



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Arts Education Partnership Awards Eight Graduate Fellowships to Examine Growing Body of Research on Arts Learning in America**

**(Washington, DC)** The Arts Education Partnership (AEP) is pleased to announce a new ArtsEdSearch™ Graduate Fellowship Program, piloted to examine the growing body of research on the benefits of arts learning in America. The inaugural class of eight graduate fellows – representing Florida Atlantic University, Harvard Graduate School of Education, Lesley University, and Virginia Commonwealth University – will support the expansion of AEP’s recently launched ArtsEdSearch.

ArtsEdSearch serves as the nation’s first online clearinghouse of research and policy information focused entirely on the educational outcomes associated with student learning in and through the arts. ArtsEdSearch grew out of a need for high quality, centrally located information on the essential role the arts play in developing students’ creative thinking, problem solving, communication, and collaboration skills – attributes many leaders identify as important in preparing young people for college and career success.

Through the ArtsEdSearch Fellows Program, students will conduct scholarly analysis of emerging research on arts learning, assess the education policy implications of these studies, and determine gaps in knowledge that may help strengthen the role of the arts in education reform.

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“AEP is committed to cultivating the next generation of arts education leaders through the ArtsEdSearch Fellows Program. These distinguished students and the ones who follow them will carry the torch as activists in our field’s collective vision to ensure a complete education that includes the arts for every young person in America,” says Sandra Ruppert, AEP executive director.

**This year’s inaugural class of ArtsEdSearch Graduate Fellows includes:**

- Lauren Austin, Virginia Commonwealth University (MAE)
- Mary Brooks, Lesley University (M.Ed)
- Susan Hyatt, Florida Atlantic University (Ph.D)
- Miranda Hynes, Lesley University (M.Ed)
- Raquel Jimenez, Harvard Graduate School of Education (M.Ed)
- Daniel Román, Harvard Graduate School of Education (Ed.M)
- Olga M. Vazquez, Florida Atlantic University (Ph.D)
- Sarah Zuckerman, Harvard Graduate School of Education (M.Ed)

For more information on the ArtsEdSearch Graduate Fellows pilot program, including opportunities to sponsor a fellow, please contact Andrea Kreuzer at [andreak@ccsso.org](mailto:andreak@ccsso.org).

**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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