It’s National School Choice Week

AEP is pleased to announce the release of new resources related to the arts and school choice during National School Choice Week. A new blog post from AEP, published on Education Commission of the States’ Ed Note blog, shares highlights from four information requests that explore key questions about the relationships between the arts and school choice. These information requests also feature existing research and state policies addressing the intersection of the arts and school choice.

These new resources, plus a suite of school choice resources from Education Commission of the States, are now available on the AEP website.

AEP looks forward to its continued work in this new research area and supporting state education policymakers and stakeholders in better understanding the impact of school choice on arts education.

Applications Open for League of American Orchestras’ New Catalyst Fund

This pilot program awards grants of up to $25,000 to help orchestras build internal capacity to support and advance understanding of equity, diversity and inclusion; and promote effective practices within these areas at their organizations. Deadline to Apply: Feb. 22.

The Council of Chief State School Officers Announces 2019 State Teachers of the Year

These 57 teachers — teaching across core subjects — represent all 50 states and the five U.S. territories. The STOY program provides teachers with professional learning opportunities to help expand their understanding and engagement in education policy, and build on their teaching and learning practices.

ATTN: High School Teachers – Vans Custom Culture Competition Provides $75K Grand Prize for Arts Education
Open to qualifying high schools located in all 50 states and the District of Columbia, this competition celebrates student creativity and supports arts education programs across the country. Five hundred schools will have the opportunity to submit two pairs of custom-illustrated shoes, with the winning school receiving $75,000 to support arts education programming.

Registration Open – Regional VSA Intersections: Arts and Special Education Conference

This regional event — hosted by the Department of VSA and Accessibility at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and taking place March 29-30 in New Orleans — will explore equitable access to arts-based and arts-integrated instruction for students with disabilities, as well as current research and best practices within the arts and special education.

NEWS FROM THE FIELD

STEAM Mobile Lab Increases Arts Access for Tennessee Students

Launched by Dyer County (Tenn.) Schools, the STEAMROLLER lab provides elementary students with opportunities to engage in science, technology, engineering, arts and math lessons on a rotating schedule. Through this traveling lab — housed in a converted school bus — Dyer County Schools seeks to support students in learning engineering and science concepts, as well as critical-thinking skills, within a team-based setting.

How One Kentucky Music Teacher Uses Project-Based Learning in the Classroom

Through this approach, Michelle Lewis — a music teacher at Bloom Elementary School in Louisville, Ky., and a recent recipient of the Give A Note Foundation’s Music Education Innovator Award — helps to provide her students with opportunities to create and collaborate with their peers during music lessons and to share what they have learned in the class with one another.

Submissions Open: 2019 Excellence in Theatre Education Award

The Tony Awards and Carnegie Mellon University are accepting candidate submissions for this award that recognizes a K-12 theatre educator for their significant impact on the lives of their students and their commitment to professionalism. The selected winner will have the opportunity to attend the Tony Awards, where they will be recognized as the award recipient and will receive $10,000 for their theatre program.

CONVENINGS

- The 2019 NAMM Show
- FAAE – Arts Integration Symposium and Restorative Justice
  Florida Alliance for Arts Education – Feb. 18, Jacksonville, Fla.
- AFTA - The National Arts Action Summit
  Americans for the Arts – March 4-5, Washington, D.C.
- 2019 National PTA Legislative Conference
  National PTA – March 12-14, Washington, D.C.
- 2019 NAEA National Convention
  The National Art Education Association – March 14-16, Boston, Mass.
- 2019 NEA National Leadership Summit
Charter school students participating in an art-making study developed their sense of self and defined their place as participants within a community. More

#ArtsEdSearch: #CharterSchool students in an #art-making study developed a sense of self & defined their place as participants within a community. bit.ly/2FyssX9 #ArtsEd #StudentSuccess

Sixteen states require state-, district- or school-level assessment of student learning in the arts.

Explore arts education policies in your state using ArtScan.

Summary of School Choice Resources

This updated summary from Education Commission of the States includes a suite of resources covering key issue areas and topics related to school choice.

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.

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.