



# Envisioning the Future of Arts Education in Arizona

Joint Arts Education Conference  
Arizona Commission on the Arts  
Arizona Department of Education  
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# National Assembly of State Arts Agencies

KNOWLEDGE ★ REPRESENTATION ★ COMMUNITY

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# Arizona Arts Education Census Project

- Access
- Quality
- Achievement

# Arizona Arts Education Census Project

- *Access*
- Quality
- Achievement

# Done!

- Expectation of arts education for all
- Quality arts teacher provisions & criteria
- Standards – all know and be able to do
- 90% K-12 -- one course/wk plus more

# Policy – Practice Gap

- Lack of highly qualified arts **teachers**
- **Funds** for materials “nearly nonexistent”
- Students discouraged by arts light-**weighting**
- Charter, rural and small school **disparities**
- No access to highly qualified teacher: 134,203

# Recommendations Now in Place!

For:

- ✓ State & local policies to implement existing standards
- ✓ Funding to support effective instruction
- ✓ Research, assessment and instructional resources
- ✓ Vertical alignment in arts learning
- ✓ Initiatives to help charters, schools with no arts
- ✓ Fine arts requirements for generalists
- ✓ Recruiting and developing highly qualified arts teachers
- ✓ Encouraging and investing in school-community arts partnerships

= Vision of success for AZ arts education

# Call to Action!

- Will the Census recommendations become a reality in Arizona?
- Who needs to act?
- What action makes a difference?

# Call to Action

Oregon –

- Goal: Create Statewide Arts Ed Constistency
- Strategy: Annual Statewide Arts Ed Congress

# Annual Arts Education Congress

- First: Established mission: arts for every child
- Second: Prepared proposal for statewide task force; reviewed prep of arts teachers
- Third: Takes proposals for sessions on strategies & replicable models to achieve mission (network of 500)
- Congress Website offers year-round forum + resources

# Call to Action

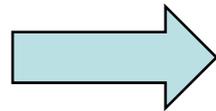
North Carolina –

Goal: High School Graduation Requirement

Strategy: Foster decision maker leadership

# Legislator education

- ✓ Identified & enlisted champion legislators
- ✓ Identified Dept. of Public Instruction advocates



Joint Select Committee

# Legislator education

- Arts requirement motion passes house, tabled in Senate
- Bill for comprehensive K – 8 arts ed plan **PASSES**
- Legislature funds statewide A + program

# Call to Action!

Tennessee –

- Goal: Enlist schools for Value + program  
(arts integration)
- Strategy: Major demonstration project  
Engage educators & parents

# Demonstration Project

## Engage educators & parents

- Knoxville school:
  - Title 1, single parents, high crime neighborhood
  - training for principal, all teachers
  - open call to parents to share folk life skills
  - 3 years: parent engagement up, crime down
  - one school  four schools
  - arts specialist jobs saved; instruments, kiln, supplies
  - billboard promotion

# Call to Action

Louisiana –

- Goal: Increase arts integration programs
- Strategy: View every activity through advocacy lens

# “Every activity is an advocacy activity”

- ✓ Visioning
- ✓ Team building
- ✓ Program design
- ✓ Planning phase
- ✓ Pilot selection/distribution
- ✓ Communication
- ✓ Evaluation

# “Every activity is an advocacy activity”

- ✓ Visioning: Legislators will compete for arts
- ✓ Team building integration in their district!
- ✓ Program design
- ✓ Planning phase
- ✓ Pilot selection/distribution
- ✓ Communication
- ✓ Evaluation

# Call to Action

Maryland –

- Goal: Create Learning Community of Advocates & Decision Makers
- Methods: Provide rationales and experiences for advocates and decision makers

Networking and leadership development

# Constituents and Decision Makers Experience Arts Education

- “Legislators Back-to-School”
  - National Conference of State Legislators (NCSL) initiative
  - Arizona in top 10 – 37%

# AEMS *Parents Tool Kit*

- Describes advocacy strategies including
  - researching the issue
  - building a network
  - building a coalition
  - developing a message that resonates
  - communicating with decision makers

# AEMS *Parents Tool Kit*

- Case studies of how parents influenced
  - individual school
  - school system
  - schools, community & government
  - elementary music program &  
music resource staffing

# Leadership Development, Networking & Case-making

- 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Institute
  - K – 8 Teachers, 5 days
  - arts integration (lesson plans, subject unit, residency design)
  - master teaching artists in each discipline, including creative writing
  - focus on arts integration strategy

# Partnership for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills

## 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills Map:

- critical thinking & problem solving
- communication
- creativity
- information literacy
- info, communication & technology literacy
- flexibility & adaptability
- initiative & self-direction
- social & cross-cultural skills
- productivity & accountability
- leadership & responsibility
- collaboration
- innovation
- media literacy

Policies and Allocation Decisions  
are Federal, State and Local

*Policies and Allocation Decisions*

Are Federal, State and Local

*So, Advocacy for Arts Education*

Must be Federal, State and Local

# Focus on Locus

- Retain arts in definition of core academic subjects
- Inclusion of arts education in use of Title I funds for disadvantaged students and Title II funds for teacher improvement
- Assessment of quality of instruction and level of student achievement in arts education in Arizona
- Inclusion of arts requirement for certification of generalist teachers in Arizona

# Why is Arts Education Important to Every American?

- Arts Disciplines as Symbol Systems
- Arts Skill Set as Democracy's Tool Kit
- Arts Education as Equity Issue
- Critical Resource for Solving the Big Issues



# What is this Lesson?



# References

- *Gaining the Arts Advantage*

[\[arts.org/publications/info.htm?publication\\\_id=12\]\(http://aep-arts.org/publications/info.htm?publication\_id=12\)](http://aep-</a></u></p></div><div data-bbox=)

- <http://www.oregonartscommission.org/oacc>
- [www.P21.org](http://www.P21.org)
- <http://www.aems-edu.org/>

*Thank You for Your Advocacy!*

*Thank You for Inviting Me!*