

Pennsylvania

*Pennsylvania Council on the Arts
Jamie Dollish, Program Director*

General Information

Organization Mission Statement

The mission of the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts (PCA) is to foster the excellence, diversity and vitality of the arts in Pennsylvania and to broaden the availability and appreciation of those arts throughout the state.

Arts Education Program Overview

The primary focus of the Arts in Education (AIE) Division is to serve the arts-curricular learning of students K-12. The over-arching philosophy to the PCA's AIE Division is that learning through active engagement in the creative process, led by teaching-artists working in concert with teachers, creates transformational educational experiences for students. Particular emphasis is placed on support for arts specialists and the enhancement of the arts and humanities curricula. The main components of the Division are: the AIE Partnership (providing professional development, arts education advocacy, artist selection services, and artist residency services); AIE residency funding (delivered primarily through the AIE Partnership); services for Pennsylvania art and music teachers and the state parent-teacher association, publication of the juried Directory of Pennsylvania Artists in Education; and other strategic initiatives.

Grant Programs

Types of Arts Education Grant Programs

- residency program
- general operating support for arts education organizations
- arts education program/project support for arts organizations
- professional development and consulting

Groups Eligible for Grant Programs

- pre-K centers
- public schools
- private/nonparochial schools
- private/parochial schools
- charter schools
- regional/local arts agencies
- arts organizations
- non-arts organizations
- arts education alliance or similar statewide organization

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

37 grants – 12 of which are residency grants to the AIE Partnership which provides support to approximately 350 residencies annually.

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

\$ 1,730,000

Additional Comments on Arts Education Grant Programs

In addition to the grants under PCA's arts in education program, the Council provides ongoing support for arts organizations with a focus on arts education.

Major Initiatives & Partnerships

AIE Partnership

The primary service delivery network is the AIE Partnership, currently consisting of 12 regional partners, serving 62 out of 67 counties in Pennsylvania.

Artist Residency Program

Artist residency program is administered in partnership with another organization.

- Optional orientation is provided for artists.
- Optional training is provided for artists.
- Optional training is provided for sponsors.
- Entities other than schools may apply to sponsor a residency.

Fee Structure for Teaching Artists

- \$175 per day
- There can be additional compensation outside of the fee structure. Travel/lodging fees associated with a residency. They must fall under state guidelines.

Teaching Artist Roster Program

Teaching Artist Roster Basics:

- Roster artists are required for residency program.
- A panel is used to select roster artists based upon artistic quality, interviews and observations.
- Applications for roster are reviewed once per year.
- To retain eligibility, artists must reapply every three years.
- Out-of-state artists may apply for artist roster.

Additional Comments on Teaching Artist Roster

The AIE partners administer the panels and the training for the rostered artists.

Annual Events

Teacher and Teaching Artist Training

Teacher and teaching-artist training in summer and fall, executed regionally by the AIE Partners.

Annual Arts Education Conventions

PCA staff and AIE partners participate in the annual conventions of the Pennsylvania Art Education Association; the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association; the Pennsylvania Parent-Teacher Association; and Arts in Education Day in the capitol, held every spring.

Spring Arts Conference

PCA holds an annual spring arts conference for partners. Conference sessions are designed specifically for AIE partners during this event.

Professional Development Services

Provision of Professional Development Trainings, Workshops and/or Institutes

- For classroom teachers, professional development is administered in partnership with another organization. The AIE partners hold training sessions.
- For teaching artists, professional development is administered in partnership with another organization. The AIE partners hold teaching artist training seminars in their regions.
- For school administrators, professional development is administered in partnership with another organization. School administrators are encouraged to attend the AIE partner trainings.

Poetry Out Loud

Poetry Out Loud Administration

- in-house with arts education staff
- in-house with other state arts agency staff
- in-house with contracted staff
- with partner organizations: All 12 of PCA's AIE partners administer Poetry Out Loud for their service area.

Poetry Out Loud Participation

- number of schools participating in Poetry Out Loud statewide: 90
- Home-schooled students participate.
- number of regional semifinals: 13

Poetry Out Loud Resources and Activities

- residency model
- teaching artist training
- original poetry component
- workshops in conjunction with state finals

Additional Prizes and Awards

- gift certificates, books and trophies
- Additional prizes were purchased and donated.

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

All AIE partners and the state parent-teacher association

Resources & Publications

Publications and Media Resources Provided:

- arts education handbook
- other: Some of PCA's AIE partners provide a newsletter. The AIE partners collect survey data from their programs and services. The Department of Education collects the data; PCA taps that information and provides an AIE fact sheet.

Evaluation & Assessment

Assessment of Student Learning in the Arts

- Assessment training is provided. PCA provides training through AIE partners and through Teacher Artist Partnership projects.
- Assessment tools are provided; tools are required for AIE partner residencies.
- Through Teacher Artist Partnerships, PCA provides training and technical assistance for developing assessment plans, tools and analyzing data.

Program Evaluation for Grantees

- Evaluation tools and frameworks are provided for grantees. AIE partners provide tools. The partners' applications/final reports to PCA require that they describe the rationale, method and results of the program evaluation.

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

- formal external evaluation
- other: PCA has funded external evaluation pilot projects in the past.

Utilization of Evaluation

Based on analysis of evaluation data, PCA makes program changes.

Arts Education Staffing & Network Contacts

State Department of Education Arts Curriculum Specialist

Jamie Kasper

State Alliance for Arts Education

Pennsylvania Arts Education Alliance. PCA helps support the Alliance's annual conference and participates with an information booth on its own programming.

Arts Education Program Staff, Job Title, FTE

Jamie Dollish, Program Director, 1.0

Arts Education Coordinator's Split Responsibilities

- other areas of work: arts service and arts education organizations, entry organizations, accessibility, individual artist fellowships
- percent of time dedicated to arts education program: 25%

Staff Biographies

Jamie Dollish, a Pittsburgh native, is a program development professional with 10 years of experience in promoting and supporting the arts through media relations, grant management, event production and nonprofit fundraising. At PCA, she oversees grants/programs of Arts in Education, individual artist fellowships, arts service and arts education organizations, entry organizations, and accessibility. Her employment background includes extensive experience in artist and community relations, event promotion, client/artist services, strategic planning, budgeting and fiscal management.

Before joining the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts in 2008, Dollish was an advertising account executive with Neiman Group Advertising in Harrisburg; marketing manager for the Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera; and executive director for the Elk County Council on the Arts, where she is credited with evolving a rural artist appreciation program into a self-sustaining gallery with countywide art and performance based programming and events. She has worked as a contracted field assistant for ArtsErie with PCA's Arts in Education Program.