

Fiscal Year 2023 (FY 2023) Fact Sheet

The National Association for Music Education (NAfME) is among the world's largest arts education organizations, representing more than 53,000 music educators and music advocates across all 50 states, the District of Columbia, U.S. territories, and internationally. Our goal is to ensure that every student has access to a well-balanced, comprehensive, and high-quality program of music instruction taught by qualified teachers. The passage of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) designated music as part of a "Well-Rounded Education," providing opportunities for increased student access to music education. This commitment to a well-rounded education that includes music is more important than ever as students returned to schools last year 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. To reinforce the positive impacts that music education has on students, we urge Congress to support the following funding proposals and legislation.

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 directing the U.S. Department of Education to issue guidance for states and districts on the use of 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 directing the U.S. Department of Education to issue guidance for states and districts on the use of Title II funds to support 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.

Federal Legislation

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

Sponsored by Representative Suzanne Bonamici

- 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.

Advancing Equity Through the Arts and Humanities Act (H.R 7627)

Sponsored by Representative Barbara Lee

- The Advancing Equity Through the Arts and Humanities Act will create the “Advancing Equity Through the Arts and Humanities Program” to be carried out by the Chair of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). The program is aimed at increasing engagement with public and nonprofit entities, including faith based and community-based organizations, that serve and are led by people of color, and to support arts and humanities projects that directly combat systemic racism.
 - Program will build and implement a competitive grant that will directly combat systemic racism through the arts and humanities, no later than 180 days after the passage of this bill.
 - Priority for the grant will be given to public and non-profit organizations that are BIPOC-led, have majority BIPOC membership, or who have a proven history of effective antiracism work and shows a commitment to supporting the BIPOC community.

Reopen and Rebuild America’s Schools Act (S.96) (H.R.604)

Sponsored by Senator Jack Reed and Representative Robert C. Scott

- The Reopen and Rebuild America’s Schools Act would create a \$100 billion grant program and \$30 billion tax credit bond program targeted at high-poverty schools with facilities that pose health and safety risks to students and staff.
 - The allowable uses of grant funds, includes carrying out major repairs, improving indoor air quality, making facilities accessible to disabled individuals, and the renovation or development of music facilities.

