

# Minnesota

*Minnesota State Arts Board  
Amy Frimpong, Senior Program Officer*

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## General Information

### *Organization Mission Statement*

Vision: All Minnesotans have the opportunity to participate in the arts.

Mission: The Minnesota State Arts Board will:

- serve as a leading catalyst for creating a healthy environment for the arts that fosters broad public participation in, and support for, the arts in Minnesota;
- promote artistic excellence and preserve the diverse cultural heritage of the people of Minnesota through its support of artists and organizations;
- act as a responsible steward of the public trust;
- work with the statewide network of regional arts councils to ensure accessibility to arts activities for all Minnesotans.

### *Arts Education Program Overview*

Children are natural artists. They draw, paint, sing, dance, write and tell stories, and pretend to be someone else. Their world is all about imagining and exploring.

Arts learning and artistic expression fuel a child's natural creativity. They also help young people to be better students in other subjects. Research shows that students who study the arts have higher academic achievement and higher SAT scores than other students. Arts activities build self-confidence and reinforce students' critical thinking and discipline.

The Minnesota State Arts Board Arts in Education (AIE) program is designed to encourage and expand young people's natural interest and abilities in arts activities. It helps deliver high-quality, hands-on, creative arts learning opportunities for students; and it gives teachers new tools and model arts learning activities to incorporate into their classrooms.

The Arts Board's Arts in Education program has three components:

- grants for schools that want to involve a professional artist in their school arts programming. The Arts Board has three programs in this area: School Support for all Minnesota schools, K-12 Arts Challenge Minnesota for schools outside the seven-county metro area, and Comprehensive Arts Planning Program (CAPP) grants for schools in currently designated CAPP districts;
- a roster of teaching artists who are skilled and available to work in schools;
- grants for arts organizations that conduct artistic residencies.

The Arts in Education School Support grant program provides matching funds to sponsor artist residencies of one week or longer. Schools that apply for Arts Board residency funding are encouraged to select artists from the Arts in Education Roster of Artists; however, they are not required to do so.

The Arts in Education K-12 Arts Challenge Minnesota grant program provides matching funds to sponsor artist residencies of one week or longer. Schools that apply for Arts Board residency funding through the K-12 Arts Challenge Minnesota program must be located outside the seven-county metro area and must work with an artist from the Arts in Education Roster of Artists.

CAPP School Support is a component of the Minnesota State Arts Board School Support program. It is designed to enable CAPP committees to present low-cost artist residencies in their districts. The program also acquaints CAPP committees with the grant seeking process and engage schools that have not actively competed for the regular Arts Board School Support grants.

The Arts in Education Organizational Support program encourages and expands the delivery of cost-effective, high-quality arts residency programs to schools. It provides two-year grants to arts organizations that produce school residency programs.

The Arts in Education Roster of Artists, a juried listing of literary, visual and performing artists, is a reference guide for communities searching for qualified professionals to conduct residencies in schools and other educational settings during the 2008-2009, 2009-2010, and 2010-2011 school years. The artists in this roster have been chosen through a juried review process based on both their artistic skills and their ability to teach students. From traditional to fine arts, the roster includes a wide range of artistic disciplines for residency possibilities.

## **Grant Programs**

### ***Types of Arts Education Grant Programs***

- residency program
- in-school arts education

### ***Groups Eligible for Grant Programs***

- public schools
- private/nonparochial schools
- arts organizations

### ***Multiyear Grants***

Multiyear grants are available for two years (only AIE Organizational Support grants).

### ***Total Number of Arts Education Grants Awarded in Most Recent Fiscal Year***

50 grants

### ***Total Dollar Value of Arts Education Grants Awarded in Most Recent Fiscal Year***

\$ 280,000

# Major Initiatives & Partnerships

## ***Artist to Artist***

Founded in 2002, Artist to Artist is a cadre of experienced teaching artists, “translators,” facilitators and emerging teaching artists acting as critical friends. It is an informal collective of individuals from across the states of Minnesota and North Dakota that is actively supported by the Perpich Center for Arts Education, the North Dakota Council on the Arts, and the Minnesota State Arts Board.

Artist to Artist is grounded on the principle that authentic learning in the arts is the foundation for creating meaningful arts integration in the classroom. Artist to Artist expands the definition of what a “teaching artist” is and brings a wider variety of teaching artists into the classroom. This includes naming what kind of support and mutual understanding it takes for artists and educators to collaborate in innovative and nontraditional ways.

Artist to Artist uses the power of collaborative inquiry to examine artists’ work. Participants develop deeper understandings of artists’ planning, instruction and reflection strategies.

## ***Peer Coach training***

In partnership with Perpich Center for Arts Education

## ***Teaching artists workshops***

In partnership with the Regional Arts Councils and Perpich Center for Arts Education

## ***Annual statewide conference***

In partnership with Springboard for the Arts, COMPAS, VSA arts Minnesota, Young Audiences and Perpich Center for Arts Education

# Artist Residency Program

## ***Artist residency program is administered by the state arts agency office.***

- Optional orientation is provided for artists.
- Optional orientation is provided for sponsors.
- Optional training is provided for artists.
- Optional training is provided for sponsors.
- Entities other than schools may not apply to sponsor a residency.

## ***Fee Structure for Teaching Artists***

- \$250 per day
- There can be additional compensation outside of the fee structure. Minimum is \$250 per day for up to four hours of contact time. Additional compensation is set by the artists using the minimum payment as a guide.

## ***Additional Comments on Residency Program***

Residencies offered by organizations are supported through the Arts in Education Organizational Support Grant program.

# Teaching Artist Roster Program

### ***Teaching Artist Roster Basics:***

- Roster artists are required for residency program.
- A panel is used to select roster artists.
- Applications for roster are reviewed every two years.
- To retain eligibility, artists must reapply every two years.

### ***Additional Comments on Teaching Artist Roster***

Roster artists are required for the CAPP and K-12 Challenge programs only. With their own funding schools may use non rostered artists.

## **Annual Events**

### ***Statewide conference***

partnership with Springboard for the Arts, COMPAS, VSA arts Minnesota, Young Audiences, Perpich Center for Arts Education

### ***Regional workshops***

in partnership with the regional arts council network directors

## **Professional Development Services**

### ***Provision of Professional Development Trainings, Workshops and/or Institutes***

- For classroom teachers, professional development is administered in partnership with another organization.
- For arts specialists, professional development is administered in partnership with another organization.
- For teaching artists, professional development is administered in partnership with another organization.
- For school administrators, professional development is administered in partnership with another organization.

## **Poetry Out Loud**

### ***Poetry Out Loud Administration***

- in-house with other state arts agency staff

### ***Poetry Out Loud Participation***

- number of schools participating in Poetry Out Loud statewide: 50
- number of regional semifinals: 9

### ***Poetry Out Loud Resources and Activities***

- residency model
- teaching artist training
- classroom teacher training
- workshops in conjunction with state finals

### ***Additional Prizes and Awards***

- trophies, certificates, poetry books donated by literary arts organizations; poetry calendars donated by magnetic poetry; and two memberships to the Loft Literary Center for the winning student and teacher donated by the Center for the last three years
- Additional prizes were donated.

## **Resources & Publications**

### ***Publications and Media Resources Provided:***

- Roster Artist Handbook

## **Evaluation & Assessment**

### ***Methods of Self-Evaluation of State Arts Agency's Arts Education Program***

- surveys and feedback forms
- direct observations

## **Arts Education Staffing & Network Contacts**

### ***State Department of Education Arts Curriculum Specialist***

Perpich Center for Arts Education

### ***Arts Education Program Staff, Job Title, FTE***

Amy Frimpong, Senior Program Officer, 1.0

### ***Arts Education Coordinator's Split Responsibilities***

- other areas of work: Institutional Support grants and Cultural Pluralism
- percent of time dedicated to arts education program: 35%

### ***Staff Biography***

Amy Frimpong manages six institutional grant programs and three school support programs and works with more than 100 roster artists. To reach out to underserved populations, she designed and implemented a community liaison program and a grant program for artists of color, which has led to an increase in participation of persons of color to all Arts Board programs and services.

Frimpong served on the Arts Education Advisory Group for the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies and the National Endowment for the Arts. While on the advisory group she served as the chair of the strategic planning committee that created the current strategic plan for state arts educator managers. She has served on several NEA and other state arts education review panels.