

Arts Education Briefings

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Governor Carlson Announces Proposal to Increase Arts Funding by \$12 million

On December 12 approximately 700 members of Minnesota's arts community attended Governor Carlson's State of the Arts address at the Children's Theater in Minneapolis. More than 100 people who came to hear the Governor's announcement were from Greater Minnesota. The proposal covers a two-year state budget cycle with \$6 million additional funds for the arts each year. The Legislature must approve the 4 part proposal this spring for money to go to:

1. The Minnesota State Arts Board for its Operating Support and Formula funds, as well as Presenters, Arts in Education, Folk Arts and Individual Artists grant programs.
2. The 11 Regional Arts Councils (RACs) which serve arts organizations throughout the entire state. The money would be divided between the RACs according to a formula they determine themselves.
3. Arts Festivals, where \$500,000 would be set aside annually to promote regional arts festivals of two types: A series of six festivals around the state to celebrate the arts already existing in Greater Minnesota and;
4. Approximately six towns would be given grants to bring arts organizations from other parts of the state to serve as centerpieces for local arts festivals. The touring organizations would participate in school residences, visit with community professionals and offer master classes with local artists.

Graduation Standards

Department of Children, Families and Learning (DCFL) staff has been working furiously over the past two months to prepare the first draft of the proposed Rule of the Profile of Learning. Pilot site directors from around the state have met several times with



Pamela Paulson, Director, Resource Programs

Michael Tillmann, Mary Lillesvie, Mary Pfeifer and other DCFL staff to offer advice based on experience implementing the high standards in their schools. At this time the proposed draft includes a requirement for students to show complete work representing all parts of at least one standard in each of **eighteen** required categories **and** at least **six** additional elective standards (minimum total of 24) before they graduate. In addition to the areas named in the categories themselves, students must include among their choices pre-high school and high school work in **literature, U.S. History, an art form other than literature, career exploration and planning, multicultural perspectives, technology and task management skills.** Students should be offered choices of contexts in which to demonstrate their competence. The proposed rule will go through periods of public comment over several months and be reviewed by an administrative law judge before becoming a rule.

Task Management Skills

Task Management Skills will be part of the proposed Profile of Learning Rule. School districts will be required to implement a

system for recording student achievement of the following 5 Task Management Skills:

- Resource Management
- Time Management
- Perseverance
- Teamwork
- Respect for Others

Frameworks for Arts Curriculum Strategies (FACS)

The FACS publication will be available by February 1, and it is really an exciting resource for educators and artists! The purpose of FACS is to provide a context for teachers, artists and administrators to examine and improve their curriculum and teaching practices for the arts in education. FACS defines, supports and suggests key areas of learning, curriculum, and instructional design to assist schools across the state in developing consistent learning for all students in the arts. Implementation of FACS provides a foundation for students to meet the Graduation Standards. The FACS publication includes the K-12 arts standards, a matrix referencing the Minnesota Graduation Standards, sample lessons or assessments, and lists of additional resources.

Also available is a large, colorful poster which lists the FACS standards in dance, literary arts, media arts, music, theater and visual arts. It is a great way to visually identify the arts in the curriculum. Workshops to assist schools in translating the standards into practical, useful curriculum will be available to districts, schools and arts organizations this spring. For more information contact Pamela Paulson, FACS Coordinator, at the Minnesota Center for Arts Education at 591-4708. To order FACS materials, contact Marla Riemer at 591-4744 or 1-800-657-3515

Assessment Grant

The Center has received a grant from the Department of Children, Families and Learning (DCFL) to develop assessment/

performance packages for the arts standards in the Profile of Learning. Working with RoAnne Elliott, from DCFL, Pam Paulson will be coordinating the assessment process. Teams of writers will be selected this spring to begin writing and implementing packages which will be refined and field tested over the next year. Timing for this work is excellent as the DCFL will be doing training on implementation of the arts standards a year from this summer.

National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)

NAEP has just published a new proposed schedule of testing from 1996-2010. In 1997, the arts will be field-tested at grade 12 in dance, music, theater and visual arts, and NAEP will do an operational test (probe) in 8th grade for music, theater and visual arts. Dance will not be assessed as part of the 8th grade probe because the sample size is too small. Instead, a program survey will be

conducted to learn more about dance programs around the country. The arts will be tested again full scale in 2007 according to the schedule. The National Assessment Governing Board is accepting comments on the proposed schedule until February 3, 1997. Address comments to:

NAGB
800 North Capitol Street NW
Suite 825, Mailstop 7583
Washington, DC 20002-4233

Key Characteristics of Successful Schools:

The Arts and Excellent Education

To assist schools in analyzing and evaluating their programs to ensure the highest quality arts education, the Minnesota Center for Arts Education is developing an outline of characteristics and indicators of successful schools. Schools may find the list to be a positive reinforcement for the work they are already doing in their programs. Otherwise the information gained through this process

can be used in developing a comprehensive improvement plan. The following categories are used in the outline of Characteristics:

- I. Clear mission and goals which include the arts
- II. Integration of engaging curriculum, authentic assessment and dynamic instruction which include the arts in the teaching and learning process
- III. Builds strong organizational systems and support for the arts within the school
- IV. Actively communicates and builds community support and understanding for the arts
- V. Adds to this list

For a copy of the current draft of the Successful Characteristics, please contact Pamela Paulson or Marla Riemer at (800) 657-3515 or 591-4744.

New Facility at the Minnesota Center for Arts Education

The 1996 Legislature approved \$6.8 million for an addition to the Center. The Instructional Resource Facility will include new music performance and rehearsal spaces, as well as classrooms and small ensemble rehearsal rooms. The 40,000 square feet will house classroom spaces for math, social studies, communications, languages, science, literary arts and theater rehearsal. Moving many of these classroom functions out of the GAIA Building on campus will allow that building to be converted for use by the statewide Resource Programs. The architects for the project are Armstrong Torseth Skold and Rydeen, Inc. and The Adams Group. The timeline for completion of the building is late summer 1998.

Application Deadlines

February 1, 1997 - Arts High School applications are due.

March 3, 1997 - Comprehensive Arts Planning Program (CAPP) applications are due for Pre, Post and Standard CAPP

April 4, 1997 - Artist Educator Institute(AEI) team applications are due. The AEI will be held June 23-27 in Winona.

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ARTS EDUCATION**

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