



### **Fiscal Year 2023 (FY 2023) Legislative Agenda**

The Music Education Policy Roundtable is a public policy coalition led by the National Association for Music Education (NAfME), which advocates on behalf of ensuring the continued presence and perseverance of high quality music programs in America’s schools. Consisting of a many great music education organizations, the Roundtable is unified under a single policy banner and works to achieve a consensus set of federal legislative recommendations, on behalf of the profession and all of those who stand to benefit from its contributions to education. The Roundtable believes that music education should be taught by certified music educators, delivering sequential, standards-based music education to all students across the nation, regardless of personal circumstance or background.

As revised by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) in 2015, the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) designates music as part of a “well-rounded education,” providing federal funding and more opportunities for increased student access to music education. This commitment to music education is more important than ever as students return to in-person learning increasingly in need of environments that support their social and emotional development. The music classroom provides such an environment. Studies have shown that, when compared to other students, students with high arts engagement (including music) exhibit higher levels of self-concept in how they value themselves, increased abilities in performance skills and self-evaluation, a stronger tendency to employ empathetic thinking, and more opportunity to develop interpersonal skills. In order to reinforce the positive impacts that music education has on students, we urge Congress to support the following:

#### **Federal Appropriations**

- **Title I, Part A**—Provides funds to school districts to help disadvantaged children achieve proficiency on challenging academic standards and improve the performance of low-achieving schools.
  - We request this program be funded at **\$36.5 billion** in FY 2023.
  - We also request Congress to include language in the annual Labor-HHS-Education bill making it explicit that states and districts can use Title I funds to support music education as part of a “well rounded education.”
  
- **Title II, Part A**—Focuses on improving student academic achievement by bolstering skills and expertise of teachers, principals, and other educators and increasing the number of high-quality teachers and principals in schools.
  - We request this program be funded at **\$3 billion** in FY 2023.
  - We also request Congress to include language in the annual Labor-HHS-Education bill making it explicit that states and districts can use Title II funds to offer professional learning opportunities for music and other arts educators.
  
- **Title IV, Part A**—A flexible block grant program which supports activities in three broad areas: (1) providing students with a well-rounded education (e.g., college and career counseling, STEM,

arts and music, civics, advanced placement); (2) supporting safe and healthy students (e.g., comprehensive school mental health, drug and violence prevention, health and physical education); and (3) supporting the effective use of technology.

- We request this program be funded at **\$2 billion** in FY 2023.
- **The Nita Lowey 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers**—A formula grant program that provides financial support to local communities for afterschool, before-school, and summer learning programs serving students in low-performing schools. Programs are provided three- to five-year seed grants that support partnerships among community-based organizations, faith-based partners, private providers, and school partners (public, private, and charter).
  - We request this program be funded at **\$1.8 billion** in FY 2023.
- **Assistance for Arts Education program**—Promotes arts education for all students, through activities such as professional development for arts educators; development and dissemination of accessible instructional materials; and community and national outreach activities that strengthen and expand partnerships among schools, local education agencies, and centers for the arts.
  - We request this program be funded at **\$40 million** in FY 2023.
- **Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) State Grant program (Part B)**—Provides special education services and supports to 7.4 million eligible children with disabilities to ensure a free and appropriate public education.
  - We request this program be funded at **\$16.3 Billion** in FY 2023.
- **National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)**—Advances equitable opportunities for arts participation and practice as the largest funder of the arts and arts education.
  - We request this agency be funded at **\$203.5 Million** in FY 2023.
- **Institute of Education Sciences (IES) Fast Response Survey System (FRSS)**—Collects issue-oriented data from state educational agencies and national samples of other educational organizations and participants, including districts, and public and private elementary and secondary schools, teachers and principals, and public libraries.
  - We request at least **\$4 million** for IES in FY 2023 to implement an FRSS study in the arts that includes information on access to a wide variety of music education programs.
- **IES National Assessment for Educational Progress (NAEP)**—Also known as the “Nation’s Report Card,” provides important information about student achievement and learning experiences in various subjects to improve education policy and practice.
  - We support funding at a level sufficient in FY 2023 to include the arts, economics, foreign (world) languages, and geography as part of the annual Nation’s Report Card.
- **U.S. Department of Education (ED) Salaries & Expenses**
  - To help oversee the appropriate use of the funds requested as part of our legislative agenda to support music and the arts, humanities, and social studies, we request that ED receive ample funding in FY 2023 to increase its employee count to include three senior-level content advisors, one each for music and the arts, humanities, and social

studies. These positions can support department-wide policymaking and reporting for our subject areas. This request is modeled on prior Special Assistants in the Arts positions that existed over the past two decades at ED.

### **Federal Legislation**

#### **Arts Education for All Act (H.R. 5581)**

- The Arts Education for All Act would expand arts education and programming to America’s youngest learners, K-12 students, and youths impacted by the juvenile justice system.
- The bill includes provisions to support the professional development of arts educators and to amend the ESEA in order to provide more oversight into the implementation of arts education programs.
- The bill also requires research on the use of arts in education by the National Center for Education Research and the collection of data on arts education by the National Center for Education Statistics.

#### **Music Education Policy Roundtable Members:**

American Choral Directors Association  
American String Teachers Association  
College Band Directors Association  
Connect Through Music  
Education Through Music  
Hawaii Youth Symphony  
Jazz at Lincoln Center  
JazzSLAM  
J.W. Pepper  
League of American Orchestras  
Music Teachers National Association  
Music Travel Consultants  
National Association for Music Education  
National Association of Music Merchants  
National Federation of State High School Associations  
National Music Council of the United States  
Organization of American Kodaly Educators  
Percussive Arts Society  
Quadrant Research  
QuaverEd  
Recording Academy  
Save The Music Foundation  
TeachRock  
WURRLY  
Yamaha Corporation of America