New Release: The Arts in Schools of Choice

A first-of-its-kind examination of state policies connecting school choice and arts education, this new Policy Brief includes examples of practices and initiatives that showcase the intersection of these two fields. While existing research is minimal, this resource captures the current policy landscape and explores further opportunities to engage the arts in statewide policies and practices to support lasting student success.

Gain Knowledge and Tools for Advancing Your Work

The 2019 AEP Annual Convening, taking place Sept. 11-12 in Alexandria, Va., will explore the latest research, innovative practices and emerging policy approaches to actively support the role and contribution of the arts in preparing all students for success. Don’t miss your chance to attend and build broader and stronger connections in the arts in education community.

Space is limited and a restricted number of hotel rooms are available at the discounted conference rate, so we encourage you to register early and take advantage of the early-bird rate.

National Endowment for the Arts Awards Grants to Projects Across the Country

The NEA recently announced more than $80 million in new awards that support projects across arts disciplines and practice areas. This round of funding will also support the arts in education, including an opera touring program that offers performances and activities for public school students and a basket-weaving and cultural knowledge program for youths.
Inclusion

The League of American Orchestras has awarded Catalyst Fund grants of up to $25,000 to 23 orchestras across the country to support EDI, improve practice and strengthen the culture within their organizations. The grants provide recipients with support services for one year, including convenings with fellow grantees to share ideas and perspectives.

Registration Open – VSA Intersections: Arts and Special Education Conference

This conference — taking place Oct. 25-28 in Irvine, Calif., and hosted by the Department of VSA and Accessibility at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts — explores equitable access to high-quality arts learning for students with disabilities. Attendees will have the opportunity to connect with educators from across the country and develop new strategies to reach students with disabilities learning in and through the arts.

Arizona Students to Have New Opportunity to Earn State Seal of Arts Proficiency

Beginning in the fall, graduating seniors attending a participating public school will have the opportunity to qualify for this seal of recognition, which will be based on state arts education standards. This new bill — signed into law by Gov. Doug Ducey — requires a combination of qualifications, including focused study in at least one arts discipline, volunteerism and a capstone project.

Virginia Drama Teacher Receives Theatre Education Award

The Tony Awards and Carnegie Mellon University named Madeline Michel as the recipient of the 2019 Excellence in Theatre Education Award, which honors a K-12 theatre educator who has significantly impacted their students’ lives. Michel will be honored for her work at the 73rd Tony Awards and will receive $10,000 to support her school’s theatre program.

Library Program Provides Access to Free Arts Resources

The Distribution to Underserved Communities Library Program offers more than 400 books about contemporary art at no cost to public institutions of learning, including schools, community centers and public libraries. Institutions interested in participating in the program — which has distributed over 450,000 books — can explore available titles via an online catalog and use the educational guides to help include the books in class curricula.

CONVENINGS

- **REGISTER NOW! 2019 AEP Annual Convening**
  Arts Education Partnership, Sept. 11-12, Alexandria, Va.

- **CAPE: Space and Identity in Art and Learning Symposium**
  Chicago Arts Partnerships in Education, June 1, Chicago, Ill.

- **2019 League of American Orchestras National Conference: "MUSIC CentriCITY"**
  League of American Orchestras, June 3-5, Nashville, Tenn.

- **Dance/USA 2019 Annual Conference**
  Dance USA, June 12-15, Cleveland, Ohio

- **Opera America – 2019 Annual Conference**
  Opera America, June 12-16, San Francisco, Calif.

- **2019 Americans for the Arts Annual Convention**
  Americans for the Arts, June 13-16, Twin Cities, Minn.
ArtsEdSearch
Elementary students participating in an arts-integrated curriculum at a magnet school showed growth in their communications skills, including sharing ideas. More
#ArtsEdSearch: Students in an arts-integrated curriculum at a MagnetSchool showed growth in communications skills, including sharing ideas. bit.ly/2wluDq4 #ArtsEd #ArtsIntegration #SchoolChoice

ArtScan
Twenty-two states require school districts or schools to provide or offer arts instruction in one or more arts disciplines at the high school level and require arts course credits for graduation.

Explore arts education policies in your state using ArtScan.

Featured Resource
Beyond the Core: Advancing Student Success Through the Arts
This Education Trends report explores research on how the arts bolster the development of deeper learning skills, provides examples of programs that successfully increased access to the arts in education in public schools, and includes state- and local-level policy considerations.
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**.