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Arts-Centered Solutions for America's Schools **Topic of National Forum, September 13-14 in Chattanooga, TN** *NEA Chairman Rocco Landesman to Deliver Opening Address*

(Washington, DC) Some of the nation's most influential leaders in arts and education will convene in the Scenic City of Chattanooga for the Arts Education Partnership's (AEP) Fall 2012 National Forum: **Arts Learning Without Borders**, September 13-14, 2012 at the Chattanooga Hotel (1201 Broad Street). Registration information available online at www.aep-arts.org.

The Forum will examine how the realities of today's educational landscape—technological advances, new models of learning, educational funding, student assessments—are all carving out an increasingly critical role for the arts to unleash new ways of thinking, working, teaching and learning in America's classrooms and society.

The two-day convening opens with a special address: "Art Works: Transforming Schools" by Chairman Rocco Landesman of the National Endowment for the Arts. With an eye toward placing arts education center stage in the national discussion on education reform, Landesman will speak on the NEA's new priorities and strategies for ensuring that America's young people have equal access to high quality teaching and learning in the arts.

"AEP's research shows the arts as a solution to many of the educational and societal dilemmas our nation faces. When you look at Chattanooga, for example, this once struggling manufacturing city has become a national model for its ingenuity and pure grit in reinventing itself through the arts, says Sandra Ruppert, AEP director. It's an inspiring story reflective of what can happen in our schools."

Forum highlights include a video greeting from Secretary Arne Duncan, U.S. Department of Education; student performances by some of Chattanooga's finest; small group sessions and thought-provoking plenaries on the Common Core State Standards and its implications for the arts; arts-centered interventions for tackling the national crisis of bullying and new ways to help medical students better diagnose patients using visual art observation techniques. View full program of speakers [here](#).

About Arts Education Partnership

A national coalition of more than 100 education, arts, cultural, business, government, and philanthropic organizations, AEP gathers and analyzes relevant research and policy information, fosters dialogue about what works in arts education, and supports advocacy for improved education policy and practice. AEP was established in 1995 and is supported by the National Endowment for the Arts and the U.S. Department of Education in cooperation with the Council of Chief State School Officers and the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies.

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