



### Just Released: Visual Arts Matter

Education leaders, policymakers and practitioners can support student achievement and build a strong foundation for lifelong success by ensuring access to visual arts education. This **new resource**, created in partnership with the National Art Education Association and grounded in research found in **ArtsEdSearch**, explores how visual arts support student success by cultivating skills for learning, boosting academic achievement and enhancing the educational experience of traditionally underserved students.



### Share Your Work With Arts and Education Stakeholders

AEP is accepting **concurrent session proposals** for the 2019 AEP Annual Convening, taking place Sept. 11-12 in Alexandria, Va. AEP invites partner organizations and leaders in the field to share their exemplary work supporting the role and contribution of the arts in preparing all students for success in school, work and life. **Proposal Deadline: 5 p.m. PDT Friday, May 10.**

## NEWS FROM OUR PARTNERS



### New Resource Explores How the Creative Sector Can Help Rural Communities to Thrive

This **new guide** — from the National Governors Association, the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies — provides states with research and insight into how arts-based economic development can support struggling rural communities. The guide includes a policy framework and provides examples of how arts-based development strategies have positively impacted diverse geographic settings.

### Grant to Help Expand Access to Arts-Integrated Learning in

## Maryland

The Arts Empowered Minds Initiative — managed by Young Audiences — will use the **\$100,000 award** from the National Endowment for the Arts to expand its work in integrating the arts into daily learning and provide additional professional development opportunities for teachers and artist residencies.

## Registration Open: 2019-20 PTA Reflections Program

Local PTAs can now register to host a **PTA Reflections program** at their schools — which invites pre-kindergarten through 12th grade students to submit original works of art across disciplines. This year's student-selected theme is "Look Inside," and program winners have the opportunity to exhibit their work and will receive recognition at the annual National PTA Convention and Expo.



### NEWS FROM THE FIELD



## March Is Youth Art Month

Coordinated by the Council for Art Education, **Youth Art Month** recognizes the impact that engaging in visual arts has on students and the role of arts education as part of a total education curriculum. While March is designated as the month of national recognition, state and community events take place throughout the year, with states coordinating their individual Youth Art Month programming. Learn how you can participate, [here](#).

## New York Looks to Provide Students With Arts Option to Fulfill Graduation Requirement

This **new option** — which would be available to schools across the state by 2022 — would allow high school students to submit a portfolio of art to substitute one of five required Regents exams. The state plans to first make this program available to interested high schools and would require students to submit a collection of teacher-scored artwork across three art classes.

## Dance Program Brings Performing Arts to Children With Special Needs

The Dance Arts Academy's (Meridian, Idaho) **free dance education program** — which includes dance lessons, costumes and supplies — provides children with special needs with opportunities to engage in the performing arts. The Dance Art Academy also offers volunteer opportunities for teenagers to assist students in the lessons.

## Colorado Students Participate in All-City High School Art Competition

More than sixty students from seven high schools competed in the **visual arts competition** — now in its fifth year — where they had three hours to create an original piece of artwork. Student work was judged across a variety of areas, including craftsmanship and creativity, with winning entries selected from five art mediums.



### CONVENINGS

- **Register Now: VSA Intersections: Arts and Special Education Conference**  
The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts: Department of VSA and Accessibility, March 29-30, New Orleans, La.

This conference convenes those invested in equitable access to art-based and arts-integrated instruction for students with disabilities and provides opportunities to share current research,

explore best practice and serve as a leading catalyst for change.

- **Young Audiences 2019 National Conference: "No Limits: Supporting Children With Learning Differences"**  
Young Audiences Arts for Learning, April 3-5, Houston, Texas
- **AERA 2019 Annual Meeting**  
American Educational Research Association, April 5-6, Toronto, Canada
- **The College Board - Prepárate: Educating Latinos for the Future of America**  
The College Board, April 9-10, San Antonio, Texas
- **Kennedy Center 2019 Arts Summit: "The Human Journey: Creating the Story of US"**  
The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, April 29, Washington, D.C.
- **AATE - Youth Voices: Activism Through Theatre**  
American Alliance for Theatre & Education, May 3-5, Berkeley, Calif.

If you are an AEP partner and would like to feature an upcoming event, please visit the **AEP Partner Calendar** page.



## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- **Project Manager**, Arts Education Partnership, Denver, Colo. or Washington, D.C.
- **Policy Director**, Education Commission of the States, Denver, Colo.
- **Executive Director**, Lotus Education and Arts Foundation, Bloomington, Ind.

### ArtsEdSearch



Students from high-poverty and/or small schools in an art museum educational program experienced increased desire to engage with an art museum than peers from more affluent and/or larger schools. **More**

#ArtsEdSearch: Students from high-poverty/small schools in an #art museum ed program experienced increased desire to engage w/ an art museum than peers from more affluent/larger schools. [bit.ly/2TI23NT](https://bit.ly/2TI23NT)  
#ArtsEd #VisualArtsMatter

### ArtScan

Twenty-one states include arts course credits as an option to fulfill graduation requirements.

*Explore arts education policies in your state using **ArtScan**.*

### Featured Resource

#### **50-State Comparison: High School Graduation Requirements**

Education Commission of the States researched a range of policies — including state statute, state regulations, department guidelines, state standards and state board rules — to create **this resource**, which includes requirements related to the arts.

ABOUT US

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The Arts Education Partnership at Education Commission of the States is established through a cooperative agreement between the National Endowment for the Arts and the U.S. Department of Education. AEP serves as the nation's hub for individuals and organizations committed to making high-quality arts education accessible to all U.S. students, improving arts education practice and researching how art influences and strengthens American education.

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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## **Have news to share?**

Please submit a 100 word summary to  
**cquillen@ecs.org**.

## **Connect with our partners online!**

Stay current on all of the arts education news from our partner organizations by subscribing to the **AEP Partners Twitter list!** You can also visit the member section of this list and follow all of our partners. If you are a member of AEP and don't see your Twitter handle listed or if you have news to share on the AEP Twitter handle, please contact Cassandra Quillen at **cquillen@ecs.org**.