



Arts Education Legislation

119th Congress

To expand access to high-quality music education for all students, NAfME supports the following arts education-focused bills introduced in the 119th Congress.

Arts Education for All Act (H.R.2485)

Introduced by Representative Suzanne Bonamici (OR–01)

We urge passage of the Arts Education for All Act, which would expand arts education opportunities for early learners, K–12 students, and youth involved in the juvenile justice system. The bill would:

- Support professional development for arts educators and strengthen oversight of arts education programs under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act
- Require research on arts education through the National Center for Education Research
- Mandate data collection on arts education through the National Center for Education Statistics

HBCU Arts Education Act (H.R.2664)

Introduced by Representative Alma Adams (NC–12)

We urge passage of the HBCU Arts Education Act, which would amend the Higher Education Act to allow federal HBCU grant funds to support arts, arts education, and cultural programs. New allowable uses include:

- Financial assistance for students in arts and cultural programs
- Outreach programs and development offices for arts and cultural departments
- Comprehensive wraparound student services, including mentorship, work-based learning, counseling, and career advising
- Apprenticeships, internships, and fellowships developed in partnership with nonprofit organizations

Reimagining Inclusive Arts Education Act **(H.R.3852)**

Introduced by Representative David Scott (GA-13)

We urge passage of the Reimagining Inclusive Arts Education Act, which would expand access to music and arts education for students with disabilities. The bill would:

- Provide grants to support the professional development of arts educators
- Fund inclusive curricula, adapted lesson plans, and accommodations for a wider variety of students
- Prioritize funding for Title I schools to ensure arts educators with fewer resources have access to professional development opportunities

Equitable Arts Education Act **(H.R.5399)**

Introduced by Representative Sydney Kamlager-Dove (CA-37)

We urge passage of the Equitable Arts Education Act, which would expand access to arts education by providing dedicated funding to Minority-Serving Institutions. The bill would:

- Establish a competitive grant program for Minority-Serving Institutions to support arts education initiatives
- Provide financial assistance and wraparound support for students in arts, arts education, and cultural programs
- Expand paid apprenticeships, internships, and fellowships through partnerships with nonprofit organizations
- Broaden the definition of the arts to include diverse disciplines and practices

Guarantee Access to Arts and Music Education Act of 2026 **(H.R.7855/S.4018)**

Introduced by Representative Nydia Velázquez (NY-7) and Senator Cory Booker (NJ)

We urge passage of the Guarantee Access to Arts and Music Education Act of 2026, which would expand access to school-wide arts and music programs, particularly for disadvantaged and low-income students. The bill would amend the ESEA to encourage the use of Title I funds to:

- Increase the number of certified music and arts educators
- Purchase instruments, sheet music, and other equipment
- Provide professional development for certified music and arts educators
- Expand access to sequential, standards-based music and arts programs