

**Welcome to the Arts Education Network Weekly News
Representing you Nationally - Serving you Locally**

The Weekly News is always available online!

www.AmericansForTheArts.org/ArtsEducation/WeeklyNews

Table of Contents

1. STIMULUS FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
2. HEARING ON JOBS AND ARTS
3. ADVOCACY TOOLS & TIPS
4. NEWS
5. FUNDING
6. OPPORTUNITIES: GET INVOLVED, CONFERENCES, JOBS & AWARDS
7. FEATURED BOOK OF THE WEEK!
8. QUOTE OF THE WEEK!

1. STIMULUS FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act: Arts Opportunities in the Economic Stimulus Package
March 2009

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), signed into law by President Obama on February 17, 2009, includes a number of expanded funding opportunities that could be available to assist artists and arts organizations. By late March, most federal agencies should have completed the development of their procedures for allocating the economic stimulus funding. Many of the decisions regarding distribution of the funds will be made at the state and local government levels.

This list outlines the agencies or programs receiving funding from the ARRA that could benefit artists or arts organizations. More details are online.

- National Endowment for the Arts
- Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)
- Transportation Enhancements (TE program)
- Rural Development
- Elementary and Secondary Education
- Economic Development Assistance
- Corporation for National and Community Service
- National Park Service
- Job Training and Employment Services
- Unemployment Benefits
- Health Coverage for Unemployed Workers

For ARRA-specific information: <http://tinyurl.com/d9yj93>

For a guide on generally accessing these funds:

<http://www.AmericansForTheArts.org/go/funding> (see "Federal Resource Guide Series for Arts Organizations")

2. HEARING ON JOBS AND ARTS

“The Economic and Employment Impact of the Arts and Music Industry”

On 10:00 AM, March 26, 2009, the House Education and Labor Committee will hold a hearing to examine how the economy is affecting jobs in the arts and music industries, and the role these industries play in communities across the country. This is the first in a series of hearings the Committee will hold this spring.

Recent news reports have highlighted the tough economic realities arts and music organizations are facing – many are cutting budgets and programs that are the engine of the local economy and provide meaningful employment opportunities for workers. According to research conducted by the National Endowment for the Arts, unemployment in the arts rose at a higher rate than the overall workforce in 2008.

Witnesses:

- U.S. Rep. Louise M. Slaughter (D-NY), Co-Chair, Congressional Arts Caucus
- Robert L. Lynch, President and CEO, Americans for the Arts
- Michael Spring, Director, Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs
- Michael Bahr, Education Director, Utah Shakespearean Festival
- Tim Daly, Co-President, The Creative Coalition

<http://edlabor.house.gov/hearings/> <http://edlabor.house.gov/hearings/>

3. ADVOCACY TOOLS & TIPS

Americans for the Arts released the 2009 Creative Industries Report, which offers a research-based approach to understanding the scope and economic importance of the arts.

Creative Industries: Business & Employment in the Arts reports offer a new, research-based approach to understanding the scope and importance of the arts to the nation's economy. Creative Industries is the first national study that encompasses both the nonprofit and for-profit arts industries.

By documenting Dun & Bradstreet business and employment data for both the nonprofit and for-profit arts sectors, you can paint a picture of a powerful engine in your community's information economy. What makes this data especially potent is that it can be localized to any city, county, state, region, or political jurisdiction in the country, and it can be updated annually so that you can track trend data. Go online to view a list of key points on how this data provides a valuable visibility and advocacy tool for advancing the arts.

Want to know how many creative industries are located in your community?

- Select your state to view the 2009 Creative Industries reports for your U.S. Congressional District.
- Select your state to view the 2008 Creative Industries reports for your State Legislative District.
- Visit our Creative Industries FAQ page to place an order for 2009 Creative Industries reports.

<http://www.AmericansForTheArts.org/CreativeIndustries>

4. NEWS

-WHY ARE WE FIGHTING?

The report found that 90% of elementary teachers surveyed indicated that art and music curriculum remained the same during three school years starting in 2004-05 and ending in 2006-07. Only 7% of the teachers reported that instruction time decreased.

http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/news/nation/stories/031809dnmetg_aoreport.3a42576.html

-CREATING SCHOOL CHANGE

"I don't have the authority, nor does New Visions, to order anybody to make a commitment. I only have the ability to persuade them to commit. But for the most part, by empowering the front line, by talking about expectations and pushing hard for transformation, you can make change quickly, certainly faster than we had expected. And you see this in other areas, such as the quality movement in healthcare led by Don Berwick and the Institute for Healthcare Improvement. Ironically, you can make significant transformations if you start small and focus on concrete problems with the perspective of having zero tolerance for failure."

<http://gmj.gallup.com/content/116353/Lessons-Solving-Big-Problems.aspx#2>

-WAYS TO SURVIVE THE RECESSION

This town meeting amassed suggestions for success in a recession.

<http://www.wrensonline.com/blog/maacc-suggestions-and-comments-take-two/>

-PODCAST OF TOWN MEETING ON ARTS IN RECESSION

The Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council hosted a public forum on "Pittsburgh Arts in Tough Economic Times" about local government and foundation representatives' priorities and expectations during the current economic situation.

http://www.wqed.org/fm/podcasts/morning_show_extras/gpac_090303_arts_in_tough_times.mp3

-LOS ANGELES OFFERS MORE ARTS ED THAN EVER

Los Angeles schools are doing better with the visual and performing arts than they have in years. The 2008 Arts Education Performance Indicators Report shows an increase in the number of school districts that are building infrastructure in this area.

http://www.lacountyarts.org/announcements/aepi_release.pdf

-H.B.O. DOCUMENTARY ABOUT YOUTH POETS

HBO and Youth Speaks will screen Brave New Voices on Tuesday, March 24 in San Fran, about youth poets.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/pressRelease/idUS199538+04-Mar-2009+PRN20090304>

-THE CONFUSION OF ARTS EDUCATION IN KOREA

A university is trying to move students away from private instruction and technical skills by changing their admissions policy. Is it even possible?

<http://joongangdaily.joins.com/article/view.asp?aid=2902538>

-EDUCATION GIVING DECLINES

As districts cut their budgets, private education foundations created to fund equipment, supplies, artists-in-residence programs, and other "educational extras" have less to give.

<http://www.philly.com/philly/news/homepage/41300207.html>

-SAN FRAN MUSEUM PROVIDES BLUEPRINT FOR RECESSION SURVIVAL

"If you cut excessively — and I think I can say this is wisdom for our current situation in our field right now — the public will lose interest in you."

http://www.nytimes.com/2009/03/19/arts/artsspecial/19SANFRAN.html?_r=1&ref=artsspecial

-LEGITIMIZING GRAFFITI

The idea is graffiti with artistic merit in designated areas will help curtail inappropriate graffiti, such as gang-related territorial tagging. The city would encourage graffiti artists to use the medium as a form of legitimate expression.

<http://www.vaughantoday.ca/story.php?id=1545>

-ARTS ORGS CLOSING DURING RECESSION

About 10,000 arts organizations, or 10% of the U.S. total, are at risk of folding, according to Americans for the Arts.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB123733242932363249.html>

-FIGHTING FOR THE ARTS IN A RECESSION

The Vallejo [CA] Unified School District board on Wednesday will discuss reallocating art and music funding due to the district's estimated \$8 million deficit next year.

http://www.timesheraldonline.com/ci_11923482?source=most_emailed

-MUSIC ED AND LITERACY

The reading skills of young children who received structured training in music were clearly superior to those of their peers who did not have the benefit of such instruction.

<http://www.miller-mccune.com/article/music-education-improves-literacy-of-second-graders-1063>

-CITYWIDE ARTS ED INITIATIVE IN PHILLY

A coalition of local organizations has been tapped to take charge of a ten-year program to provide arts learning to all children and youth in Philadelphia.

<http://www.kyw1060.com/pages/4021189.php?>

5. FUNDING

-TEACHER TRAINING

The Fund for Teachers makes direct grants to teachers for summer learning opportunities of their own design. Deadline: varies by state.

<http://www.fundforteachers.org/apply.html>

Music Is Revolution: Mini-grants

The Music Is Revolution Foundation makes mini-grants for activities designed by teachers to implement, support, and/or improve their ability to provide quality music education for their students. Deadline: Apr 15.

<http://www.musicisrevolution.org>

-EARLY CHILDHOOD READING

Target Early Childhood Reading Grants support programs like weekend book clubs and after-school reading programs that foster a love of reading and encourage children. Deadline: May 31, 2009.

<http://sites.target.com/site/en/company/page.jsp?contentId=WCMP04-031821>

6. OPPORTUNITIES: GET INVOLVED, CONFERENCES, JOBS & AWARDS

GET INVOLVED:

-FREE WEBINAR: PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN BAD ECONOMY

Creating Effective Teacher Professional Development in Tough Economic Times. Mar 26, 4 pm EDT.

<http://edweek.org/go/profDev>

-RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM PROCEEDINGS

The Research Symposium was a full day event exploring new solutions for the evaluation of arts education in inclusive settings. VSA arts and participants examined how evaluation strategies may foster deeper understanding of arts teaching, learning and the design of high quality instruction for all students.

<http://www.vsaarts.org/x1370.xml>

CONFERENCES:

-

JOBS:

Full Americans for the Arts Job Listings are online.

Post, search, apply. Hundreds of jobs; Thousands of applicants.

<http://jobbank.artsusa.org/>

AWARDS:

-

7. FEATURED BOOK OF THE WEEK!

Days I Moved Through Ordinary Sounds: The Teachers of WritersCorps in Poetry and Prose

Edited by Chad Sweeney

Days I Moved Through Ordinary Sounds documents 15 years of an amazingly successful experiment: asking accomplished writers to teach creative writing workshops in juvenile detention facilities, homeless shelters, inner-city schools and centers for newly arrived immigrants. In Days I Moved Through Ordinary Sounds, readers follow these teaching artists on their journey into the halls and streets of America's diverse neighborhoods, as they enrich the lives and creativity of their students—and find their own voices changed in the process.

-\$12.57

-City Lights Publishers
-January 2009

http://www.citylights.com/book/?GCOI=87286100369180&utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=newreleases

8. QUOTE OF THE WEEK!

"Every student in the nation should have an education in the arts."

-From "The Value and Quality of Arts Education: A Statement of Principles" created in 1999 by 10 national education organizations including American Association of School Administrators, American Federation of Teachers, Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, Council for Basic Education, Council of Chief State School Officers, National Association of Elementary School Principals, National Association of Secondary School Principals, National Education Association, National Parent Teacher Association, National School Board Association.

<http://www.menc.org/about/view/the-value-and-quality-of-arts-education>

**Welcome to the Arts Education Network Weekly News
Representing you Nationally - Serving you Locally**

Get The News directly!

www.AmericansForTheArts.org/ArtsEducation/WeeklyNews