News impacting arts education, keeping you informed!

OHIO ALLIANCE FOR ARTS EDUCATION

Arts Online Newsletter Week of March 4, 2024

ARTS FYI

Department of Education & Workforce

Science of Reading update for arts educators

The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce has posted on its website information **about the professional development requirements for all teachers in the science of reading.**

Last year when the Ohio General Assembly was working on the biennial operating budget (House Bill 33), Governor Mike DeWine and Dr. Stephanie Siddens, Interim Superintendent for the Ohio Department of Education, and other lawmakers pressed **to revise reading instruction in Ohio, and added in law requirements that Ohio's districts and schools adopt the science of reading.**

Under Section 265.330(A)(2) of House Bill 33 of the 135th General Assembly, districts and schools now require all teachers and administrators to complete a course in the science of reading provided by the Department not later than June 30, 2025, "…except that any teacher or administrator who has previously completed similar training, as determined by the Department, shall not be required to complete the course."

The Department has developed multiple course pathways to meet the professional development requirements for the science of reading in state law.

Teachers of kindergarten through grade five are required to complete Pathway A, which is 22 hours of instruction in the science of reading through the Learning Management System. **Pathway A includes ARTS EDUCATORS TEACHING IN GRADES K-5.**

Teachers of subject areas other than English language **Arts for grades 6-12, including teachers of core subject areas in addition to music, fine arts, physical education and other elective or related arts subjects, are required to complete Pathway E,** which is 7.5 hours of instruction in the science of reading through the Learning Management System. **Pathway E includes ARTS EDUCATORS TEACHING IN GRADES 6-12.**

Districts will determine the pathway to complete for teachers in overlapping grade levels such as 3-12.

Teacher License Renewal

Under House Bill 33 of the 135th General Assembly, local professional development committees (LPDCs) are required to count completion of the science of reading professional development course toward professional development coursework requirements for teacher licensure renewal. LPDCs must permit teachers to apply any hours earned in the science of reading that exceed the minimum number of hours required for professional development coursework for teacher licensure renewal to the next renewal period for the license.

Stipends for Teachers

A stipend is available for teachers who complete the professional development requirements. Under state law, stipends are available for the following:

- **$1,200 for each of the following:**
  - **A teacher of grades kindergarten through five, including arts educators**
  - An English language arts teacher of grades six through twelve
  - An intervention specialist, English learner teacher, reading specialist, or instructional coach who serves any of grades pre-kindergarten through twelve.

- **$400 for each teacher who teaches a subject area other than English language arts in grades six through twelve, including arts educators teaching in grades 6-12.**

Stipends are available only for the completion of professional development courses developed by the Department to meet the requirements for **the science of reading under state law.**

According to the Department's website, "The Department aims to provide additional information on the distribution of available funds to districts and schools in early 2024. The process of determining reporting mechanisms and payment processes is under development. More details regarding timelines and funding are forthcoming and will be communicated broadly to districts and community schools when available."

Please Note: School districts will provide additional information about **how and when arts educators can complete this required training by June 30, 2025.** Please contact your school district with questions or submit a question to ReadOhio@education.ohio.gov.

Ohio's Introduction to the Science of Reading Courses

COURSE PATHWAYS

Under Section 265.330(A)(2) of House Bill 33 of the 135th General Assembly, districts and schools shall require all teachers and administrators to complete a course provided by the Department not later than June 30, 2025, except that any teacher or administrator who has previously completed similar training, as determined by the Department, shall not be required to complete the course.

The Department has developed multiple course sequences to serve as pathways to meeting the professional development requirement in the science of reading in state law. Districts and community schools should work with educators and administrators to identify the course pathway that is the best fit for their role.

Pathway	Course Name	Target Audience(s)	Hours	Access
Pathway A	Ohio's Introduction to the Science of Reading Course, Kindergarten-Grade 5	• Teachers of kindergarten-grade 5. • Intervention specialists, English learner teachers, reading specialists, or instructional coaches in grades K-5.	22 hours	Learning Management System
Pathway B	Ohio's Introduction to the Science of Reading Course, Kindergarten-Grade 5 (Abbreviated)	• Teachers of kindergarten-grade 5 who completed required 18 hours of dyslexia professional development. • Intervention specialists, English learner teachers, reading specialists, or instructional coaches in grades K-5 who completed required 18 hours of dyslexia professional development.	8.5 hours	Learning Management System
Pathway C	Ohio's Introduction to the Science of Reading Course, Grades 6-12 English Language Arts	• English language arts teachers in grades 6-12. • Intervention specialists, English learner teachers, reading specialists, or instructional coaches in grades 6-12.	21 hours	Learning Management System
Pathway D	Ohio's Introduction to the Science of Reading Course, Grades 6-12 (Abbreviated)	• Intervention specialists, English learner teachers, reading specialists, or instructional coaches in grades 6-12 who completed required 18 hours of dyslexia professional development.	9 hours	Learning Management System

Pathway	Course Name	Target Audience(s)	Hours	Access
Pathway E	Ohio's Introduction to the Science of Reading Course, Grades 6-12 Content Areas	• Teachers of subject areas other than English Language Arts for grades 6-12, including teachers of core subject areas in addition to music, fine arts, physical education, and other elective or related arts subjects.	7.5 hours	Learning Management System
Pathway F	Ohio's Introduction to the Science of Reading Course, Administrators K-12	Administrators holding any of the following licenses: • A valid Superintendent's license or valid Alternative Superintendent's license • A valid Principal's license or valid Alternative Principal's license • A valid Administrative Specialist license or valid Alternative Superintendent license	7 hours	Learning Management System
Pathway G	Ohio's Language and Literacy Course Sequence for Prekindergarten	• Intervention specialists, English learner teachers, reading specialists, or instructional coaches in prekindergarten.	20.5 hours	Cox Campus

Source: **Dr. Michelle Muro,** Fine Arts Consultant, Tri-County Educational Service Center, **contributed to this article.**

Source: Information about **Ohio's Literacy Framework** is available HERE.

Source: Information about **The Science of Reading** is available HERE.

Source: Information about the **professional development requirements for the Science of Reading** is HERE. This link above also includes "Similar Trainings to Meet the Requirements" for teachers or administrators who have previously completed a course in reading, such as training by the International Dyslexia Association.

Source: Ohio's **Introduction to the Science of Reading Courses, Course Pathways** is available HERE.

Source: Ohio's Introduction to the **Science of Reading K-12 Courses, Overview of Course Content** is HERE. This document breaks-down the topics that are covered in the science of reading course by hours, for K-5 and 6-12 teachers and administrators.

Source: **FAQs** HERE.

OEA Annual Student Art Contest

The Ohio Education Association (OEA) is **looking for some creative cover ideas and student thoughts about what makes their school great for its *Ohio Schools* magazine.**

This annual contest is **open to all students enrolled in grades K-12 in public schools in Ohio**. Students should design a cover that best expresses their ideas on "What makes my school great?" **Students submit**

designs based on their grade level category: Group A: Grades K, 1-4; Group B: Grades 5-8; and Group C: Grades 9-12.

The best design will be featured as the cover for the June/July 2024 issue of *Ohio Schools*. The grand prize winner will receive a $100 gift card.

Winners of each category will have their work featured inside the June/July 2024 issue and will receive a $50 gift card. Teachers of the winning students will also receive a $50 gift card.

The deadline to submit a design is March 29, 2024.

Details about the contest are available HERE.

Update on Federal Appropriations

Congress made some progress last week on finalizing appropriations for Fiscal Year 2024, which began on October 1, 2023. Congress also avoided a partial shutdown on March 1, 2024, when the U.S. House, Senate, and President Biden approved a funding package that includes six appropriation bills that will be voted on before March 8th, and extends to March 22, 2024 funding for six other federal agencies, that would have had to shut down on March 8, 2024.

There are twelve FY24 appropriation measures that Congress must pass to keep the government running. So far, the 118th Congress has avoided a government shutdown four times by passing continuing resolutions, which maintain funding for federal departments and agencies at FY23 levels. But a provision included in the debt ceiling bill (Fiscal Responsibility Act) passed in June could trigger automatic 1% cuts to agency budgets if the final passage of FY24 appropriations is not made by April 30, 2024. **This would be devastating to nondefense discretionary spending, including funding for the arts.**

Americans for the Arts (AFTA) is asking Congress to approve the following FY24 spending levels:

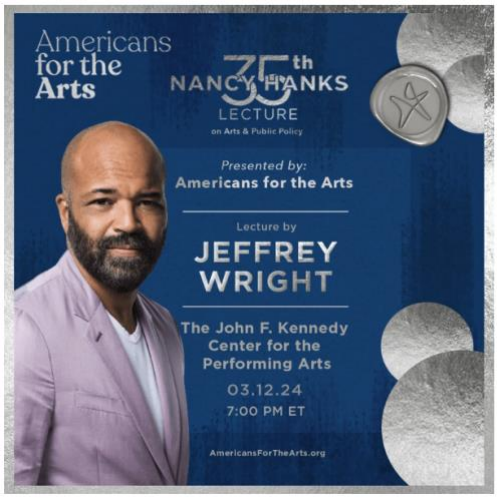
- National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and Humanities (NEH): $207 million
- Community Arts Engagement for Veterans: $10 million
- Community Arts Engagement for Active Military: $10 million
- Increases in Titles I,II, and IV to support a well-rounded education
- Increases in the Arts in Education Program
- Maintain Arts in Embassies Funding

Source: The Hill, "GOP seeks upper hand **as prospect of automatic budget cuts stirs fears**." HERE.

The FY2025 budget recommendations from the Biden Administration are due to Congress on March 11, 2024, which means that Congress will be working on appropriations for two fiscal years at the same time. Work on the federal budget usually begins after the president presents the *State of the Union Address* and outlines the budget and policy priorities for the fiscal year. President Joe Biden will present the *State of the Union* on March 7, 2024.

Source: Congressional Research Service, **Appropriations Status Table for FY2024** HERE.

AFTA's *Nancy Hanks Lecture on Arts and Public Policy* available for FREE on Zoom Livestream



The 35th Nancy Hanks Lecture on Arts and Public Policy presented by Americans for the Arts, will be held on March 12, 2024, at 7:00 PM at The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Jeffery Wright, award winning actor and arts advocate, will present the keynote lecture. Other guest speakers include the following:

- Representative *James E. Clyburn*, recipient of the 2024 Congressional Arts Leadership Award.
- Representative *Hakeem Jeffries*, House Democratic Leader and presenter of the 2024 Congressional Arts Leadership Award.
- *Ben Folds*, Musician and Arts Action Fund Board Member, who will give a special performance.
- *Tanya Lombard*, Vice President of Global Public and External Affairs at AT&T, who will provide introductory remarks.

***The Annual Nancy Hanks Lecture on Arts and Public Policy* is a leading national forum to stimulate dialogue on policy and social issues that affect the arts.**

The lecture is named in honor of Nancy Hanks, former president of Americans for the Arts and former chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts**.** She devoted 15 years of her professional life to raising national awareness and federal support for the arts.
Register for the free Zoom livestream of the *Nancy Hanks Lecture* HERE.

OAC's Individual Excellence Awards recipients announced

The Ohio Arts Council (OAC), Donna S. Collins executive director, announced on February 15, 2024, the recipients of *Individual Excellence Awards* through the OAC's Individual Excellence Awards program. A total of **$375,000 will be distributed to 75 recipients, who are being recognized for** their outstanding accomplishments in a variety of arts disciplines. A list of recipients is available HERE.

The purpose of the *Individual Excellence Awards* program is to provide artists with resources to experiment and explore their art forms, develop skills to advance their careers, and receive affirmation and acknowledgment for their outstanding work.

Nearly 500 applications were received from artists across the state in the areas of choreography, criticism, fiction, non-fiction, music composition, playwriting/screenplays, and poetry **in this funding cycle.** Award recommendations are made through an anonymous, open panel review process that considers the merit of past artistic work. **Each award is $5000 with one collaborative award shared.**

OAC Executive Director Donna Collins congratulated award recipients in a news release, saying that their work exemplifies "…Ohio's wealth of exceptional artistic talent and demonstrates that artists can thrive in our great state."

> *Source:* Paa, Andrew, "**75 Individual Excellence Awards Approved for Ohio Artists**," Ohio Arts Council, February 15, 2024 HERE.

Arts Impact Ohio 2024 will be held May 15-16, 2024 at the Renaissance Toledo Downtown



Experience. Create. Connect.

OAC Announces the Lineup of Workshop Sessions, Performances, and Arts Experiences!

Last week the Ohio Arts Council (OAC), Donna S. Collins Executive Director, announced the **workshops, performances and arts experiences that will be presented at *Arts Impact Ohio (AIO) 2024*, May 15-16, 2024 at the Renaissance Toledo Downtown.**

According to the OAC, "**This year's conference is packed with content relevant for anyone and everyone working in the arts or arts education.** Beyond outstanding keynotes and plenaries, AIO also features breakout sessions focused on uniting philanthropy and marketing, the intersection of the arts and artificial intelligence, engaging diverse learners of all ages through arts education practices, and much more! Attendees will also experience Toledo's arts scene during off-site excursions (ArtArounds), enjoy live performances, and network with peers from around the state."

A tentative agenda of each day of the conference is available HERE.
Please note that events and times are subject to change.

Full conference registration includes access to the May 15, 2024 evening reception, networking events, admission to select *ArtAround sites*, all provided meals, and all workshop sessions, plenary, and keynote content.

Register HERE.

Arts Impact Ohio 2024 announces Plenaries: Marc Folk, Toledo Mayor Wade Kapzsukiewicz, Susan Reams, and Robin Jones



(L to R): Marc Folk, Mayor Wade Kapzsukiewicz, and Susan Reams

Plenary Session: Arts Longevity and Local Government, Thursday, May 16, 2024, 9:00 -10:15 am

Marc Folk, The Arts Commission of Greater Toledo; **Mayor Wade Kapzsukiewicz,** City of Toledo; and **Susan Reams**, Lauded Arts Advocate, will discuss how they established new arts programs in Toledo with the support of local government and advocates, and how they sustained those programs through strong partnerships with local government.



Plenary Session: Demystifying the ADA and Related Laws: Moving Beyond Compliance
Thursday, May 12, 2024, 12:15 -1:30 pm

Robin Jones, Great Lakes ADA Center, will share her expertise to help attendees better understand the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and related civil rights laws for persons with disabilities. The goal is to view ADA as a starting point for building a more inclusive and welcoming experience for all employees, visitors, customers, and patrons as organizations prepare to meet the needs of an increasingly diverse society. Attendees will have an opportunity to ask questions about specific situations they've confronted or handled and discuss concerns related to the obligations that the ADA sets forth.



Keynote Speaker of *Arts Impact Ohio 2024*: Dr. Tasha Golden

The Ohio Arts Council previously announced Keynote Speaker **Dr. Tasha Golden,** a national leader in arts and public health, a singer-songwriter for the band *Ellery*, and a published poet and founder of *Project Uncaged: an arts-based health intervention for incarcerated teen women.*

Dr. Golden holds a Ph.D. in public health sciences and is currently the director of research at the International Arts + Mind Lab at Johns Hopkins University.

As a national leader and consultant in arts and public health, she has published extensively on the impact of the arts, music, aesthetics, and social norms on health and well-being.

In her keynote address, *Igniting Change, Inviting Growth: Redefining Arts, Health, and Community Care*, Dr. Golden will explore art's potential to help people heal, connect, and lead positive change using innovative models like "arts on prescription."

U.S. Department of Education launches the *Assistance for Arts Education Center*

The U.S. Department of Education has a new website, *Assistance for Arts Education (AAE)*, to link arts educators with resources to support arts education as an "integral part of a well-rounded education." HERE.

According to the website, **the goal of the center is to** disseminate information about *Assistance for Arts Education grants* and partner organizations, and share evidence-based resources to expand equitable access to quality arts education. **The Arts Education Center website is designed to do the following:**

- Provide targeted technical assistance to AAE grantees
- Provide arts education resources to AAE grantees and arts educators
- Disseminate arts education information from U.S. Department of Education offices and other federal and national partners
- Provide information on Federal funding opportunities
- Provide the latest information on professional development opportunities from multiple entities.

The center welcomes feedback from AAE grantees and arts educators, including recommendations for resources that will aid State Education Agencies, Local Education Agencies, communities, and families, provide students with equitable access and opportunities to quality arts education programs.