



OKLAHOMA ARTS DAY!

FACT SHEET: EDUCATION & THE ARTS

ACTION NEEDED:

- ✓ **Urge support for hiring school-based fine arts and music educators, implementing arts integration curriculum, and expanding community-based arts learning opportunities.**
- ✓ **Back increased funding for the Oklahoma Arts Council education programs to ensure opportunities for all Oklahoma students to develop critical and creative learning skills.**
- ✓ **Call for committing to arts education as an essential part of a well-rounded education.**

ARTS EDUCATION'S BENEFITS:

Students from all backgrounds benefit from arts education. Research demonstrates that participation in the arts boosts learning and outcomes for children, including:

- ✓ **Improved student achievement.**
- ✓ **Better attendance.**
- ✓ **Lower misconduct rates.**
- ✓ **Increased parental involvement.**
- ✓ **Problem solving skills.**

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY ARTS EDUCATION?

For a child's education to be complete, it must include the arts. Arts education---- **music, dance, visual arts, drama/theatre and media arts**-- prepares students for school, work and life. Students gain from arts education in multiple ways:

1. **Sequential arts education** taught by certified teachers in the arts supports state standards and goals for students to have a well-rounded and complete education.
2. **Creative youth development** through artists-in-residence, after school programs, community arts enrichment and homeschool arts programs helps students build personal, social and intellectual capacities.

OKLAHOMANS for the ARTS
For a state where everyone benefits from arts & culture.

ARTS EDUCATION

MUSIC, DANCE, VISUAL ARTS, DRAMA, MEDIA

18% MORE LIKELY TO GRADUATE

Low income students with high levels of arts involvement are 18% more likely to graduate.

EARLY CHILDHOOD > LITERACY

Arts education improves vocabulary, communication & memory in young children.

92 POINTS HIGHER SAT SCORES

Students who took 4 years of arts & music scored 92 points higher on SATs than students who took 1/2 year or less

CREATIVITY TOP 3

Creativity is one of the top 3 personality traits most important to career success according to US employers.

HELP EVERY OKLAHOMA CHILD RECEIVE ARTS EDUCATION.

Sign up and join us! Visit www.ok4arts.org





3. **Arts integration** helps students, brings the project-based, problem solving strengths of the arts to learning other subject areas.

STATE LEVEL DECISIONS:

Many decisions and policies about arts education are made in the local school districts. But our State Legislators have influence over several important resources and structures:

- **Funding— Schools need funding to have the teachers and resources for arts education.**

The Legislature and Governor decide the State Department of Education’s budget.

- The budget impacts district funding, teacher salaries and enrichment programs.
 - Including Competitive Grants to the Oklahoma Arts Council’s alternative education arts grants, the Oklahoma A+ Schools arts integration programs and the Oklahoma Arts Institute at Quartz Mountain, which were cut drastically over the past few years.
- ***We seek improved funding for public education that allows well-rounded education including arts learning.***

The Oklahoma Art Council’s budget is decided by the State Senate, House and Governor.

- That budget impacts teaching artists in schools, the performing artist roster, after school arts programs, community arts education and more.
- The Oklahoma Arts Council’s budget has been already cut. See budget [facts here](#).
- ***We seek improved funding for the Oklahoma Arts Council so that students can benefit from community and school-based arts enrichment.***

- **Policies- Oklahoma needs requirements and standards that encourage quality arts education for all students.**

The Legislature defines the framework for education in Oklahoma, including the accountability measures that guide the State Department of Education’s work.

- ***We encourage policies and accountability to support strong arts education statewide.***