



Ensuring the Arts for

ANY
GIVEN
CHILD

New Orleans, Louisiana

The Kennedy Center



Information about
Arts Education

Why the Arts?

Research demonstrates success through arts education

Arts support student learning and skill building

Research demonstrates that participation in arts instruction helps student performance in math, and English Language Arts, builds critical thinking and problem solving and reasoning skills, creates greater intrinsic motivation and promotes positive behavior.

(Ingram & Meath, 2007 and Ingram & Reidel, 2003, Brouillette, 2010; McMahon et al., 2003, Smithrim & Upitis, 2005, Montgomerie & Ferguson, 1999, DeMoss & Morris, 2002, Wright et al., 2006

Especially with children of poverty

Studies find that students from low socio-economic backgrounds, English language learners and students with special needs realize particularly strong benefits through arts education.

(Brouillette & Jennings, 2010; Brouillette, 2010; Carger, 2004; Montgomerie & Ferguson, 1999; Spina, 2006).

Challenges in Education

- The average 5th grader receives 5x instruction in basic skills vs problem-solving or reasoning.
- A vast amount of education focuses on teaching students information that can be found online in 5 seconds.
- Our world is multi-cultural, multi-national, viral, propelled by images as much as words, and keenly competitive – but we are educating students the same way we have for 100 years, when we trained them for working in a factory.

Research shows that the arts...



- benefit students academically and creatively
- build higher order thinking skills
- prepare students for the workforce
- help keep students engaged and coming to school
- provide them with positive personal and social benefits.
- are particularly effective with supporting under-resourced students.

Current Legislation

- The Every Student Succeeds Act was signed into law on December 10th by President Obama. The ESSA is the first reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act since the No Child Left Behind Act of 2002 and it constitutes a significant victory for arts education advocates across the country. In December, Congress released the FY2016 budget bills which call for a \$2 million increase in funding for both the National Endowment for the Arts and for the U.S. Department of Education's Arts in Education program.

The Question



Shouldn't all students have access to the creative and higher-order thinking skills the arts foster?

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