

Fine Arts

MONTHLY NEWS

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION | MARCH 2020



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This monthly news update is for fine arts education from the Virginia Department of Education, Office of Humanities

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Welcome to March!

It's an exciting month for Fine Arts in Virginia! Between recognitions for student fine arts programs and the potential approval of the revised Fine Arts Standards of Learning, there is a lot to be excited about.

Great News for Fine Arts Education in Virginia!

Fairfax County Theatre Specialist, **Tara Taylor** named Administrator of the Year for Virginia Thespians. Tara will be recognized for this accomplishment by the Virginia Board of Education at the business meeting on March 19, 2020, at 9 a.m.

Mount Vernon High School includes dual enrollment theatre options in a new early college program.

Suffolk County Schools will expand support for fine arts programs after students and the community voiced strong support for the arts.

Albemarle County elementary teacher, **Annie Joyce** integrates arts into her curriculum.

Two Virginia students were finalists in the **National Portrait Gallery's Teen Portrait Competition**. The work of these students was chosen in the top 15 of 629 entries from 45 states.

New Look for This Newsletter

Starting in April, monthly VDOE Fine Arts News will be arriving via GovDelivery, our new communication system. This digital newsletter will be easier to use and to share information from. Be on the lookout for this new newsletter format.



March is Youth Art Month



On March 1, 2020, Virginia Governor Ralph S. Northam officially recognized March as Youth Art Month for Virginia. View the press release [here](#). Additional links and information for Youth Art Month are available on the [Virginia Art Education Association website](#).



March is Music in Our Schools Month



The National Association for Music Education (NAfME) recognizes March 2020 as the thirty-fifth annual Music In Our Schools Month (MIOSM®). Since 1985, MIOSM has been observed as an annual month-long celebration when schools and communities celebrate music in their local schools and the educators who dedicate themselves to bringing music into the lives of students every day. The theme of this year's observance of Music In Our Schools Month is "Music Changes Lives."

This year the NAfME Council for General Music Education has provided [resources](#) to show the learning process throughout the whole school year. The "[Music In Our Schools Month®: Process into Product](#)"

document explains this new direction, which began in 2018.

More on Music In Our Schools Month, including events, resources, and items you can use to celebrate Music In Our Schools Month can be found on the NAfME MIOSM web site at <https://nafme.org/programs/miosm/>.

March is Theatre in Our Schools Month

Throughout March, [Theatre in Our Schools \(TIOS\) month](#), joined thousands of students and theatre educators in raising awareness about the impact of theatre education, drawing attention to the need for more access for all students, and supporting school theatre programs in need. You can help spread the message to your communities, school boards, elected officials, and online, of how school theatre experiences teach 21st century skills.

What's Next for the Proposed Revised *Fine Arts Standards of Learning*?

At the Virginia Board of Education (BOE) meeting on March 19, 2020, the proposed revisions to the *Fine Arts Standards of Learning* will be presented for final review. The draft documents are available on the [Fine Arts Instruction page](#) of the [VDOE](#) website. Final documents will be posted following Board approval. It may take several weeks for the documents to be posted to the website and an official announcement will communicate when they are available. In addition to the approved standards document in the traditional format, chart-style documents will be created that show the standards within a K-12 sequence. Crosswalk documents will also be posted that show the changes made to the 2013 Standards.

If you have questions about the *Fine Arts Standards of Learning*, you may reach out to Kelly Bisogno, Coordinator of Fine Arts, at kelly.bisogno@doe.virginia.gov, or Doug Armstrong, Fine Arts Music Specialist, at douglas.armstrong@doe.virginia.gov.

Artists in Education Grant Opportunity

The purpose of this grant is to provide opportunities for Virginia's students, educators, and other adult populations throughout Virginia to participate in and learn through the arts by working with highly qualified professional artists, in support of lifelong learning.

These grants provide Virginia's Pre-K-12 students and teachers' opportunities to work with professional artists either in a school setting or through after-school or summer activities. Artists in Education grants may support educational programs in the arts that enhance arts instruction in the school curriculum, professional development for professional artists and educators to work with elementary and secondary school students, or other adult populations in community settings, meeting identified learning goals.

The deadline for online applications is April 1, 2020, by 5:00 p.m. for residencies taking place between July 1, 2020, and June 15, 2021. This is a 1:1 match with requests up to \$7,500.

For more information visit [here](#) or email casey.polczynski@vca.virginia.gov.

Information for Virginia Schools on Coronavirus (COVID-19)

The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) has developed information and resources to assist schools in responding to this evolving public health crisis. Comprehensive information is available on the [School Health Office](#) page Virginia Department of Education's website.

Opportunities for Fine Arts Students and Teachers

Registration is open for the **JMU Arts Integration Summer Institute in Creative Learning Pedagogy** for grade K-6 educators and school leaders. The Institute will be held June 22-25, 2020, and is presented in Partnership with University of Texas at Austin's Drama for Schools Program.

Registration is also open for the **JMU Secondary Theatre Institute**, for secondary theatre or English educators June 29-July 1, 2020. The Secondary Theatre Institute focuses on theatre as a collaborative art through a series of hands-on workshops that explore acting, directing, devising, and dramaturgy. During the week, we consider how to use drama and theatre pedagogies to build community, deepen skills in the art form, and engage students through story. Tools and strategies taught in this session serve both secondary classroom educators and extra-curricular theatre directors.



NFHS is offering a **free course on Understanding Copyright and Compliance**. This course explains what copyright means and when there may be exceptions. It discusses Fair Use, when a piece of music might be in the Public Domain, copyright infringement penalties and much more. This unique course has been designed for your specific needs whether you are a Music Teacher, Spirit Coach, School Administrator, Theatre Director or Speech and Debate Coach.



The **Congressional Black Caucus Foundation** offers scholarship opportunities for Visual and Performing arts students. Applications are due April 3, 2020.



Walmart is calling on local artists, art students, and art organizations to submit artwork in celebration of your local community as part of **Walmart Murals**. Their goals are to bring civic pride; engage local artists, schools and nonprofits; and promote local education and the arts.



The **NAfME Electronic Music Composition Competition** recognizes outstanding compositions and highlights the effectiveness of music technology in the school curriculum. Entries will be judged based on their aesthetic quality, use of electronic media, and the power of the composition. Entries must be received by April 10.



The Virginia Department of Education is happy to announce the launch of **#GoOpenVA**. Teachers can access #GoOpenVA using their division credentials to search for instructional materials and to share resources for other educators across the state.

Helpful Links

Americans for the Arts: Resources, data, and materials for arts advocacy.

Code of Virginia: Standards of Accreditation: Regulations establishing accreditation for public schools in Virginia.

Code of Virginia: Standards of Quality: Laws governing education in Virginia.

Fine Arts Instruction page on the VDOE Website: Contains current SOLs and instruction resources.

Superintendent's Memorandums are posted every Friday to the Virginia Department of Education website. The memos are the official communication method of the VDOE, and contain important information.

Teacher Direct: Sign up for weekly teacher updates from VDOE.

Virginia Art Education Association: Professional organization for visual arts educators and leaders.

Virginia Coalition for Fine Arts Education: The mission of the VCFAE is to bring together arts education stakeholders to promote and advocate for sequential, high quality arts programs for all children in the Commonwealth taught by highly qualified arts educators.

Virginia Commission for the Arts: the state agency that supports the arts through funding from the Virginia General Assembly and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Virginia is for Learners: The Virginia Department of Education, local school divisions and key partner organizations are working together on big changes that will connect the future of learning in the Commonwealth with the future of work in a global economy.

Virginia Museum of Fine Arts: Education resources from VMFA.

Virginia Music Educators Association: Professional organization for music educators and leaders.

Virginia Thespians: Professional organization for theatre educators and leaders.

Virginia Theatre Association: Professional organization for theatre.