



Wednesday, Feb. 11



SAVE THE DATE

ANNUAL CONVENING

September 1 - 4 | Jacksonville, FL

Save the date for the 2026 Annual Convening! We're excited to be hosting this year's Annual Convening Sept. 1-4 in Jacksonville, Florida. This year's event offers the opportunity for learning and networking — and just as importantly, an opportunity to celebrate our collective work and to help ensure everyone has access to an excellent arts education.

Look out for more details in upcoming ArtsEd Digests, including registration information, call for session proposals and more.



Policy Update

At least 26 states have begun introducing and/or implementing policies and structures modeled after the federal Department of Government Efficiency. A common strategy at the state level includes consolidating state agencies, including state arts agencies, which could impact funding and disbursement for arts education programs in schools and organizations, as well as individual artists.

AEP continued to track state-level policies across four areas related to arts education. Among the bills tracked:

- Florida enacted a bill that revised requirements to obtain a Fine Arts Diploma Seal.
- Hawaii enacted a new performing arts grant program.
- Rhode Island passed two resolutions, one recognizing Arts Day and another recognizing Arts in the Schools Month.
- Tennessee passed a resolution to recognize Arts in Education Week.

News From Our Partners and Affiliates

National Endowment for the Arts Grants

The National Endowment for the Arts is currently accepting applications for two grant programs.

- **Grants for Arts Projects** provide project-based funding for organizations. Grants are available for arts projects of all sizes in a wide variety of artistic disciplines. Projects may take place in any part of the nation's 50 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. jurisdictions.

Applications are due **Feb. 12** and **July 9**.

- **Research Awards** support research studies that investigate the value and/or impact of the arts in American life as well as long-term research agendas that include empirical studies and the dissemination of products or services for promoting public knowledge about the arts and their contributions to American life.

Applications are due **March 23**.

National PTA Committee Appointments Search

National PTA is currently seeking candidates interested in serving on a **National PTA Committee** for the 2026-29 term of office. Committee members will be reviewed by the **National Leadership Recruitment Committee**, then appointed by the National PTA President within 14 days of the election of officers and approved by the Board of Directors.

Letters of intent are due **March 15**.

DDi 2025 Report: Learning

Check out the **latest report** from **DC Arts & Humanities Education Collaborative**. In the report, District Data Initiative (DDi) looked at what impacts, shapes and motivates learning within and surrounding the classroom. The report and supporting data visualizations present the findings, recommendations and discoveries from the year. Among other things, the report found that arts and humanities programming make it easier for students to learn. Both students and teachers this year say that arts and humanities programs enhance their learning.

News From the Field

FutureEd 2025 Research Roundup

In its 2025 Research Roundup, **FutureEd** resurfaced important research studies on education. FutureEd tracks emerging research and summarizes noteworthy studies for policymakers through its Research Notes series. The

studies present fresh insights into what's working in the education sector, what's not, and why. Of the ten studies they resurfaced, three focus on **absenteeism**.

- **Study Finds Student Absenteeism not Main Driver of Post-Pandemic Learning Loss**
- **High-Impact Tutoring Boosts Attendance**
- **Study Links Immigration Raids to Rise in Student Absenteeism**



Check out these ArtsEd Amplified posts to learn more about what our community is working on!

- **Building Engagement in the Visual Art Classroom** by Twinimation Studios
- **Arts Education at the Frontier of Human-Machine Collaboration** by Trey Grimes
- **Entangling Arts and Literacy in Education** by Alex Chadwell

Are you eager to share your work with others? **Submit your idea** for ArtsEd Amplified!

Events

- **2026 National Conference** | American String Teachers Association, Feb. 25-28, San Francisco, CA
- **2026 Legislative Conference** | National PTA, March 2-4, Alexandria, VA
- **National Art Education Association Convention** | National Art Education Association, Chicago, IL March 5-7, 2026
- **SXSW EDU 2026** | SXSW EDU, March 9-12, Austin, TX

- **Telling Our Story: 2026 National Arts in Education Conference** | Young Audiences Arts for Learning, Mar. 25-27, Washington, D.C.
 - **Advocacy Summit** | Educational Theatre Association, March 26-27, Washington, D.C.
 - **2026 ABLE Assembly** | Berklee Institute for Accessible Arts Education, April 10-12, Boston, MA
 - **Amplify & Ignite: A Symposium on Theatre For Social and Civic Engagement** | American Alliance for Theatre & Education, April 16-19, 2026, New York City, NY
 - **2026 AAE Conference** | Association of Arts Administration Educators, May 28-31, Boston, MA
 - **2026 National PTA Convention** | National PTA, June 18-21, Pittsburgh, PA
 - **International Thespian Festival** | Educational Theatre Association, June 21-26, Bloomington, IN
 - **Theatre Education Conference** | Educational Theatre Association, July 22-24, New York City, NY
 - **AATE 2026 National Conference** | American Alliance for Theatre & Education, July 29-August 1, 2026, Greenville, SC
 - **2026 Biennial NAfME Music Research and Teacher Education Conference** | National Association for Music Education, Sept. 30 - Oct. 3, Long Beach, CA
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Career Opportunities

FYI: to support and encourage **sustainable hiring practices**, AEP only includes career opportunities that include a salary/compensation in the job posting.

Remote

- **Partner Development Manager** | Education Theatre Association, Remote

West

- **Director of Theatre Sales and Operations** | Cleo Parker Robinson Dance, Denver, CO

- **Resident Artist Educator** | 24th Street Theatre, Los Angeles, CA
- **Senior Manager/Programs Director** | Luna Dance & Creativity, Berkeley, CA

South

- **Director of Development & Community Engagement** | Arts Garage, Delray Beach, FL
- **Executive Director** | Hayti Heritage Center, Durham, NC

Northeast

- **President & CEO** | Wharton Arts, Berkeley Heights, NJ
- **Executive Director Brattleboro Music Center** | Brattleboro Music Center, Brattleboro, VT
- **President and Chief Executive Officer** | Handel and Haydn Society, Boston MA
- **Executive Director** | Academy of Music Theatre, Northampton, MA

ArtsEdSearch

A 2005 study looked at an arts program for incarcerated young women ages 11-17. The study found that the program facilitated positive improvements across all relational contexts of the participants. The role of the teaching artist was central in establishing and maintaining an environment that facilitated student self-discovery and self-reported behavior changes. Learn more about the study at

<https://ow.ly/Z2V250YcBU5> | [#ArtsEdSearch](#)

Have news to share?

Please submit a 100-word summary via **email**.

The Arts Education Partnership is a national coalition of more than 200 education, arts, cultural, government, business and philanthropic organizations. AEP has been supported by the National

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AEP's efforts to build leadership capacity across the arts education field are also supported by The Hewlett Foundation and The Wallace Foundation.



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