

Fast Response Survey System Arts in Education Surveys

National Stakeholders' Meeting—April 29, 2011

On April 29, 14 representatives of national arts education organizations attended a meeting with representatives of NCES and OII to discuss plans for the release and dissemination of two FRSS reports concerning arts education. The representatives were:

Michael Blakeslee, MENC: National Association for Music Education
Jane Bonbright, National Dance Education Organization
Colleen Dean, National Dance Association
Angela Han, National Assembly of State Arts Agencies
Candace Katz, President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities
David Kilpatrick, Kennedy Center Education Department
Lynne Kingsley, American Association for Theater Education
Heather Noonan, League of American Orchestras
James Palmarini, Educational Theatre Association
Deborah Reeve, National Art Education Association
Narric Rome, Americans for the Arts
Patricia Shaffer, National Endowment for the Arts
Michael Sikes, Arts Education Partnership
Elena Widder, VSA

Based on the agenda for the meeting (attached), this is a summary of the discussion.

First Look Report

The representatives received embargoed copies of the First Look Report, *A Snapshot of Arts Education in Public Elementary and Secondary Schools: 2009-10* and were walked through it by Jared Coopersmith of NCES. Following the review and questions concerning several of the findings, the discussion turned to opportunities to share the report and raise awareness of plans for the coming release of the full FRSS report. Among the associations reporting that this could occur that their national meetings or conferences in the summer and fall were MENC: National Association for Music Education, AATE, EdTA, NDEO. More immediately, the availability of the report will be announced at the Arts Education Partnership forum in May.

There was interest expressed in also making the First Look the subject of webinars in the coming months. It was noted that ED staff, while being able to respond to requests to participate in webinars in order to present the findings, would not be able to sponsor any webinars.

Release of the Comprehensive Report

The input of the stakeholders' group concerning such things as the desired venue for and speakers at the event, which is now tentatively scheduled for early 2012 (i.e., late January or early February), from the previous meeting was reviewed. The group generally affirmed its earlier input and added the following thoughts for NCES and OII's consideration:

Concerning key messages:

- Use the notion of the glass being only half full since not every student has arts education available to them.
- Also consider helping the public understand more clearly the "chunks" of arts education that are missing for some students.
- Capitalize on the Secretary's embrace of the arts and humanities as part of a "well-rounded" education for all students.
- Stress the democratic access to a full education; minimize a seeming singular focus on arts education.
- Mark sure the message is one supportive of all the arts disciplines.

Concerning possible speakers:

- Consider business leaders, including ones who have background and educational experiences in the arts and who consider that important to their success.
- If there's to be a performance, consider an "outside-of-the-box" choice such as the resident orchestra at NIH.

Next Steps

Several member of the stakeholders noted that they would be meeting to develop plans to publicize the First Look report.

NCES and OII representatives indicated that they would be in contact with the stakeholders as a more precise date is known for the release of the comprehensive report.