



National Arts Advocacy Day 2016; Delaware Arts Alliance Report

<p>Location & Date:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandarin Hotel, Saturday March 5, 2016 for State Policy Symposium. • Omni Shoreham & Capitol Hill Congressional offices in Washington, D.C., Monday-Tuesday March 7-8, 2016
<p>Who convened?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Policy Symposium: convened by Americans for the Arts, the Kennedy Center, the Arts Education Partnership (AEP), and Education Commission of the States. • National Arts Advocacy Day (AAD): convened by Americans for the Arts (AFTA).
<p>Participants</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the State Policy Symposium; 150+ state art leaders, leaders of community-based out-of-school programs and policy experts • For AAD; a broad cross section of America's cultural and civic organizations, along with 500+ grassroots advocates representing 48 states. Delegations from each state are coordinated by AFTA's appointed State Arts Captains. DAA is Delaware's State Arts Captain.
<p>Activities highlights & main take aways</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>State Policy Symposium, Saturday March 5.</u> The passing of Every Students Succeed Act (ESSA) at a federal level in Dec. 2015 is shifting more responsibility to the states. Education priorities & models are changing. This is the time for the arts to consider its role & contributions in shaping education reform efforts. Clear metrics measuring students, teachers and courses should lend themselves to quality information to facilitate decisions. Information, best practices & examples across the nation were shared. Some worthwhile sources of information to explore include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Arts Education Partnership website www.aep-arts.org where a 2020 action agenda for advancing the arts in education can be found. ○ National Association of Elementary School Principals www.naesp.org/vreative where ways to integrate arts in education are suggested. ○ The "State of the Arts in Chicago Public Schools" report by Ingenuity Incorporated compares Illinois public schools in terms of nine different variables: http://www.ingenuity-inc.org/2014-15-state-of-the-arts-progress-report a similar matrix for Delaware could be replicated as the new standards are incorporated in Delaware's public schools. • <u>Americans for the Arts, State Arts Action Network (SAAN), Sunday March 6.</u> The network allows the exchange of best arts advocacy business practices across the nation. The network currently represents the collective experience from 42 states. DAA's Executive Director is the current Chair. Main topics discussed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Executing a successful advocacy messaging campaign (lesson from Massachusetts MassCreative). ○ Coordinating an annual advocacy day with multiple stakeholders (a conversation with AmySue Mertens/Director of Policy & Communications from Ingenuity). This discussion has helped DAA organize its first ever

	<p>Delaware Arts Advocacy Day scheduled for June 9, 2016 at the Legislative Hall in Dover, DE.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How to keep grassroots advocates engaged (discussion lead by Anne Katz/Arts Wisconsin) ○ National Community Visions initiative; Idea to action plan (lead by AFTA’s Clay Lord). ○ National public opinion polling results on public attitudes on the arts with Randy Cohen. ○ State of the Arts discussion. Each state shares what’s working or not working in their own states. ● <u>National Arts Advocacy Day, Monday & Tuesday March 7 & 8.</u> 500+ advocates from the nations get together in DC to make the case for the arts at a federal level. Delaware’s delegation meetings were lined up as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sen. Coon’s office, 9:00 a.m. We talked to Gita Miller. ○ Sen. Carper’s office, 11:00 a.m. We talked to Andrew Shine & Sen. Carper. ○ Rep. Carney’s office, 1:30 p.m. We talked to Jacqueline Thomas and Kelsey Mellette.
Delaware Delegation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jessica Ball / DAA’s Operations Specialist. ● Diane Delaney/ music educator from Bear. ● Sheila Dean Ross/arts-education specialist & DE Division of the Arts staff. ● JuneRose Futcher/photographer from Lewes & member of DAA Membership Committee ● Deb Hansen/ Education Associate DE Department of Education. ● Alan Jordan/ Executive Director / DE Symphony Orchestra. ● Gail O’Donnell/ DAA Board of Directors member ● Dr. Rosetta Roach/ educators & artist Central Middle School. ● Maria Ruffin/ Founder Dover Cultural Exchange. ● G. Gonzalez/DAA Executive Director
Results	<p>Senator Carper asked DAA to a coordinate statewide discussion (representing each county) in May 2016. The objective is to discuss how the arts can drive economic development in the state. The arts will be the means of engagement, recruitment and retention for companies and individuals as well as preparing the creative future work force that Delaware needs to stay competitive.</p> <p>We anticipate that participants will include arts advocates, arts educators, business owners, community developers, county tourism directors, directors of arts and cultural institutions, historic preservationists, marketing and branding specialists and area officials including mayors and councilmen/women.</p>
Next steps	<p>Coordinate Senator Carper’s statewide art discussion.</p>