

Delaware

Delaware Division of the Arts

Sheila Dean Ross, Program Manager, Arts in Education and Accessibility

General Information

Organization Mission Statement

The Delaware Division of the Arts is a state agency dedicated to nurturing and supporting the arts to enhance the quality of life for all Delawareans.

Arts Education Mission Statement

The Delaware Division of the Arts is committed to the advancement of learning in the arts for Delawareans of all ages. The Division supports the design and implementation of programs that foster learning in the arts, evaluates the current programs for schools and arts organizations, and adapts funding and technical assistance initiatives to meet the needs of arts education providers. Its goal is to facilitate the development of arts programming, consistent with state arts standards, as an integral part of children's learning, consistent with National Endowment for the Arts goal of ensuring that the arts are basic in the education of children and young adults.

Arts Education Program Overview

The Delaware Division of the Arts supports the design and implementation of programming that fosters learning in the arts, evaluates the current programs for school and arts organizations, and adapts funding and professional development initiatives to meet the needs of arts education providers.

The Division's arts education grants provide funding for the implementation of standards based arts curriculum and programming developed by collaborations among members of the arts and education communities. These programs serve youth in a variety of settings, including a self-contained classroom of special needs students with severe physical disabilities. The Division requires that recipients demonstrate a sequential standards based arts curriculum, based on Delaware's State Standards for the Visual and Performing Arts, and dedicated staff within the school to sustain meaningful arts education as a routine component of each child's education.

Grant Programs

Types of Arts Education Grant Programs

- residency program
- other: The Division offers Education Resource Grants. The goals for these grants are to strengthen school based arts education projects, programs, and activities that utilize the

arts education resources of the Delaware arts community, and to increase and enhance professional development opportunities for artists and teachers seeking to further their knowledge and expertise in arts education. Arts organizations and schools are eligible to apply for Education Resource Grants.

Groups Eligible for Grant Programs

- pre-K centers
- public schools
- private/nonparochial schools
- private/parochial schools
- charter schools
- arts organizations

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

17 grants

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

\$137,800

Artist Residency Program

Artist Residency Program is administered by the state arts agency office.

Fee Structure for Teaching Artists

- \$250 per day
- There can be additional compensation outside of the fee structure. Additional funding for the teaching artist can be obtained from the school, parent-teacher association units, or outside community grants or sponsorships.

Additional Comments on Residency Program

Teaching artists are compensated up to 75% of their fee, not to exceed \$250 per day.

Artist groups are compensated up to 75% of their fee, not to exceed \$350 per day.

Schools are expected to fund the remaining 25% of the cost to bring the artist(s) to the school.

Teaching Artist Roster Program

Comments on Teaching Artist Roster

The artist roster in Delaware is comprehensive and does not list artists solely available to teach in the schools. Instead, the artist roster lists all interested visual and performing artists in Delaware who are interested in being on the roster, they select whether they are available for exhibits, performances, school residencies, and the like, and the roster lists their project or hourly fees.

Professional Development Services

Provision of Professional Development Trainings, Workshops and/or Institutes

- For arts specialists, professional development is administered by the state arts agency office.
- For teaching artists, professional development is administered by the state arts agency office. When opportunities present themselves, the Division offers funding for teaching artists to take advantage of available workshops aimed at expanding knowledge.
- The Division partners with the Department of Education's professional development initiatives for arts educators.

Poetry Out Loud

Poetry Out Loud Administration

- in-house with arts education staff
- in-house with contracted staff

Poetry Out Loud Participation

- number of schools participating in Poetry Out Loud statewide: 25
- Home-schooled students participate.

Poetry Out Loud Resources and Activities

- workshops in conjunction with state finals
- other: If requested, poetry and theater professionals give workshops in poetry selection and recitation to participating classroom teachers who would like assistance with implementation of the lesson plan.

Additional Prizes and Awards

- The Division has offered gift bags to participants.
- Additional prizes were donated.

Partners, Funders or In-kind Donors That Support the Poetry Out Loud Program

Walmart

Evaluation & Assessment

Assessment of Student Learning in the Arts

- Sample assessment tools are provided. Rubrics for education resource grants can be provided on request from the arts education manager. Information regarding assessment can be obtained through a link on the grant application. Assessment guidelines link with the state standards for the visual and performing arts through the Delaware Department of Education.

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

- participation data
- financial data
- surveys and feedback forms

- direct observations

Utilization of Evaluation

The Division evaluates arts education grant programs and their efficacy in supporting arts education providers' capacity to develop and implement standards based arts curriculum and instruction, using qualified instructors as well as professional artists trained to work in education settings. It confers with grantees, reviews reports and independent evaluations, and consults with school participants in the partnerships.

Arts Education Staffing & Network Contacts

State Department of Education Arts Curriculum Specialist

Debora Hansen

Arts Education Program Staff, Job Title, FTE

Sheila Dean Ross, Program Manager, Arts in Education, 1.0

Arts Education Coordinator's Split Responsibilities

- other areas of work: accessibility
- percent of time dedicated to arts education program: 80%

Staff Biography

Sheila Dean Ross began her career with the Delaware Division of the Arts in 1996, serving as Technical Assistant Program Manager and Theater Coordinator, administering theater grants and creating programs to serve the arts constituency of Delaware in the areas of technical assistance and accessibility. In October 2006, she was named Program Manager for the Division's Arts in Education, Accessibility & Music Programs. Ross attended the Duke Ellington School of the Arts, and received her B.A. in Music Education from Howard University and her M.A. in Arts Management from The American University. In addition, she was selected as a FAME Fellow with the Pennsylvania State Arts Council in 1990 and holds a Certificate in Arts Administration from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. Past positions have included Marketing Director for a regional shopping center in Hyattsville, Maryland; Program Coordinator at the Walt Whitman Center in Camden, New Jersey; development positions with the Afro- American Historical and Cultural Museum in Philadelphia and the Cheltenham (Pa.) Center for the Arts; and Membership Manager at New Jersey Network (NJN)—a PBS television station in Trenton, New Jersey.