

# 2025

## ANNUAL REPORT

For the last 30 years, AEP has stood as the nation's hub for arts education by bridging the gap between arts and education leaders. Throughout 2025, AEP further honed its ability and passion for connection in a time when it is needed most. New this year, we launched the Partnership Directory, created the ArtsEd Connect partner newsletter and formed two new working groups. We also continued bringing people together for shared learning and connection by hosting four webinars, two in-person

partnership meetings and the Annual Convening in Denver, Colorado. Our written content in 2025 highlighted programs across the country whose work also connects, shapes and bridges the arts education field.

We've been proud to see our efforts pay off as partners and affiliates connect and work together as part of AEP's network. While attending the AEP Annual Convening, Miranda Leigh Hein, executive director of ArtsEd Washington, connected

with other state arts education organizations to create a national directory of arts education contacts. This demonstration of the partnership in action strengthens AEP's efforts as we strive to expand the reach of our network and find more ways to bring arts and education leaders together across our nation to provide an excellent arts education for all.

# 2025 HIGHLIGHTS

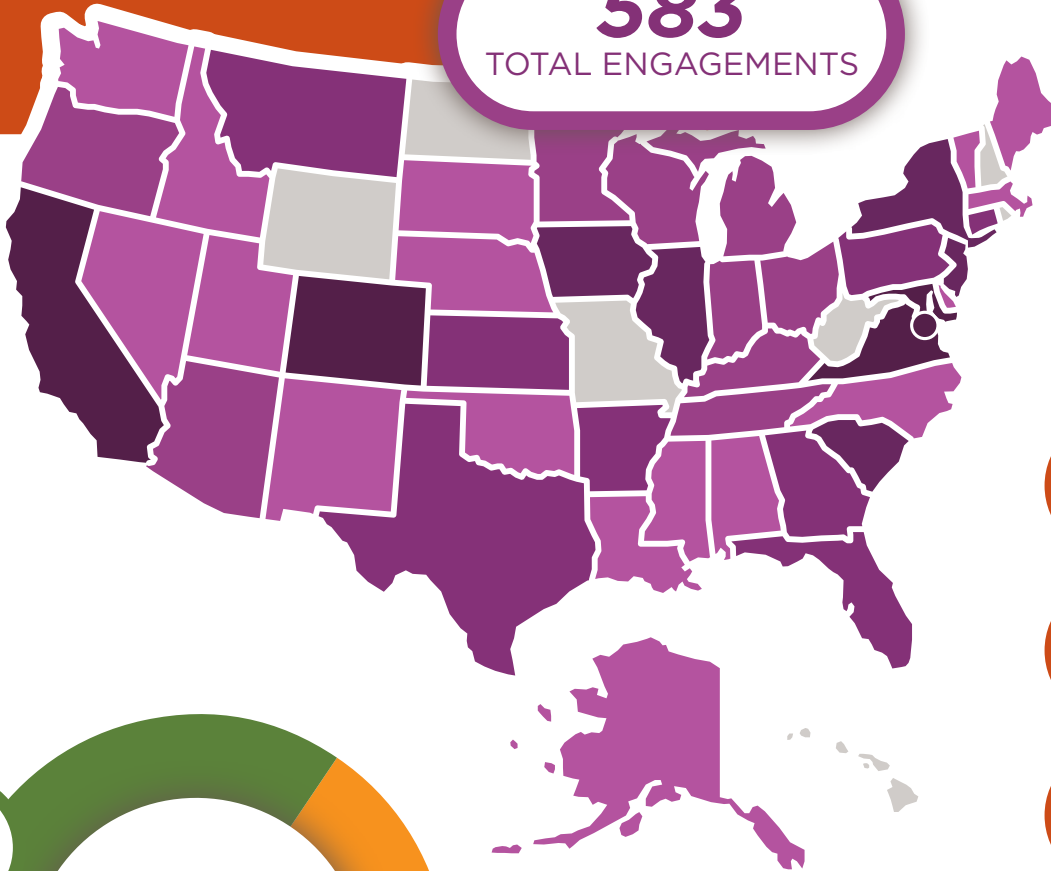
**583**

TOTAL ENGAGEMENTS

MOST  
ENGAGEMENTS  
BY STATE



LEAST  
ENGAGEMENTS  
BY STATE



**88**

PARTNERS

**232**

TOTAL PARTNERS  
AND AFFILIATES

**24**

INDIVIDUAL  
AFFILIATES

**120**

ORGANIZATIONAL  
AFFILIATES



**5**

**KEY ISSUES**

- Data
- Health and Wellness
- Juvenile Justice
- STEAM
- Teacher Recruitment and Retention

**31**

MEETINGS HOSTED

**961**

MEETING ATTENDEES

**6**

PUBLICATIONS

**10**

INFORMATION REQUESTS

**23**

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE  
ACTIVITIES

**148,044** VISITORS TO AEP-ARTS.ORG

**47,320** VISITORS TO ArtsEdSearch



**+73,000** ONLINE RESOURCES ACCESSED

**1,300** STATE PROFILES VIEWED ON ArtScan

**146** STORIES SHARED IN **23** ArtsEd DIGESTS

### ArtsEd Amplified Posts

- [Standing in the Gap: Addressing Shortages in Oklahoma Rural Arts Education](#)
- [Announcing our Strategic Pause for ArtsEdSearch](#)
- [Find Connection With AEP's Partnership Directory](#)
- [An Easy Way to Bring Art & SEL Outcomes to Your Students](#)
- [Educating Ourselves about Childhood Arts Experiences](#)
- [Introducing the Customized Arts Learning Toolkit!](#)
- [Educator Growth Through NETServe](#)

### Media Mentions

- [Postmodern Jukebox Champions Music Education and the Preservation of Vintage Styles](#)
- [How to Foster Creativity in Arts Education](#)
- [UP AND DOWN THE RIVER: Art Attack is back at Artworks](#)
- [Viewpoint: Why arts education fuels Maryland's economy](#)
- [Reclaiming the Arts in Public Schools](#)
- [OPINION: Surrey students deserve better than music program cuts](#)
- [BCreativetolearn Highlights the Educational Value of Art and Craft Supplies for Child Development](#)
- [Two more Third Thursday ArtWalks](#)
- [Music education programs aren't playing second fiddle to workforce development](#)
- [From shy auditions to Miss Teen Ohio: How the Renaissance inspires confidence](#)

### Advisory Council

- A+ Schools of North Carolina
- American Alliance for Theatre & Education
- Arts Administrators of Color
- ArtsNOW Learning
- California County Superintendents Arts Initiative
- Cathedral Arts Project
- Crayola and Tennessee Art Education Association
- DC Public Schools
- Detroit Excellence in Youth Arts
- Ingenuity, Inc.
- Institute for Arts Integration in STEAM
- International Association of Blacks in Dance

- The Learning Alliance
- Local Learning Network
- MINDPOP
- National Association for Media Arts Education
- National Association for Music Education
- NAMM (National Association of Music Merchants)
- National Art Education Association
- National Endowment for the Arts
- National Dance Education Organization
- National Guild for Community Arts Education
- National Partnership for Juvenile Services
- Ohio Music Education Association

- Partners for Rural Impact
- Pennsylvania Music Educators Association
- Prince Georges County Public Schools
- Research, Evaluation, and Measurement Center at University of South Carolina
- Social Art and Culture
- SpyHop
- Stillman College
- State Education Agency Directors of Arts Education
- U.S. Department of Education
- Wallace Foundation
- Wisconsin Music Educators Association



### Town Hall for Local Arts Education Supervisors

Webinar summarizing the Arts Education Data and Reporting Initiatives Report

### Arts Education Data and Reporting Initiatives

Report outlining questions, data and reporting sources, and gaps and potential barriers related to data



### In-Person Partnership Meeting

National Endowment for the Arts offices Washington, D.C.

*"Especially in this moment, it felt incredibly valuable to be in community with partners, and the thoughtful structuring of our time together and facilitation made a short gathering even more powerful."*



October

November

December

February

April

### Partnership Directory

A new web-based tool for AEP's network to collaborate with AEP partners and affiliates



### Partnership Meeting

Webinar highlighting federal arts education funding opportunities within the Department of Education, Department of Homeland Security and National Endowment for the Arts

### ArtsEd Connect

New partner newsletter providing connection opportunities, reminders and info for AEP's partners and affiliates



### Center for Prevention Programs and Partnerships' 101 Information Session

Introduction webinar about the Department of Homeland Security's health and wellness work



### Preparing Teachers for Place-Based Arts Teaching

Success Story highlighting a K-12 art licensure program at the University of Alaska Fairbanks



### Systems Change Network

Network to provide a space for leaders in organizations focused on collective impact or systems change to identify and solve problems unique to arts education



A photograph of a group of people sitting around a table, engaged in a discussion. The photo is overlaid with a purple semi-transparent box containing text and graphics.

## Annual Convening

Agenda also included Partnership Meeting, Sustainability Planning Meeting, Advisory Council

- 185** Total Attendees
- 107** New Attendees
- 12** Youth Presenters
- 35** States Represented

The top three reasons for attending were:

1. Learn about emerging trends in arts education research, policy or practice
2. Make new connections in arts education
3. Learn about the work of others

A map of the United States with 35 states highlighted in purple, representing the states represented at the Annual Convening.

**93%**

Respondents agreed or strongly agreed that their goals had been met by the end of the event

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.

