

Arts Education Partnership Forum on Charting a Course for the Arts and 21st Century Learning

Cambridge, MA

October 2-3, 2009.

<http://www.aep-arts.org/forums/announcements/cambridge-1.html>

Initiatives in progress:

Common Core State Standards Initiative

A draft of "common core" standards has been published. A public comment period is now open until October 21 on proposed common academic standards for students graduating from high schools around the country. The publication of the draft "college and career readiness" standards is part of a 48-state effort to develop a common core of state standards in English-language arts and mathematics for grades K-12.

For more on the standards and how to comment, visit the Common Core website:

<http://www.corestandards.org/>

Also available is a reaction from the Office of Superintendents of Public Instruction:

<http://www.k12.wa.us/Communications/PressReleases2009/CommonCoreStandards.aspx>

and a comment from the National School Boards Association:

http://vocuspr.vocus.com/VocusPr30/Newsroom/Query.aspx?SiteName=NSBANew&Entity=PRAsset&SF_PRAsset_PRAssetID_EQ=112780&XSL=PressRelease&Cache=False

National Expectations for Learning in Arts Education

The State Education Agency Directors of Arts Education (SEADAE), the Council of Chief State Schools Officers (CCSSO), and Quadrant Arts Education Research have embarked on developing National Expectations for Learning in Arts Education which is aimed at setting the direction and goals for a national vision for arts education in the context of the 21st century.

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College Board National Task Force on the Arts in Education

During the past year Task Force members, individuals, and organization leaders have helped shape the recommendations in the following five areas: Bringing the Arts to Underserved Populations; Influencing Educators; Engaging Students; Creating a Central Resource for Teachers, Students and Administrators; and Affecting Educational Policy. The College Board Trustees accepted all the recommendations at a meeting last week.

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Partnership for 21st Century Skills

National attention is focusing on 21st century student outcomes and support systems. The arts can and should be a player. Twenty-first-century learning and innovation skills include: creativity and innovation, critical thinking and problem solving, and communication and collaboration. Media literacy skills should certainly include the various verbal and non-verbal arts languages and symbol systems. The arts definitely address the 21st century live and career skills which include: flexibility and adaptability, initiative and self-direction, social and cross-cultural skills, productivity and accountability, and leadership and responsibility.

For information: <http://www.21stcenturyskills.org/>

Reports and publications to review:

Arts and Cognition – Dana Foundation

<http://www.dana.org/news/publications/detail.aspx?id=11528>

Ready to Innovate – The Conference Board

http://www.artsusa.org/pdf/information_services/research/policy_roundtable/ReadytoInnovateFull.pdf

21st Century Skills in Museums and Public Libraries – Institute of Museum and Library Services

<http://www.ims.gov/about/21stCSkills.shtm>

Tough Choices or Tough Times – The New Commission on the Skills of the American Workforce

http://www.skillscommission.org/request_copy.htm

Anchoring Arts Education: Principals' Arts Leadership – An Evaluation of ArtsEd, Washington's Elementary School Program

<http://www.ArtsEdWashington.org>