



Arts Education Updates – March 2021

Dear Arts Education Community,

Happy Arizona Youth Arts Month! It has been thrilling to see the creative happenings occurring across our state and nation as students and teachers create, present & perform, reflect, and make connections through their art and the world around them. From virtual visual art submissions to cell phone captured student performances, we have learned that the arts can thrive in any space, if given the proper support and resources.

The Arizona Department of Arts Education Arts Education Team is thrilled to be once again partnering with the Arizona Arts Education Association to celebrate Youth Arts Month. We invite all of you to join our [virtual celebration](#) on March 24th at 6:00 pm to celebrate our student artists. You can check out the [virtual gallery](#) now!

2021 Youth Arts Month Virtual Showcase

"Art Connects Us"



2020 Youth Art Month State Flag Contest Winner Julia Gonzalez Ortiz

This issue of Arts Ed Newsletter will include previews of exciting events, opportunities to expand your learning, and policy updates to be aware of.

As always, thank you for all that you do!

Collaboratively yours,

Dustin Loehr, Director of Arts Education & Title IV-A

Haley Honeman, Title IV-A Arts Education Specialist



New Reporting Paints Picture of Arts Access in Arizona Schools

According to new the Arizona data reported by Department of Education and Arizona Commission on the Arts, 89% of K-12 students in the state have access to education in at least one arts discipline. Participation, however, dropped 5% between the 2018-19 and 2019-20 school years.

These statistics are only two of the insights offered by the latest update to the state's Arts Education Data Project. The update comprises self-reported data from school districts and local education agencies across the state, representing nearly 2,000 schools, up through the 2019-20 school year.

The new data are featured in both an executive summary report and an interactive explorer at <https://azarts.gov/azartsed-explorer/>.

“The newly updated Arts Education Data Project is an incredible tool that helps highlight programs and classes that schools offer to students across our state,” said Superintendent of Public Instruction Kathy Hoffman. “I am grateful to know that more and more of Arizona’s students have access to opportunities to engage in the arts. Arts provide a necessary and unique outlet for our students to creatively express themselves and share their stories. I look forward to continuing to collaborate with the Arizona Commission on the Arts to highlight the importance of the arts for our students.”

How is this dashboard being used?

Each year, ADE is required to perform programmatic monitoring for our LEAs (Districts & Charters) that utilize federal funding (TI, TII, TIV-A, RLIS, etc.). NEW to this process is the “Arts Access Report.” The Arts Access Report utilizes data entered into our dashboard to measure student access and enrollment in arts courses in comparison to state and federal requirements. More on this will be made available on our [Arts Education website](#).

Exemplary Arts Schools Program

The "[Round Table Advisory Committee on Arts Education](#)" or RTAC, annually will evaluate student arts access, enrollment, and growth in each Arizona school using course enrollment data, awarding each school an Exemplary Arts School Program rating! We encourage you to attend the Youth Arts Month Celebration on the 24th to learn more about this exciting recognition program or visit RTAC's Website to view this year's school ratings!



Spotlight

AZ Arts Ed featured at this year's ESSA Conference!

Title I students and teachers joined us virtually at the Educator & School Excellence 2021 ESSA Conference! Over 500 participants enjoyed experience student performances and artwork as they participated in federal program training. Thank you to all those who were able to participate, and be on the lookout for similar opportunities for the [2021 Title IV-A & B Symposium!](#)

2020-2021 AzDEO Dance Essay Contest Winners

AzDEO is pleased to announce the awardees for our 2020-21 Dance Education Advocacy Student Essay Contest. Winners and awardee information can be found [here](#).



Congratulations AZ Arts Teachers of the Year!

In celebration of March as Youth Arts Month, The Arizona Department of Education Recognizes the 2020 Arts Teachers of the Year! Thank you for the work you do developing students' artistic literacy through rigorous arts instruction. Especially this year with the challenges of the pandemic, we are in awe of your tremendous efforts at the service of your students' creative expression. Follow this [link](#) to learn more about the AZ Arts Teachers of the Year.

Save the date for the 2021 Title IV-A & B Symposium: Expanding Horizons!

Join ADE as we go beyond theoretical practice" and create a virtual symposium that provides participants with tangible, relevant resources that can be applied in the classroom immediately! Topics explored include: Well-Rounded Education, Safe & Healthy Students, Effective Use of Technology, and the Title IV-B supported areas of Comprehensive & Quality Out-of-School Time Programming Focused on Academics, Youth Development, & Family Engagement. Featuring national and local perspectives, The Title IV-A & B Expanding Horizons Symposium promises to bring enrichment educators, support staff, principals, before and after school coordinators, and grant writers an engaging virtual event that can be accessed until January 2022!

Registration opens April 1st and is just \$25.00! Hurry! Spots are limited.



Featured Keynote: Dr. Helen Easterling Williams **“Technology: The Master Key to Success”**



Student success is the ultimate goal of the educational enterprise. While numerous factors contribute to this end, COVID-19 has propelled the technology question to the forefront. From the board room to the classroom to the after-school resource room, key technological strategies must be deployed.

Opportunities

Check out the [Educator Opportunities](#) & [Students Opportunities](#) pages on the Arts Education website for the latest information on upcoming opportunities.

March Opportunities Highlights

ADE seeks workshop Presenters!

Sessions should focus on supplementing students' academic and enrichment programs by creating a rich variety of classes and activities, including outside of the instructional day, that help students become proficient and connect with learning through Title IV-A and Title IV-B funded programs. Sessions should include practical strategies and tangible resources that teachers, principals & other school staff can immediately transfer into supportive environments and an enriched learning experience.

[Applications](#) are DUE by March 31, 11:59 pm

Arizona Theatre Company Online Performances

Arizona Theatre Company is excited to extend the opportunity to watch and listen to TWO amazing ATC productions for FREE with your students.

We offer you two unique virtual experiences that bring the arts to life in your classroom. You also have the option of inviting an artist from either production to come talk to your students. (There is a small fee for an artist visit). You can register by following the link here: [Register by Clicking Here](#) For questions contact Jasmine Roth jroth@arizonatheatre.org.

ASU Gammage Seeks Jimmy Award Nominations

As part of their mission of "Connecting Communities" and to create more access, the 2020-2021 [ASU Gammage High School Musical Theatre Awards \(HSMTA\)](#) is seeking nominations for Best Lead Male and Best Lead Female candidates from schools that do not have access to theatre programs. The two winners will participate in the National High School Musical Theatre Awards, known as [The Jimmy Awards](#), where they will receive professional training, scholarship opportunities, and the chance to perform in the nationally-broadcasted showcase. For more information about the nomination process, please contact education@asugammage.com. Visit the [Arts Education Student Opportunities](#) page for criteria information and the nomination link.