about what American students know and can do in various subject areas, and compares academic achievement among states and student demographic groups.

The National Assessment Governing Board is an independent, bipartisan board whose members include governors, state legislators, local and state school officials, educators, business representatives, and members of the general public. Congress created the 26-member Board in 1988 to set policy for NAEP.