

Ayers' Air

Persistence. Over the last few weeks it has struck me that for the most part, things happen a certain way because one person has more persistence than another. In looking back over Senator Edward Kennedy's life, I am struck by how much persistence this man had. Persistence in the face of internal, personal challenges, persistence in the face of external challenges, persistence in pushing forward agendas that changed the face of this country. We in the arts education field must persevere. We must persevere the way Senator Kennedy did. If you believe something is right, do not let the negative energy of people around you defeat you. You may have to compromise: Senator Kennedy was one of the best at compromising with his adversaries to move his agendas along. I challenge you in this time of opportunity (see the [letter](#) from Secretary of Education on arts education) and in this time of adversity when arts education budgets are being cut in schools and arts organizations, to find allies you can rally around, find ways to work with your adversaries, find ways to move your agenda forward. Be persistent.

My persistence is focused on every child having opportunities in the arts and every school district official and every arts manager understanding that we have an obligation to provide these opportunities, that every teacher sees the benefits of using the arts in their classroom, that every principal understands how the arts can transform a school. Unless every child has arts experiences, we are denying them their culture, their heritage, and their ability to be a complete human being. The arts can change the mind and the emotions, and can touch the soul.

Darrell

Arts in Crisis 50 State Tour: September

This month, Kennedy Center President **Michael Kaiser** will be traveling to Michigan to address the challenges facing non-profit performing arts organizations today through such areas as fundraising, building more effective Boards of Trustees, budgeting, and marketing. Visit ArtsInCrisis.org for details.

September 30 – Grand Rapids, MI – Gerald R. Ford Museum, 10-11:30 AM as part of [ArtPrize](#)

Mentoring Arts Organizations

As part of our **Arts In Crisis** Initiative, we are looking for mentors to work with producing/presenting performing arts organizations (www.artsincrisis.org). A number of you who read this newsletter, as well as colleagues with whom you work, would be ideal to be part of this initiative. President Obama has asked us to be of service to this country. And, of course, President Kennedy said, "Ask not what your country can do for you. Ask what you can do for your country." Nearly 100 people have already signed up to mentor the over 450 organizations that have applied for help. However, the number of organizations in need increases daily. If you have expertise in marketing, fundraising, board development, strategic planning, etc., please consider giving back to this industry and this country through this mentoring opportunity. To sign up as a mentor, go to the **Arts In Crisis** website—www.artsincrisis.org—and follow the directions.

New Any Given Child Website

The **Any Given Child** initiative has a new website: www.kennedy-center.org/education/anygivenchild. The program is designed to bring Kennedy Center staff and consultants to work with community leaders and school administrators to develop a long-range plan for arts education that is tailor-made for the school district. A Community Team reviews existing arts resources in the schools as well as the education programs offered by local arts organizations, companies and other providers. Once the data is collected, the Community Team prioritizes next steps to build arts education resources and programs to provide access to all students (K-8) in the district.

Kennedy Center Grants Awarded to National Partnerships

Congratulations to National Partnerships member organizations that will receive grants in 2009-10. National Partnerships received 38 grant proposals in May. Seven of the requests were for research projects; two asked for funds for whole school reform models in the arts; 19 of the projects focus on professional development; three of the requests were for Kennedy Center tools and resources; two centered on arts-based curriculum or assessment; and five projects fell in the "other" category. We are delighted to be able to fund 33 of these proposals. A summary of each of the funded projects will be prepared and placed on the National Partnerships website later this fall.

The Kennedy Center awarded 14 grants, for a total of \$163,330, to Partners in Education sites:

Arizona 1995	Hawai'i 1995	Maine 2007	Nebraska 2001	Vermont 1992
Arkansas 1991	Hawai'i 2007	Mississippi 2007	Nevada 2001	Wisconsin 1993
Florida 1997	Iowa (CF) 2003	Montana 2001	New Mexico 1999	

The Kennedy Center awarded 19 grants, for a total of \$321,616, to KCAEN sites:

Alabama	Hawai'i	Massachusetts	Ohio	South Carolina
Alaska	Kentucky	Michigan	Oklahoma	Tennessee
California	Maine	Mississippi	Oregon	Washington
Florida	Maryland	Montana	Rhode Island	

"The arts distinguish us from one another, define our individual backgrounds and ethnicities but, ultimately, unite us in our common humanity. It is important that our public policy reflect the importance of the arts in all of our lives. We should demonstrate our respect for creative accomplishment and provide an environment that is conducive to pursuing a life in music, dance, drama or painting. We should also ensure that the arts reach as far across America as possible to increase chances for each child to enjoy the arts—either to be a part of a performance or to attend one."

- Senator Edward M. Kennedy, 1932-2009

Save The Date!

2010 Annual Meeting Dates: Feb. 8-13
2011 Annual Meeting Dates: Feb. 15-19

Partners in Education News

2010 Partners in Education Institute

Applications for the 2010 Institute have been sent out. If you know of arts organizations or school districts that might be interested in joining the Partners in Education program, please contact Kelsey at KRMesa@kennedy-center.org.

Nomination Review Committee

Partners in Education needs to fill vacant positions on the 2009-10 Nomination Review Committee. This Committee reviews nominations for the Partners in Education Advisory Committee and narrows the slate to seven representatives (comprised of current returning Advisory Committee members and new nominees). Partnership Team members may indicate their interest in serving on the Nomination Review Committee by calling (202) 416-8806, faxing (202) 416-8802, or emailing bshepherd@kennedy-center.org. **The deadline for response is October 6.**

Annual Meeting Travel Funding Ideas

Annual Meeting registration time is drawing near, and with the new attendance policy in place, it's important that Team Members make every effort to attend. One resource to look toward for funding might be your local arts council. Many arts councils offer technical assistance grants to help professionals attend conferences. Check with your local arts council for information.

KCAAEN News

New SAAN Initiative: serve.artsusa.org

Through our partnership with the State Arts Action Network (SAAN) we are happy to announce the launch of a web portal dedicated to promoting community service opportunities for arts groups, arts volunteers, and artists nationwide. [Serve.artsusa.org](http://serve.artsusa.org) is a place for volunteers in the arts to share stories and upload photos and videos related to their volunteer experiences; it was inspired by President Obama's [United We Serve](http://www.unitedweserve.org) initiative. Please visit the website to showcase your personal or professional volunteer stories, videos, and pictures, which we will then compile and share with the White House, Congress, and the media. By demonstrating the impact of arts volunteerism, we aim to encourage arts volunteerism support. The site allows you to:

- [Share your story](#). Calling all volunteers in the arts to share stories and upload photos and videos related to their volunteer experiences.
- [Become a partner](#). Calling all arts groups around the country to sign up as a national partner for United We Serve: ARTSusa.
- [Sign the petition](#). Show your support of President Obama's proposed "Artists Corp."
- [Find volunteer opportunities](#). [Serve.artsusa.org](http://serve.artsusa.org) links to All for Good where you can browse activities and find volunteer opportunities based on your location or interests.

Partnership Team Updates

HI 2007 – **Louise Lanzilotti's** new e-mail address is executive@htyweb.org. The new mailing address for the Honolulu Theatre for Youth is 1149 Bethel St., Suite 700, Honolulu HI 96813

IA 2003 (Cedar Falls) – This team welcomes Director of Professional Development **Teri Trask**, who replaces Debbie Lee as the representative for Waterloo Community Schools. Teri can be reached at traskt@waterloo.k12.ia.us or (319) 433-1800.

KY 1999 – This team welcomes **Thomas Stites**, Fine Arts Coordinator for Owensboro Public Schools, who replaces **Julie Ann White**. Tom's contact information is (270) 686-1000 ext. 302 or thomas.stites@owensboro.kyschools.us.

MS 2007 – Director of Curriculum and Professional Development **Furlinda Travis** joins this team as the new representative for Meridian Public School District. Furlinda can be reached at ftravis@mpsd.k12.ms.us or (601) 484-3646.

NY 1996 (Great Neck) - **Susan Cohen**, Director of Education for the Great Neck Arts Center, has joined this team. Susan can be reached at (516) 829-2570 or susan@greatneckarts.org.

SC 1995 – This team welcomes **Nancy Halverson**, Director of Community Engagement and Learning for the Peace Center for the Performing Arts, who replaces **Ellen Westkaemper**. Nancy's contact information is (864) 469-9203 or nhalverson@peacecenter.org.

WY 1999 – Arts in Education Facilitator **Rachel Kalenberg** joins this team as a representative for CAM-PLEX Heritage Center. Rachel can be reached at rachel@cam-plex.com or (307) 682-0552.

KCAAEN Updates

Cristine Crooks has been hired as the Executive Director for the **Alaska Alliance**. Ms. Crooks previously worked with the Alaska Arts Education Consortium as a Project Coordinator. She can be reached by phone at 907-364-2290 and by email at ccrooks@gci.net.

The **Maine Alliance for Arts Education** has a new website and e-mail addresses. Please find them on the web at www.maineartsed.org. Executive Director **Carol Trimble** can now be reached by email at ctrimble@maineartsed.org.

Boards help shape our organizations' vision, expand into new markets, raise support as well as set governance policy. With all of the responsibilities our Board members have, we often forget that new Board members need a little training to get started. Remember to create a Board manual explaining how your organization's Board is organized, sets policy and works with staff. This manual should be shared with all new Board members and periodically reviewed by Board veterans. Another useful resource for those who are entering their first foray in the world of Boards, or for anyone who is looking at restructuring their current board, is *The Board Member's Book: Making a Difference in Voluntary Organizations* by Brian O'Connell. To read an excerpt from this text [click here](#).

NOT-FOR-PROFIT
tip of the month
MANAGEMENT



News and Resources

National Arts and Humanities Month

National Arts and Humanities Month ([NAHM](#)) is a coast-to-coast celebration of culture in America. Held in October and coordinated by Americans for the Arts, it is the largest annual celebration of the arts and humanities in the nation. In honor of NAHM, Americans for the Arts offers:

- A toolkit to help make your events happen
- An online map where you can list your event and see others'
- A chance to take action now through the e-advocacy center

U.S. Department of Education Arts in Education Surveys

The U.S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) and the Office of Innovation and Improvement are collaborating to conduct [surveys](#) on arts education in U.S. public schools during the 2009-10 school year. The surveys will be conducted through the NCES Fast Response Survey System. NCES anticipates releasing initial school-level data results by January 2011 and teacher-level results by June 2011. A more comprehensive report will follow and provide combined, detailed findings for all of the surveys.

Youth Thrive Awards 2009

GreatNonprofits, Guidestar, and VolunteerMatch have teamed up to launch the 2009 Youth Thrive [Awards](#) to recognize non-profits that are making the greatest difference for youth in their communities. The campaign runs through September 30. At its conclusion, organizations with the most positive reviews by budget size and region will be featured on GreatNonprofits and Guidestar. Posting reviews is easy and free, and individuals who post reviews during the campaign will be eligible to win prizes.

Using Music to Teach Math

The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics offers [grants](#) to use music in elementary schools to help teach math. Deadline: November 13.

Student Achievement Grants

The NEA Foundation provides [grants](#) to improve the academic achievement of students in U.S. public schools and public higher education institutions in any subject area. The proposed work should engage students in critical thinking and problem solving that deepen their knowledge of standards-based subject matter. The work should also improve students' habits of inquiry, self-directed learning, and critical reflection. Deadline: October 15.

NEA and NEH Chairmen Confirmed

Broadway producer Rocco Landesman was [confirmed](#) by the Senate as the new chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts. Mr. Landesman produced such shows as "Angels in America," and "The Producers" and has for more than 20 years been president of Jujamcyn Theaters. Chairman Landesman greeted the American public in a one-minute [video](#). Jim Leach, 66, a former Republican congressman from Iowa who is now a professor at Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, was also confirmed as the next chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

NAEP Arts Toolkit Updates

New information and documents – including a "Summary of Results", an "FAQ" and "Why You Should Care about the Nation's Report Card and What You Can Do" – are available now in the Arts Education Partnership's NAEP Arts [Toolkit](#).

Arts in Healthcare Grants

Through health education and development, Johnson & Johnson aims to build skills and health literacy among a broad range of people serving community health needs, increasing community support, involvement and leadership in the public health arena. In keeping with this strategy, Johnson & Johnson, in conjunction with the Society for the Arts in Healthcare, seeks to engage community healthcare workers, caregivers, families and artists in the practice of arts in [healthcare](#). Deadline: October 15.

Sarasota Arts Council Restructures to Focus Efforts on Lobbying

The Sarasota County Arts Council is hoping to raise awareness of the arts in the community by [restructuring](#) to put a greater focus on lobbying for the arts. The plan is to allow arts groups to speak in a unified voice to promote their efforts with the public, government agencies, and business interests. "We are what makes this community unique," said Larry Thompson, the president of the Ringling College of Art and Design and former Partners in Education Team Member, and the chairman of the council's new board. "There are lots of towns with beaches, but none with the combination of arts organizations that you find in Sarasota."

Michelle Obama Involved in the Arts

First Lady Michelle Obama will [host](#) a luncheon at the Andy Warhol Museum in Pittsburgh during the G-20 meeting in late September, because of the popularity of Warhol's art and due to the museum's reputation as a hub for community dialogue, the White House said. Mrs. Obama will also bring a tour of world leaders to the Creative and Performing Arts School Downtown out of her commitment to arts education.

Arts Education Partnership Spring Forum

The spring forum of the Arts Education Partnership will be held in conjunction with Arts Advocacy Day on April 9 and 10 in Washington, DC. Mark your calendars!

Arts Education Research Collection

The Arts Education Partnership is collecting information about arts education research and would like to include information about all studies that can be shared. Contact Michael Sikes at Michaels@ccsso.org.

Organizations Ask Congress to Include Arts and Artists in Healthcare Reform

Americans for the Arts and 20 other nonprofit arts organizations called on Congress to pass legislation that will create a public [insurance](#) option for individual artists, according to a statement from the coalition. "Many in the cultural workforce work independently or operate in nontraditional employment relationships, leaving them locked out of group healthcare coverage options," says the statement. "Additionally, soaring health care costs are consuming the ever decreasing budgets of nonprofit arts organizations hit hard by today's economic recession."

Campaign to Get Children Drawing

The new Children's Laureate Anthony Browne has launched a campaign to encourage children to draw more in the classroom. He is concerned that the pressure of national tests means priority is given to reading rather than [drawing](#). He believes that the two should be prized in equal measure and any failure to promote art could lead to a shortage of talented artists in later years. He has called for a day to be set aside each year for children to indulge their artistic side. Mr Browne, 62, a children's book illustrator and author, took over his new post last month.



National Partnerships Contact Information

Partners in Education

(202) 416-8806

www.kennedy-center.org/education/partners/

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(202) 416-8817

www.kennedy-center.org/education/kcaaen/

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(202) 416-8802

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Sources for this issue of UPDATE include:

Americans for the Arts, Arts Education Partnership, Associated Press, National Endowment for the Arts, *The New York Times*, *The Telegraph*, U.S. Department of Education



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