

Arts Education Committee Report Hector Torres, Committee Chair

The Committee met on Tuesday, November 15, 2023. In attendance were Commissioners Torres (Committee chair) and Maggiano. Commission chair, Van Lee was also in attendance.

Arts Education Grants

Three cohorts of arts education grants were awarded on October 4, 2023 i.e., Arts and Humanities Education Projects (AHEP) - 31 awardees; Field Trip Experiences (FTE) - 18 awardees; and Arts and Humanities Fellowship Program: Teaching Artists (AHFP) - 35 awardees. Both Arts Education Dept. staffers also manage 47 arts education grantees of the General Operating Support (GOS) grant.

Poetry Out Loud/Words on Fire Planning

Planning is underway for this year's competitions. Seventeen DCPS and DCPCS schools have articulated interest in participating this year. Each year, CAH sends teaching artists into participating schools to help prepare students for their school competitions. The school-teaching artist "pairing up" process is moving forward, with the plan to place teaching artists in schools from mid-December through late-February. This year's festival will take place on March 16th and 17th, with the national finals for Poetry Out Loud taking place on May 2nd.

Celebrate the Creative Spark!

After a pandemic-caused hiatus, the staff is planning on bringing this program back for the FY24 academic year. The three-lesson residencies have traditionally been geared toward short-term arts education-based experiences for school-age youth. This year the plan is to include programming for older adults. Plans to meet with senior centers and additional stakeholders are underway.

National Assembly of State Arts Agencies

Arts Learning Coordinator, Andrea Brown recently returned from the Professional Development Institute (PDI) of the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA) which took place on Salt Lake City. This annual gathering convenes arts education managers from across the country to share successes, challenges, and ideas to advance their individual states and the broader field of arts education.