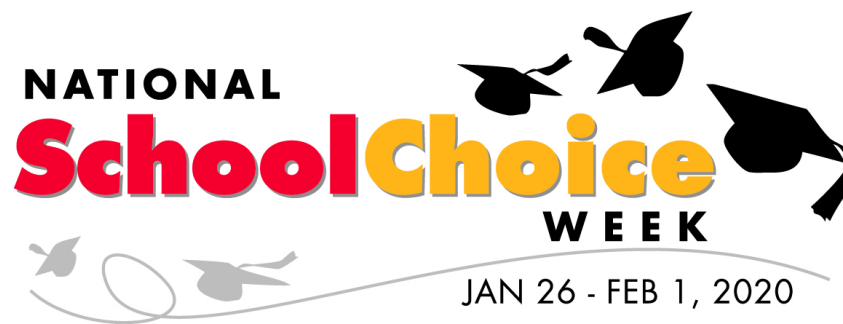


Wednesday, Jan. 22, 2020

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## National School Choice Week: AEP Resources

**National School Choice Week 2020** kicks off next week on Jan. 26 and recognizes K-12 education options with schools and organizations, among others, hosting independent events across the country.

The **AEP website** shares information requests that explore key questions about the relationships between the arts and school choice, as well as a suite of school choice resources from Education Commission of the States. AEP looks forward to its continued work in this research area and to supporting state education policymakers and stakeholders in better understanding the impact of school choice on arts education.

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## NEA Announces 2020 Musical Theater Songwriting Challenge

The National Endowment for the Arts and the American Theatre Wing announced this year's **Musical Theater Songwriting Challenge**. The competition is open to high school students passionate about writing musical theater songs.

The six Challenge winners will work with a mentor and music director to develop an original song into a Broadway-ready composition and then have that song recorded by Broadway musicians and vocalists in New York City. **Deadline to apply: March 6.**

## ATTN: High School Teachers – Vans Custom Culture Competition Provides \$75K Grand Prize for Arts Education

Open to qualifying high schools located in all 50 states and the District of Columbia, **this competition** celebrates student creativity and supports arts education programs across the country. Five hundred schools will have the opportunity to submit two pairs of custom-illustrated shoes with the themes of "Local Flavor" and "Off the Wall." The winning school will receive \$75,000 to support arts education programming. **School Application Deadline: Jan. 31.**

## OPERA America Celebrates 50th Anniversary

To celebrate its 50th anniversary, OPERA America has launched several initiatives to champion the work of those working in the profession. The **numerous events and programs** aim to engage local communities and bring together the industry and audiences at a national level.

## Submissions Open: *Journal of Folklore and Education*

Local Learning: The National Network for Folk Arts in Education is accepting **submissions** for articles, model projects, multimedia products,

teaching applications and student work accompanied by critical writing for this digital publication. Submissions should connect to the upcoming issue's theme of "Teaching for Equity: The Role of Folklore in a Time of Crisis and Opportunity." **Submission Deadline: April 1.**

## Proposals Open for Arts Education Conference 2020 Amplifying Essential Voices

Ingenuity and the Chicago Public School's Department of Arts Education are accepting **presentation proposals** from teachers, administrators, arts partners, teaching artists and others working with CPS to create and promote quality arts education. The event will take place on April 17 and will explore teaching and learning in the arts, partnership practices and sustainability and arts advocacy and leadership. **Submission Deadline: Feb. 3.**

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## News From The Field



### Sitka Center for Art and Ecology Residency Applications Now Open

The Sitka Center for Art and Ecology — based in Otis, Oregon — offers a variety of **residency options**. The Sitka Center welcomes art- and ecology-inspired applications from a range of disciplinary and interdisciplinary practices.

**Application deadline: March 31.**

## A Look at the Benefits of Music Education

A recent **Education Dive article** examines the short- and long-term benefits for schools that provide high-quality music education programming. From higher graduation and attendance rates to improved reading comprehension and study

habits, school districts that have invested in music education are seeing positive results in student achievement across disciplines.

## Upcoming Media Festival Spotlights High School Artists in Los Angeles

University of Southern California Annenberg's Critical Media Project, in partnership with California Humanities, will host the **"I Too Am" Media Festival** on Feb. 1, which will feature media created by and about Los Angeles high school students and examine identity in relation to place. The festival is free and open to Los Angeles high school students, their families and members of the community.

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## Convenings

- **Leadership in Arts Integration Institute**  
Mass Cultural Council, Lesley University and others, March 13-14, Cambridge, Massachusetts
  - **YA 2020 National Conference | Arts From the Start: An Exploration of Early Learning**  
Young Audiences Arts for Learning, March 25-27, New Orleans, Louisiana
  - **Register Now: 2020 Arts Education Policy Briefing**  
Arts Education Partnership and Americans for the Arts, March 29, Washington, D.C.
  - **Save the Date: 2020 AEP Annual Convening**  
Arts Education Partnership, Sept. 9-10, San Diego, California
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## Career Opportunities

- MINDPOP is hiring for **several new positions** based in Austin, TX.

- **Research Associate** | National Assembly of State Arts Agencies, Washington, D.C.
- **Assistant to the President & Board Liaison** | National Assembly of State Arts Agencies, Washington, D.C.
- **Performing Arts Fellow** | William + Flora Hewlett Foundation, Menlo Park, CA
- **FAO Schwarz Fellow** | Mural Arts Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA



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## Have news to share?

Please submit a 100 word summary to [gmiddleton@ecs.org](mailto:gmiddleton@ecs.org).

*The Arts Education Partnership is a national coalition of more than 100 education, arts, cultural, government, business and philanthropic organizations. AEP has been supported by the National Endowment for the Arts and the U.S. Department of Education since 1995 and is administered by Education Commission of the States.*

*AEP's efforts to communicate, collaborate, convene and connect policymakers, stakeholders and leaders across the arts in education field are supported by the following foundation partners: The Hewlett Foundation and The Wallace Foundation.*

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