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**ARTS EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT**  
**Hector Torres, Committee Chair**

➤ **Create and Thrive**

CAH launched Create and Thrive!, a six-month pilot program that provides professional development to local teaching artists who are interested in learning more about effectively engaging the District's older adults. In partnership with Arts for the Aging (AFTA), CAH is offering this training opportunity to nine local teaching artists. Teaching artists will provide the following workshops to four community and residential care facilities:

- ***Bring a Thing : Reconnect With Your Memorabilia*** by Margot Greenlee and Naoko Wowsugi
- ***Toy Stories: A series of storytelling, poetry and movement practices, inspired by toys and games of childhood*** by Nephelie Andonyadis and Joy Jones
- ***Resonate! Poetry and Voice*** by Charity Blackwell and Shaina Kuhn
- ***The Gateway To Jazz and Poetry Is The Blues: A Music and Spoken Word Workshop*** by Kenneth Dickerson, Davey Yarborough, and Regie Cabico

➤ **Poetry Out Loud/Words on Fire**

CAH will host a two-day Poetry Festival, to include NEA's annual Poetry Out Loud competition, and two new components. *Words on Fire: A Poetry and Performance Festival* will feature additional poetry contests where high-school-aged youth will create and perform original work. The original Poetry Out Loud experience will remain the same. The new components will take place on the second day of the festival. CAH currently has twelve schools and eighteen teaching artists registered to participate. Teaching artists will begin teaching students in the art of poetry in January 2022. The District-wide competition will be held on March 12 & 13, 2022. The location for the event is to be determined. The national POL competition will take place virtually in April.

➤ **IDEA Program Series**

As a part of CAH's commitment to inclusion, diversity, equity, and access, CAH will offer a program series to share best practices in these areas for arts education providers. Workshops will be offered to arts education professionals to provide them with strategies and tools for their youth programs, and to ensure they are authentic in welcoming all students to their spaces and their program content. In the past, CAH has offered workshops focusing on inclusion and access in youth programming. This year, CAH plans to expand the series of workshops to include facilitated conversations on diversity and equity.