



“Are We Meeting the Promise of Title IV Part A?” Session at the AEP Virtual Gathering

In 2020, the NAMM Foundation and National Association for Music Education, with support of the Educational Theatre Association and National Dance Education Organization, sponsored a research project regarding use and impact of federal Title IV Part A funds, specifically for music and arts education (Support and Academic Enrichment Grants in ESSA.)

The purpose of the study was to:

- 1) Collect data to demonstrate use and impact of the funding in order to make the case for continued Title IV-A funding for music and the arts as part of a well-rounded education.
- 2) Learn more about uses of Title IV-A funding at the local level.
- 3) Learn about possible obstacles to accessing Title IV-A funding and needed resources for future outreach.

Findings

- Two surveys were distributed—one in 2019 and one in 2020—informally via numerous national networks reaching urban, suburban and rural school districts. Information was collected about geographic location, type of district (urban/rural/suburban), amount of Title IV-A funding if known, purpose/use of funds, and impact on students, teachers, and on the school district. The survey also asked why funds were not used for music and the arts and gathered suggestions for future outreach and education about Title IV-A.
- By the numbers:
 - ✓ 563 schools, districts and state agencies responded
 - ✓ 43 states responded
 - ✓ 277 indicated Title IV-A funding use
 - ✓ \$30.1 million Title IV-A funds were secured by music/arts in 2019*
 - ✓ \$6.7 million Title IV-A funds were secured by music/arts in 2020*

** Funding totals for 2019 are skewed because California’s totals were over \$18m, due to state level competitive Title IV-A grants for music and arts education, which ranged from \$300k - \$2.5m. Without the focused grants in CA, 2019 totals would be \$11.8m.*

** Funding totals for 2020 are not comprehensive or complete, as many respondents either did not know the specific allocation or included estimated amounts due to the uncertainty of end of year funds and programs.*
- The range of funds spent for music and the arts was \$1,000- \$400,000; medium amount was \$5,000.
- Categories of use and percentage:
 - ✓ Curriculum development (2019-22% 2020-7%)
 - ✓ Staffing (2019-25% 2020-23%)
 - ✓ Instructional materials (2019-20% 2020-45%)
 - ✓ Facilities improvements (2019-6% 2020-3%)
 - ✓ Professional learning (2019-43% 2020-21%)
 - ✓ Musical instruments & equipment (2019-39% 2020-38%)
 - ✓ Arts partnerships (2019-15% 2020-13%)
 - ✓ Other (2019-11% 2020-13%)

- Title IV-A Impact and Outcomes:
 - ✓ **Equity:** created more equitable programs, expanded programs to underserved, poor and rural communities, increased participation in music and arts, engaged more students with learning differences
 - ✓ **Student Growth:** improved performance in music/arts and relevant outcomes - improved confidence, and social, emotional, artistic and academic development.
 - ✓ **Teacher Growth:** teachers gained capacity in their teaching practices, teachers were more involved in district-wide planning and decision
 - ✓ **School and Community:** positively influenced school culture, inspired and fostered sense of community, increased opportunities for community partnerships and cross-disciplinary learning.

- Respondents stated top reasons why Title IV-A funds were **not** allocated to music and the arts:
 - ✓ Administrations says arts are not eligible
 - ✓ Funds transferred to other Title programs
 - ✓ District receives very little/no funding
 - ✓ Funds allocated to another allowable expense
 - ✓ Information not made publicly available
 - ✓ Was not aware of Title IV-A funds

- Respondents most prominent resources requested to help in advocating for Title IV-A funds and/or increasing opportunities for music and the arts for all students:
 - ✓ More information on how to apply (43%)
 - ✓ More information communicated to administrators, parents, school boards and other school leadership (23%)
 - ✓ Spotlight on best practices/what others are doing (11%)