

STATE POLICY SYMPOSIUM



**SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 2016
WASHINGTON D.C.**

**STATES OF CHANGE:
THE ARTS LEADING THE WAY FOR STUDENT SUCCESS**

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A WELCOME FROM SYMPOSIUM CO-HOSTS

Since 2013, Americans for the Arts, the Kennedy Center, and the Arts Education Partnership (AEP) have partnered on an annual State Policy Symposium. In 2016, we welcome our new partner, Education Commission of the States, as the new host of AEP.

The symposium benefits the members of our organizations, as states are often isolated in their efforts to support arts education. Co-hosting an event provides an opportunity for state leaders to share knowledge and network among their peers. This strategy helps to share best practices across the states through a national network of arts and education experts. State arts leaders, as well as representatives of community-based and out-of-school time programs, can gain insights from policy experts through in-depth workshops that include reports, case studies, and other tools that they can learn from and replicate in their home state in support of dance, media arts, music, theatre and visual arts.

Over the years, we've seen more and more education reform at the state level, with nearly all states receiving a waiver from the *No Child Left Behind Act*. States have been grappling with issues such as standards, teacher evaluation, and accountability systems. It was no surprise that when Congress finally reauthorized the federal education law in December 2015, even more responsibility shifted to the states.

The 2016 symposium's title, "States of Change," is more timely than ever. With shifting federal priorities, increased state autonomy, and diverse communities and school systems, the education ecosystem is both dynamic and complex. Aligning national, state and local efforts to advance the arts in education, however, will make this ecosystem more powerful than the sum of its parts.

As we seek to provide all students with an education that is coordinated among classroom teachers, arts specialists, and community partners, now is a moment for us to reflect on the following questions: What impact will the passing of the *Every Student Succeeds Act* have on arts education? How can the arts education community engage with shifting state and local leaders and priorities? How are the arts being utilized in successful models of educational change? This is a great time to consider the role and contributions of the arts in shaping education reform efforts.

We hope participants will leave the symposium empowered to strengthen arts education in their states and communities — ensuring that the arts are an integral part of the lives and educations of all students.



AGENDA

Grand Ballroom Foyer

8:30 am **Breakfast and Networking**

Grab your registration packet, fuel up with some hot protein from our breakfast buffet, and prepare for a powerful daylong conversation!

Grand Ballroom C

9:00 am **Welcome & Framing the Conversation**

Presenters throughout the day will discuss their outlook on national education trends, predict implications of the new federal law, and discuss ways that education policy is changing from the federal to the state to the local level. Most importantly we'll uncover ways that the arts can lead the conversations about all of these changes in education policy, in order to help us close both the opportunity and achievement gaps.

Narric Rome, Americans for the Arts
Ayanna Hudson, National Endowment for the Arts
Doug Herbert, U.S. Department of Education

Grand Ballroom C

9:20 am **Opening Keynote States of Change: The Arts Leading the Way for Student Success**

The new Acting U.S. Secretary of Education, John King, recently told the U.S. Conference of Mayors that under ESSA, states will establish new accountability systems that will include additional indicators of success that reflect a broader picture of how schools are serving all children. The law's new indicators of success means states can choose to also ensure that all students have equal opportunities to succeed in their coursework. Schools can decide to look at students' socioemotional growth and whether educators are helping them develop skills like resilience and the ability to effectively collaborate with peers. Dr. Monique Chism, the Deputy Assistant Secretary in the Office of Elementary & Secondary Education at the U.S. Department of Education will share with us the ways in which the arts can help us improve education for all students.

Dr. Monique Chism, U.S. Department of Education

Grand Ballroom C

10:00 am **Spotlight on the Every Student Succeeds Act**

Now that the *Every Student Succeeds Act* has been signed into law, what can change for the arts in education? Get a concise overview of the biggest policy changes, an idea of the implementation timeframe, and opportunities to take a leadership role within your state policy environment.

Narric Rome, Americans for the Arts
Dr. Monique Chism, U.S. Department of Education
Kris Amundson, National Association of State Boards of Education
Lee Posey, National Conference of State Legislatures

Grand Ballroom Foyer

10:45 am **Coffee Break**

Grand Ballroom C

11:00 am **Partner Remarks** – Jeremy Anderson, Education Commission of the States

Grand Ballroom C

11:15 am **Local Funding Responses to State Accountability**

States are accountable for both student performance and how well their schools and districts are implementing state policy. Data from the state level is showing us that many students don't even have access to arts education, despite the research showing how effective arts education is in promoting student engagement and achievement. Explore how three case studies are using local funding to address both the opportunity and achievement gaps in the context of their state's education reform efforts.

Sandra Ruppert, Consultant
Doug Israel, Center for Arts Education
AmySue Mertens, Ingenuity Incorporated
Steve Venz, Orange County District Administrator

Grand Ballroom C

12:00 pm **Lunchtime Reflection**

Translating Insights into Action

The morning plenaries will have provided a lot of food for thought. Join your tablemates in a lunchtime discussion about how to translate these insights into action. Crayola will help us kick-start the conversation by providing us with an artistic medium and reflective questions:

- Consider issues discussed. What has not yet been addressed that could impact arts policy progress?
- What's the "elephant in the room"—i.e. what seems invisible but is fundamental and could stall efforts?
- What challenges must arts supporters face and "get on the table"—starting here and now?

Kristen Engebretsen, Americans for the Arts
Cheri Sterman, Crayola

1:30 pm

Concurrent Deep Dives Round 1: The Role and Contribution of the Arts in State Education Policy

Pick two sessions from below to attend—each concurrent session will repeat

Sackler Room

Deep Dive 1: Bringing Together State Agencies for the Common Good

While the arts are just one special interest within the broader education, we all share a desire to achieve similar outcomes for our students. How can the arts partner with

various other state education agencies to move all of our work forward? This deep dive will explore configurations of collaborations that are impacting state policy.

Ayanna Hudson, National Endowment for the Arts
Amber Sharples, Oklahoma Arts Council
Betty Plumb, South Carolina Citizens for the Arts
Christine Fisher, Winthrop University

Portrait Room

Deep Dive 2: The Arts Inside Models for Success – A look at STEAM

We know a lot about what works in education to engage students and boost achievement. But often times these success models are isolated to individual classrooms, schools, or particular movements, like charter schools. This deep dive will be a recurring session at future symposia, where we take a look at how the arts are a part of a formula for success in education and ways that those models can gain traction and spread. For 2016, we'll look at STEAM — the new STEAM language in the Every Student Succeeds Act, the congressional STEAM caucus, ways to connect the federal/state/local policy pipeline around STEAM, and examples of best practice.

Kate McClanahan, Americans for the Arts
Andrew Watson, Alexandria City Public Schools, Innovation Collaborative
Nettrice Gaskins, Boston Arts Academy STEAM Lab

Hirshhorn Room

Deep Dive 3: Using State Data to Drive Policy

One of the residual effects of No Child Left Behind is the need for big data to drive decisions in education. 47 states have created a State Longitudinal Data System to track information for accountability purposes. This deep dive will explore how arts supporters can access this information and how the arts community can work with state education agencies to include the arts in both the data collection and impactful reporting.

Bob Morrison, Quadrant Research
Julie Palkowski, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction
Sunil Iyengar, National Endowment for the Arts

Grand Ballroom C

Deep Dive 4: Achieving the Goals of Title I through the Arts

ArtsEdSearch.org is full of research showing the impact of the arts, especially in areas that are also the goals of Title I—student achievement, student engagement, parent and community engagement, and school climate and culture. In 2015, San Diego and Chula Vista's school districts pledged to use millions of their Title I dollars on arts strategies. This deep dive will look at the success California has seen, how Arizona is adapting the California policy implementation strategy, and how other states can join these efforts.

Myran Parker-Brass, Boston Public Schools
Joe Landon, California Alliance for Arts Education
Laura Smyth, California Alliance for Arts Education
Lynn Tuttle, National Association for Music Education

Grand Ballroom Foyer

2:20 pm **Break**

2:40 pm **Concurrent Deep Dives Round 2:
The Role and Contribution of the Arts in State Education Policy**

Sessions repeat—see above for room assignments

Grand Ballroom Foyer

3:30 pm **Snack Break**

Grand Ballroom C

3:45 pm **Partner Remarks** – Mario Rossero, John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts

Grand Ballroom C

4:00 pm **Partner Remarks** – Robert Lynch, Americans for the Arts

Grand Ballroom C

4:15 pm **Closing Plenary: Continual States of Change**

In 2015 alone, 52% of the chief state school officers were new in their positions, as were 32% of state legislators that held leadership positions within education committees. As we look ahead in an election year, we know that change in education leadership is a reality. How do we manage these continual states of change in order to keep our arts policy agendas moving forward? Join a lively closing discussion on leadership, change management, and policy environments.

Bob Lynch, Americans for the Arts
Michael Petrilli – Thomas Fordham Institute

Oriental Ballroom C

5:00 pm **Reception**

Join symposium partners and colleagues to continue the conversation informally at our reception. We'll have a hosted bar with beer and wine, as well as hors d'oeuvres. Enjoy a student performance by slam poets from the DC-based youth group, Split This Rock.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Symposium website: <http://americansforthearts.org/policy-symposium>

- Check here for speaker bios, handouts, and a participant directory

Handles for conference partners:

Americans for the Arts – [@Americans4Arts](https://twitter.com/Americans4Arts)

Kennedy Center – [@kencen](https://twitter.com/kencen)

Arts Education Partnership – [@aep_arts](https://twitter.com/aep_arts)

Education Commission of the States – [@edcommission](https://twitter.com/edcommission)