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GREETINGS FROM AEP DIRECTOR, JAMIE KASPER

Dear AEP partners, affiliates and colleagues,

I feel like I just want to copy and paste last year's letter – which opened with "Wow. What a year 2020 was for all of us." – replace everything with 2021 and hit enter. Alas, I can't do that, so here goes. It's been another year. 2021 was full of ups and downs: a return to limited travel for some of our colleagues across the country, a second AEP virtual gathering when it became clear we weren't ready to gather in person yet and for many of us, a general sense of living the same day over and over again.

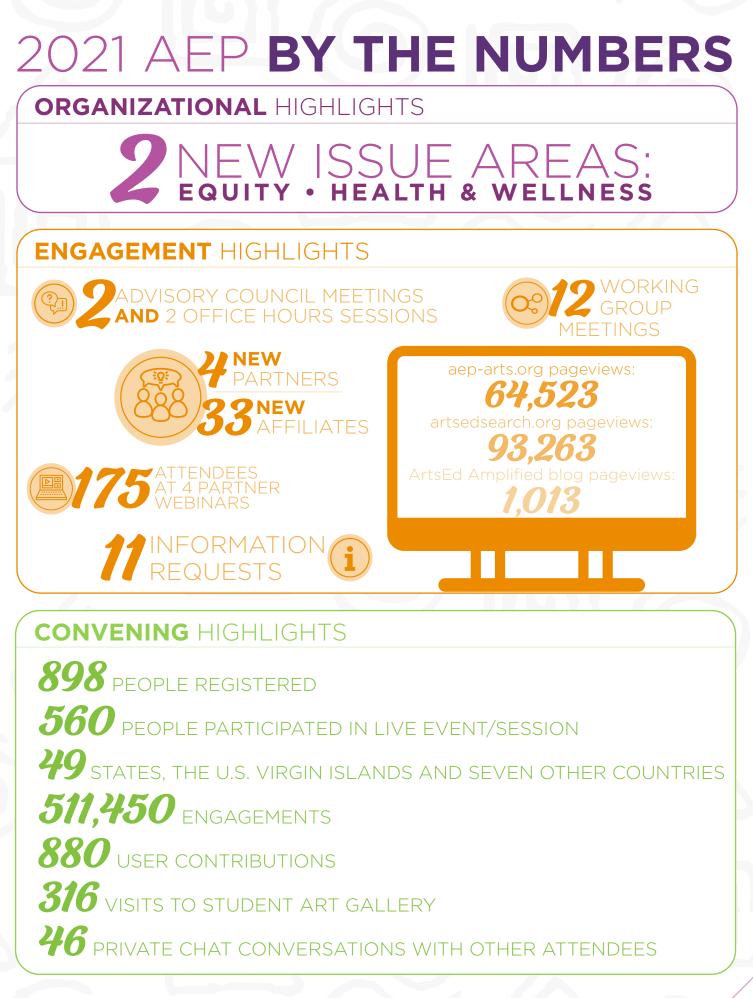
In AEP's world, we held our first policy academy since 2019, welcoming three state teams – South Carolina, Vermont and West Virginia – to spend 18 months working with us on STEAM-related issues. We hosted a multisession thinkers meeting focused on literacy, with 14 thinkers from across the arts and literacy spectrum sharing their expertise. 898 people registered for the virtual gathering and 560 joined the event live, almost three times the number who traditionally gather for in-person convenings! AEP's arts ed policy working group hosted a first-ever virtual town hall for local arts education supervisors, with almost 200 people attending. We officially launched the ArtsEd Amplified blog in March and partnered with 13 external authors to create blog content throughout the year. This year was also a time for both farewells and welcomes, as we said goodbye to Gwynne Middleton, AEP's communications specialist, as she moved to a new role; mourned the loss of our dear colleague, artist and researcher Don Glass, who worked at The Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and was an integral part of our ArtsEdSearch work; and gained four new partners and 33 new affiliates.

Finally, you might notice this annual report covers a different time period than past reports. This year, we decided to mirror the dates of the annual report with our program year, which starts on October 1 and ends on September 30. There is some overlap with last year's report, but this will allow staff members to keep cleaner records and simplify the process of creating this report each year.

2021 was both a hopeful year and a year of loss for all of us, but among it all, AEP staff members, partners and affiliates continued to work toward equitable access to arts education for all children. That vision will continue to carry us through into 2022.

Jamie Kapper

Jamie Kasper Director, Arts Education Partnership



2021 RESEARCH



AEP collaborated with the Directors of Arts Education (SEADAE),

a partner organization, and policy staff members at Education Commission of the States to update ArtScan. This resource provides information about state policies supporting arts education in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Users can explore ArtScan through state-level profiles for all policy areas and several types of 50-state reports. AEP released 2021 ArtScan at-a-Glance in March and worked with SEADAE to revise the ArtScan update process. This year's ArtScan included STEAM and arts diploma seals as a new policy area.

State has policy. No change in 2021 State does not have policy. No change in 2021

ARTS AS A CORE ACADEMIC SUBJECT

LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR NON-ARTS TEACHERS



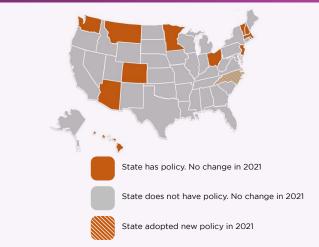
ARTS REQUIREMENTS FOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION



LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR ARTS TEACHERS



ARTS EDUCATION ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS



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ArtsEdSearch

The AEP team continued its internal review of ArtsEdSearch, meeting with researchers and other members of the ArtsEdSearch task force to articulate a purpose and target audience for the site.

In December, AEP added seven new studies to ArtsEdSearch to reach a milestone of over 300 studies:

- <u>Using Multi-Genre Arts Programming to Support Creative Engagement and Social and Emotional Learning</u> in <u>Middle-School Students With Autism</u>
- Increased Engagement of the Cognitive Control Network Associated With Music Training in Children
 During an fMRI Stroop Task
- The Effectiveness of Performative Aerial Practice on Mental Health and the Love of Movement
- Museums as Classrooms: The Academic and Behavioral Impacts of "School in the Park"
- <u>The Development of Musical Skills of Underprivileged Children Over the Course of One Year: A Study in</u> <u>the Context of an El Sistema-Inspired Program</u>
- <u>A Vision of Civically Engaged Art Education Teens as Arts-Based Researchers</u>
- Neural Correlates of Accelerated Auditory Processing in Children Engaged in Music Training

In June, AEP added six more studies through an expedited review process. These studies had already been published in peer-reviewed journals, and review panel members provided content for the summaries rather than the studies' authors.

- <u>The Benefits of Music Workshop Participation for Pupils' Wellbeing and Social Capital: The In2 Music</u> <u>Project Evaluation</u>
- <u>"It Just Made Me Want to Do Better for Myself": Performing Arts Education and Academic Performance</u> for African American Male High School Students
- <u>'Seeing' and 'Being Seen': An Embodied and Culturally Sensitive Arts-Integrated Pedagogy Creating</u> Enriched Conditions for Learning in Multicultural Schools
- Promoting Engagement in School Through Tailored Music Programs
- In the Face of the Unprecedented: Creative Youth Development Guides Organizations to Adapt, Support and Thrive
- Digital Storytelling as Arts-Inspired Inquiry for Engaging, Understanding and Supporting Indigenous Youth

2021**REPORT**

AEP issued two new reports and published 26 blog posts authored by partners and affiliates, staff members and others.

REPORTS



• Expanding the Arts Across the Juvenile Justice System



 Dance Counts: How Dance Education Helps Students Learn, Grow and Connect with Community

BLOG POSTS

- Embracing an Enriched Literacy Approach in Quarantimes
- <u>Supporting Student Wellness Through the Arts</u>
- Dance Counts: How Policymakers Can Support Access to Quality Arts Education
- ArtsEdSearch: 300 Studies and Counting
- Arts Education Policy Trends to Look for in 2021
- <u>Arts Integrated Teacher Education Benefits</u> <u>Elementary Students and Teachers Alike</u>
- <u>APE Policy Briefing Shares Youth-Centered Policy</u> and Strategies
- <u>Using STEAM to Promote Remote Learners</u>
- Welcome to ArtsEd Amplified!
- <u>A Long Game Leads to Arts Education Policy Change</u>
- Extra! Extra! ArtScan Captures New Policy Area
- <u>What We've Learned About Innovations in Arts</u> <u>Education During a Pandemic</u>
- <u>Advancing Governors' 2021 Priorities Through the Arts</u>
- Blurring the Lines: Expanding Literacy and Arts Education
- <u>A By-the-Numbers Approach to Exploring the Arts in Charters</u>

- <u>What We Know and Don't Know About the Status</u> of Arts Education
- How to Sustain Cultural Art Forms in Arts Education
 Equitably
- New Study Shows Why Arts Education Matters
- <u>The Role of Student Voices on State Boards of</u> <u>Education</u>
- <u>A Look Behind the Scenes of the 2021 AEP Virtual</u> <u>Gathering</u>
- <u>Observations from the Field: How the Pandemic</u> Impacted Arts Assessment
- <u>Communicating for Connection Through Inclusive</u> <u>Presentation Practices</u>
- <u>Building Leadership Capacity Through the 2021 AEP</u> <u>Virtual Gathering</u>
- <u>4 Big Takeaways From Virtual Arts Learning During</u> the Pandemic
- Impact Stories to Inform Arts Learning Practices
- <u>Centering Latinx Studies in Arts and Humanities</u> <u>Curriculum and Pedagogy</u>

SUCCESS STORIES

- <u>Creative Action Wish Trees Project</u>
- Art Kits for All

AEP published eight success stories under a new category, COVID Innovations and Responses. For these new stories, AEP staff interviewed organizations and individuals across the country to learn about how they adapted their work during the pandemic.

- An Organizational Pivot Brings Arts Kits and Meals to Students' Homes
- Synchrobox: An Innovation from Houston Ballet
- Theatre & Drama Therapy Innovations at Yeshivah of Flatbush Joel Braverman High School
- Cathedral Arts Project Leverages Relationships to Support Innovation
- Inspired Together: Rethinking a School Orchestra Program
- Virtual Music Camp Increases Attendance More than 600% Over In-Person Camp

2021 COUNSEL

PRESENTATIONS

November 2: Virtual learning session Education policy Undergraduate art education students Millersville University, PA

November 14: Virtual keynote presentation Digital Summit for Arts Educators Department of Education, AZ

November 30: Virtual learning session Arts education and juvenile justice

Grantmakers for Education virtual conference

December 9: Virtual learning session

ArtScan and arts education policy State Education Agency Directors of Arts Education

January 14: Virtual learning session

Arts education jobs in arts management Arts Management Exchange Oklahoma City University, OK

February 8: Virtual learning session

Arts education data and policy Kennedy Center Partners in Education annual meeting

February 18: Virtual learning session

Arts education policy opportunities Arts educator professional development exchange Oberlin Center for the Arts, OH

INFORMATION REQUESTS

AEP responded to 11 information requests this year focused on:

- Models of K-12 arts integration and adapting to distance learning
- Arts requirements for university admissions
- Career pathways and visual arts education
- Dance certification and standards
- State policies on arts and special education
- Standards and culturally responsive teaching
- Resources for vetting virtual presenters to keep students safe
- Working with schools as a teaching artist
- Impact of 2008 and 2020 recessions on arts and STEAM education
- Industry standards/curriculum for arts integration
- Integrating STEAM with other subject areas and supporting STEAM career pathways

March 6: Virtual learning session

Diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility in arts education Young Audiences of Northern California

April 8: Virtual learning session

Youth engagement and juvenile justice reform policies National Arts Action Summit | Americans for the Arts

May 26 and June 3: Virtual learning session

Diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility in arts education Kansas City Young Audiences

April 14: Virtual learning session

AEP's work Graduate arts management students Carnegie Mellon University, PA

June 16: Virtual learning session

Arts education and ESSER funding Education Writers Association

June 23: Virtual learning session Arts education data and funding

Yale Symposium on Music Education

July 16: Virtual learning sessions

Arts education research and policy Restart: Virtual Art Conference 2021 Azusa Pacific University, CA

August 11 and August 18: Virtual learning sessions

Arts education and ESSER funding Webinar series for state arts agency arts education managers National Assembly of State Arts Agencies

August 17: Virtual learning session

Arts education data and policy AMS Planning & Research, CA

August 25: Podcast and blog

AEP equity working group process and progress Arts Are Education campaign

September 9: Virtual learning session

Arts education policy Leadership Network, Berklee Institute for Arts Education and Special Needs Berklee College of Music, MA

September 23: Virtual learning session

Arts education policy Graduate arts students George Mason University, VA

In addition to these presentations, AEP facilitated the first session of the learning community for Grantmakers in Education's Arts Impact Group on **September 23**.

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2021**CONVENE**

VIRTUAL GATHERING

On September 14 and 15, AEP hosted it second virtual gathering focused on issues of equity, youth development, narratives about arts education and other important topics. In addition to the metrics included on p. 3 of this report, metrics collected after the event showed that attendees continued to engage with the content. Between September 16 and October 28:

- Visitors continued to access content on the event platform, with 322 additional visits to the site by 219 unique users.
- Attendees viewed archived sessions 80 times.
- Attendees engaged in four additional video chats.
- Attendees logged an additional 60,380 engagements and 6,101 minutes within the platform.

The event agenda included three plenary sessions, 12 concurrent sessions, three time slots for office hours and one set of world café sessions. Highlights included a closing panel with John Lithgow, Sonia Manzano, Porché Hardy and Mario Rossero, plus a panel discussion with researchers promoting a holistic narrative about the value of arts education. 95% of speakers had never previously presented at an AEP event, and 100% of sessions included at least one new speaker. All plenary and concurrent sessions, including related materials, are archived on the AEP website.

In the post-event survey, attendees indicated their goals for the event were to learn about emerging trends in arts education, learn about the work of others, make new connections, share about their own work and build stronger relationships with colleagues. 83% of attendees agreed or strongly agreed the event met those goals.

STEAM POLICY ACADEMY

On July 13-14, AEP hosted 16 participants from South Carolina, Vermont and West Virginia for the STEAM policy academy. During the two-day, virtual experience, participants connected with STEAM leaders from Georgia, Nevada and Ohio. Participants worked with their state teams to create an action plan for supporting STEAM education in their states. AEP will provide 18 months of technical assistance to these states as they implement their plans.

ARTS AND LITERACIES THINKERS MEETING SERIES

From June through August, AEP hosted 14 attendees for multiple sessions of its thinkers meeting focused on arts and literacies. Insights and reflections from the meetings contributed to the development of a new interactive, web-based resource on arts and literacies to be published in December.

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"I think this went really well, not just as a virtual conference, but as a conference overall. I enjoyed the sessions - wish I could've attended all of them - and I look forward to seeing the videos of the concurrent sessions that I missed out on. The quality of presenters and orgs was great."

POLICY BRIEFING

On January 21, AEP hosted the Arts and Juvenile Justice Policy Briefing featuring Maine Representative Rebecca Millett and Commissioner Peter Forbes of the Massachusetts Department of Youth Services. More than 150 people attended the event, which focused on youth-centered approaches in policymaking for justice-involved youth. A central theme of the conversation was how to help youth feel good about learning again and how this is best accomplished when we listen to their stories of resilience.

PARTNER WEBINARS

AEP hosted partner webinars in November, February, May and August, with 175 people attending across these four engagements.

WORKING GROUPS

AEP's equity, arts ed policy and higher education working groups met virtually at least quarterly.

EQUITY WORKING GROUP

Chaired by Pam Breaux from the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies, the equity working group met throughout the year to engage in inquiry-based learning communities. Members worked in small groups to craft and explore inquiry questions related to justice, equity, diversity and inclusion in their organizations and programs.

ARTS ED POLICY WORKING GROUP

Chaired by Heather Noonan from the League of American Orchestras and Narric Rome from Americans for the Arts, the arts ed policy working group hosted a virtual town hall in September 2020 for local arts education supervisors. Almost 200 attendees participated in the event, which aimed to connect these local leaders from across the country to learn from each other.

HIGHER EDUCATION WORKING GROUP

Chaired by Martha McKenna from Lesley University, the higher education working group coordinated a blog series for ArtsEd Amplified throughout the year to highlight effective arts integration practices. This work connects to the group's publication from 2017, <u>Preparing Educators for Arts Integration: Placing Creativity at the Center of Learning.</u>

2021 COMMUNICATIONS

ARTSED DIGEST

ArtsEd Digest, AEP's biweekly newsletter, ended the year with 5,934 subscribers. The average open rate for the Digest was 22.1%, with a click-through average of 3.8%.

SOCIAL MEDIA

AEP continued to increase the number of followers and engagements across social media platforms.

	# posts	# clicks on links shared in posts	# engagements by visitors	# page likes or followers
Facebook	419	9,669	1,359	3,938
LinkedIn	312	1,005	1,333	1,415
Twitter	1,252	23,047	4,472	9,229

WEBSITE

AEP-ARTS.ORG

Monthly average visitor count: 5,377

Pages with most views:

- COVID-19 Resources: 3,603
- ArtScan: **3,012**

- ArtScan State Profiles: 2,393
- Dance Counts: 2,333
- Who We Are: 2,488
- AEP Partners: 1,915

ARTSED AMPLIFIED BLOG (LAUNCHED IN MARCH 2021)

Total visitor count: 1,013

Posts with most views:

- Observations from the Field: How the Pandemic Impacted Arts Assessment
- How to Sustain Cultural Arts Forms in Arts Education Equitably
- New Study Shows Why Arts Education Matters
- What We Know and Don't Know About the Status of Arts Education
- What We've Learning About Innovations in Arts Education During a Pandemic

2021 COMMUNICATIONS

WEBSITE CONTINUED

ARTSEDSEARCH.ORG

Monthly average visitor count: 7,772

Studies with most views:

- Arts Education in Secondary Schools: Effects and Effectiveness
- Does Musical Training Improve School Performance?
- <u>SAT Scores of Students Who Study the Arts: What We Can and Cannot Conclude</u> <u>About the Association</u>
- Educational Research: The Art of Problem Solving
- How Arts Integration Supports Student Learning: Students Shed Light on the Connections

OTHER MEDIA

In December 2020, AEP was mentioned in the <u>end-of-year report</u> from Austin Classical Guitar.

<u>COVID-19 leaves art organizations out of the classrooms and students without a tune</u> – published by Scripps Media and picked up by local markets in Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Kentucky, Missouri, Montana, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Texas and Utah; also picked up by The Daily Advent

For Head Start students, the arts endure - published in the Rutledge (VT) Herald

With six simple steps, you too can become an arts ally for equity - published in the Lansing (MI) State Journal

Music Education in the Pandemic and Beyond - panel discussion on NPR's 1A

<u>Power of an Arts Education Springs to Life with Children's Creative Project</u> - published by the Noozhawk (Santa Barbara, CA)

"Opening the Door Wider": With Upcoming Admissions Decisions, Top-Ranked L.A. Arts School Puts Equity in the Spotlight – published by The 74

Head Start bring[s] music to its summer programming - published in The Barre Montpelier (VT) Times Argus

2021PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS



NEW PARTNERS

- Teaching Artists Guild
- National Alliance for Public Charter Schools
- Music and the Brain
- The Lewis Prize for Music



NEW AFFILIATES

- <u>The Acadia Foundation</u>
- <u>Act One</u>
- Amoriza Gunnink, <u>My</u> <u>Kinderhouse</u>
- <u>Artportunity Knocks, Inc.</u>
- <u>3Looms Creative</u> <u>Education Consulting</u>
- <u>Arts Education in Maryland Schools</u>
- Black Girls Who Paint
- A Child's Song
- Cultural Innovation Group, LLC
- <u>CUNY Creative Arts Team</u>
- Da Vinci Science Center
- The Domestic Musician, LLC
- <u>Earthskull</u>
- Fifth House Ensemble
- Ilona Oltuski, <u>GetClassical in School</u>
- Kansas City Young Audiences

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Americans for the Arts

• Narric Rome*, Vice President for Government Affairs and Arts Education

Arts Connect Houston

• Deborah Lugo, Executive Director

Association of Art Museum Directors

Andy Finch, Director of Policy

- Leaders of Tomorrow Youth Center
- Learning Pathmakers
- Marsha Dinelli
- Media Arts Committee
- Melissa Parke, Black Teaching Artist Lab
- Minnesota Education Equity Partnership
- <u>New Jersey State Council on the Arts</u>
- New Mexico Holocaust Museum and Gellert Center for Education
- New York International Children's Film Festival
- Peter Kahn
- <u>POETRY CONSULTS</u>
- <u>Poway Onstage</u>
- University of Minnesota Arts in Education Program
- Wendy Liscow
- XQ Institute
- Young Audiences of Northern California
- **City Lore**
 - Raquel Almazan, Director of Urban Explorers After School Program
 - Sahar Muradi, Director of Education Programs
 - Malini Srinivasan, Manager of School Partnership Programs

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2021 PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

ADVISORY COUNCIL CONTINUED

Dance/USA and OPERA America

- Rebecca Ferrell, Director of Programs
- Tony Shivers, Director of Government Affairs

Educational Theatre Association

• Jim Palmarini, Consultant

John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts

Jordan LaSalle, Vice President of Education

League of American Orchestras

• Heather Noonan*, Vice President for Advocacy

Lesley University Creative Arts in Learning Programs

• Martha McKenna*, University Professor; Director of Creativity Commons; Director of the Graduate School of Education's Center for Advanced Professional Studies

Media Arts Committee

- Dain Olsen, Media Arts Educator (Los Angeles Unified School District), Media Arts Writing Chair (National Coalition for Core Arts Standards)
- Aaron Knochel, Assistant Professor of Art Education (Pennsylvania State University)

Michigan Assessment Consortium (Michigan Arts Education Instruction and Assessment Project)

- Heather Vaughan-Southard, Professional Learning
 Director
- Barb Whitney, Partners Coordinator (also Executive Director, Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center)

Minnesota Education Equity Partnership

• Dr. Rose Chu, Senior Systems Fellow

National Assembly of State Arts Agencies

• Pam Breaux*, President and CEO

National Dance Education Organization

Susan McGreevy-Nichols, Executive Director

National Art Education Association

• Mario Rossero, Executive Director

National Association for Music Education

- John Donaldson, Director of Professional Development and Publications
- Tooshar Swain, Director of Public Policy and Advocacy

National Association of Elementary School Principals

• Earl Franks, Executive Director

National Endowment for the Arts

- Nancy Daugherty, Arts Education Specialist
- Ayanna Hudson, Director of Arts Education

National Guild for Community Arts Education

Adam Johnston, Chief Operating Officer

National Parent Teacher Association

• Amy Lorenz, Deputy Executive Director of Strategic Initiatives

New Jersey State Council on the Arts

• Samantha Clarke, Program Officer, Arts Education & Lifelong Learning, Multidisciplinary

State Education Agency Directors of Arts Education

• Todd Shipley, President (Tennessee Department of Education)

Student/youth representatives

- Katie Berglof, Master's Student, University of Seattle
- Mia Strickland, Master's Student, University of Kentucky; Arts Integration/Education Associate, Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall

U.S. Department of Education

- Bonnie Carter, Group Leader, Arts in Education and Literacy Programs
- Michelle Georgia, Acting Director, Well-Rounded Education Programs

The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation

• Jessica Mele, Program Officer in Performing Arts

Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts

• Shannon Kelly, Senior Director of Government Affairs

Young Audiences Arts for Learning

• David Dik, National Executive Director

*Working group chairs

- Arts education policy working group: Heather Noonan and Narric Rome
- Equity working group: Pam Breaux
- Higher education working group: Martha McKenna

2021PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

ARTSEDSEARCH TASK FORCE

Task Force facilitators:

Lynn Tuttle, formerly of National Association for Music Education

Amy Charleroy, Associate Educator, School and Educator Programs, The Metropolitan Museum of Art

Patricia Moore Schaffer, National Endowment for the Arts

Yael Silk, Arts Education Collaborative

ARTSEDSEARCH REVIEW PANEL

DECEMBER 2020

Amy Charleroy, Associate Educator, School and Educator Programs, The Metropolitan Museum of Art

Donna Goodwin Assistant Professor, Arts Education <u>University of Northern Colorado</u>

Elizabeth Hallmark Director, Research and Evaluation <u>Center for Creative Education</u>

Rob Horowitz Arts Education Researcher and Consultant

Laura Reeder Artist Lecturer in Art, Art Education, <u>Boston University</u>

Matt Sikora Director, Evaluation and Planning Arts Education Collaborative

Sharon Sullivan-Rubin Department of Educational Leadership Rowan University

Kylie Peppler Associate Professor, Informatics Donald Bren School of Information & Computer Sciences, University of California

Patricia Mullaney-Loss Research Manager National Assembly of State Arts Agencies **JUNE 2021**

Amy Charleroy, Associate Educator, School and Educator Programs, The Metropolitan Museum of Art

Don Glass Research Manager The Kennedy Center

Donna Goodwin Assistant Professor, Arts Education <u>University of Northern Colorado</u>

Ron Gubitz Executive Director Tulane Hillel

Elizabeth Hallmark Director, Research and Evaluation <u>Center for Creative Education</u>

Rob Horowitz Arts Education Researcher and Consultant

Lisa Rathje Executive Director Local Learning: The National Network for Folk Arts in Education

Laura Reeder Artist Lecturer in Art, Art Education, Boston University

Matt Sikora Director, Evaluation and Planning Arts Education Collaborative

Debra Smith Senior Research Partner and Advisor <u>PERG learning, LLC</u>

Sharon Sullivan-Rubin Department of Educational Leadership Rowan University The Arts Education Partnership (AEP) was established in 1995 through a unique interagency agreement between the National Endowment for the Arts and the U.S. Department of Education, an agreement that has continued unabated since that year. The founding organizations continue to provide support and promote AEP as the nation's hub for individuals and organizations committed to making high-quality arts education accessible to all U.S. students.











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aep-arts.org