



Subscribe to updates from Oregon Department of Education

Email Address e.g. name@example.com

Share Bulletin



March Arts Education Newsletter

Oregon Department of Education sent this bulletin at 03/13/2025 01:43 PM PDT

Having trouble viewing this email? [View it as a Web page.](#)



Arts Education Connections, March 2025

ODE Arts Education Connections



In This Edition of Arts Ed Connections:

- Arts Education Updates: Celebrating Arts Education
- Women's History Month and the Arts Resources
- Arts Ed News & Research
- Educator Opportunities
- Youth Opportunities
- Artist, Arts Organization, and Partner Opportunities
- Upcoming Events and Training Opportunities

Photo by [Tamanna Rume](#) on [Unsplash](#)

ODE Arts Education Updates

Celebration for Arts in our Schools this March!

March is a time to celebrate the impact of arts education in our schools. Arts disciplines and national organizations host campaigns including [Dance in our Schools Month](#), [Music in our Schools Month](#), [Theatre in our Schools Month](#), and [Youth Art Month!](#)



Some ideas to honor arts education in Oregon schools this month:

- **Convene!** Bring students, families, and community together for a collaborative event featuring the arts at your school!
- **Communicate!** Share about the benefits of the arts with your community - ODE's [Communicating the Benefits of Arts Education](#) could be a helpful resource for data and research.
- **Connect!** with your statewide arts education organizations for professional development, advocacy ideas, community, and support!
 - [Oregon Arts Education Association](#)
 - [Oregon Dance Education Organization](#)
 - [Oregon Music Education Association](#)
 - [Oregon Theatre Educators Association](#)
- **Collaborate!** Share amazing work happening in your arts classroom with your student's biggest art fans - their families! Share what you're creating through a newsletter or letter out to families. ODE's [Arts Learning Family Letter Template](#) can get you started!
- Finally, **Congratulate!** Share a note, song, drawing or performance of gratitude for an arts teacher in your life! Visual arts, music, dance, theatre, and media arts teachers provide invaluable support and learning opportunities for our students in Oregon, and **our students and schools are so lucky to have your creativity, commitment, and brilliance. Thank you!**

Photo Caption: Students Dancing at DaVinci Arts Middle School

Arts Ed News, Research, and Resources

Teaching high quality, inclusive, and culturally relevant content through the arts is essential to increase equitable access to arts education for all students.

Please see below for related news and resources that may be relevant to your practice.

News and Research

- [Ashland youths experience theater as a creative act](#) Oregon ArtsWatch 2/10/25
- [Yamaha highlights two Portland teachers among its top 40 music educators under 40](#) KOIN 2/18/25
- [McNary students picked for all-city concert in Salem](#) Keizertimes 2/19/25
- [Eastern Oregon Regional High School Art Exhibition Recognizes Outstanding Student Artists](#) Eastern Oregon University 2/21/25
- [Leah Ferguson Honored as Oregon ACTE New Teacher of The Year](#) CCC News 2/24/25
- [Lake Oswego High School choir to perform commissioned piece "We Fly with Our Own Wings"](#) Lake Oswego Review 3/5/25
- [Cherished music nonprofit keeps Portland doors open — and the music playing](#) The Oregonian 3/9/25
- [Grant High student named Oregon's Poetry Out Loud champion](#) Portland Tribune 3/10/25



February Arts Education Resources: Celebrating the Contributions of Women in the Arts

Celebrate Women's History Month this March, and all year round, by exploring the women artists who have changed history through the arts! The [National Gallery of Art's](#) Uncovering America series offers lesson plan resources about [Women and Art](#), the [National Women's History Museum](#) has an [arts and culture resource collection](#) to explore stories of women artists, and the [National Museum of Women in the Arts](#) offers [free teacher resources](#), including lesson plans and a collection of diverse women

artists to explore!

Illustration Credit: [Illustration of Guerrilla Girls by Sandra Muller](#), CC BY-SA 4.0 via [Wikimedia Commons](#)

Note: Unless hosted, facilitated, or published by The Oregon Department of Education (ODE), these resources have not been endorsed by ODE, but are being shared as relevant opportunities for arts education professionals to consider.

Educator Opportunities

National Coalition for Arts Standards (NCAS) Announces Review of National Arts Standards



Eleven years after the release of the [National Arts Standards in 2014](#), the [National Coalition for Arts Standards \(NCAS\)](#) will launch a thorough survey to collect data on the [National Standards](#) for dance, media arts, music, theatre, and visual arts.

The [National Arts Standards](#) have played and continue to play an integral role in improving and supporting arts education for America's students. With [nearly all states having revised the state's arts education standards since 2014](#), this review process will help us gather the latest knowledge, research, and best practices while addressing the evolving needs of the nation's students and ensure that the arts remain central to a well-rounded education.

To best inform decision-making and to ensure transparency in the review, all arts educators, thought partners, education and arts organizations, and stakeholders with interests in arts education are asked to provide critical feedback to guide the process.

Your participation is vital to shaping the future of arts education. **Please complete the [public input survey](#) by May 16, 2025.** Additional information and ways to be involved will be shared in the coming months.

If you have any questions, please email contact@nationalartsstandards.org.

Free Schnitzer Collection Tours Available

Book a free tour of amazing artwork! [The Schnitzer Collection](#) invites educators and students to explore rotating exhibitions drawn from the over 22,000 artworks in their teaching collection. They offer complimentary visits, convenient parking with easy bus access, guided tours, and engaging activities. Exhibitions are primarily designed for middle school students and above.



Location: 3033 NW Yeon Avenue, Portland, OR 97210

- [Group Reservation Form](#)
- [Images](#) of all the art in the current show "A Fountain of Creativity"

Educator Reservation Hours: Tuesday–Friday, during all school hours. These times are exclusively reserved for class visits.

Public Hours:

- **Tuesday–Friday:** 3–5 p.m.
- **Saturday:** 12–5 p.m.
- **First Thursdays:** 3–8 p.m.

For questions, please contact Education Coordinator Peggy Schaffler:
peggys@jordanschnitzer.org

Photo caption: Students display their gallery curation product at the Schnitzer Collection building

Oregon Potters Association Ray Grimm Award

The Oregon Potters Association is privileged to celebrate the life and work of Ray Grimm by offering an \$800.00 award to a clay arts educator to use in their classroom. These funds will be awarded to a ceramics educator who is teaching in private or public institutions, art centers or adult education.

Applicants must be educators anywhere within the Oregon and SW Washington State area and be instructing students in the Ceramic Arts. The award may be used to fund equipment, materials and supplies, field trips, or bring in outside instruction. The award money can be used for the 2025-2026 or 2026-2027 school years.

The Applicant must complete a proposal, maximum one page (no font less than 11 points), outlining and explaining how the funds would be utilized to aid and enrich the student's

experience. The proposal should start with your name and address, and the name and address of the school or institution where the funds will be used. Digital photographs can accompany your submissions. The award will be presented at the Ceramics Showcase Awards Ceremony at the Oregon Convention Center, "Hall D", in Portland, on Saturday, April 26th, 2025. It is requested that the winner be present for this award.

Send applications to Michael Simmons via email seldomscenartworks@gmail.com. Applications Due Sunday, March 30, 2025.

Youth Opportunities

Oregon Potters Association Scholarship

The Oregon Potters Association offers a scholarship program for high school seniors working in ceramics, and planning to pursue higher education.

The [High School Scholarship](#) winner will be chosen by a jury of professional ceramic artists. The Awards Ceremony will be held at Ceramic Showcase on the evening of Saturday, April 26th, 2025 at 5pm, and will award two \$1000 awards to two students who show creative and technical excellence in the field of ceramics.

The highest juried candidates will receive a \$1000 scholarship for their entry into post-secondary education. The scholarship is awarded during a ceremony at OPA's Ceramic Showcase each spring, the all-clay show that OPA sponsors every spring at the Oregon Convention Center.

Application Due March 31st, 2025. [See site for application details.](#)

Pastel Society of the West Coast (PSWC) Scholarship Program

The PSWC [Art Scholarship Program](#) fulfills part of their mission to promote education in the arts—especially pastels. Each year, they solicit high school art teachers, college art departments, and statewide arts organizations to find talented, dedicated students interested in pursuing a career in art at a junior or four-year college or university, or an accredited art school.



Applicants may apply for \$2000 annual scholarships if they fit the criteria below as set out by the Board of PSWC.

Successful candidates must:

- be planning to pursue a career in art
- be a high school senior, college freshman, sophomore, or junior enrolled in a junior or four-year accredited college or university with enrollment in an art class
- submit a digital portfolio of at least three hand drawn or painted, original artworks created by the student (no photography or digital work accepted)
- submit three letters of recommendation from an art teacher, counselor, or PSWC member (at least two from school personnel)
- submit an artist statement/essay and a fully completed application form by the April 15 deadline

Submissions are due by April 15, 2025. [See site for details and application form.](#)

Image by [Cintha Liang](#) from [Pixabay](#)



Announcing the Pulitzer Center's Eighth Annual Fighting Words Poetry Contest!

How can poetry be an effective response to current events and the issues impacting our communities? How can journalism and poetry help us make connections between global issues and our local and personal contexts? Students are invited to explore these questions and make their voices heard in their entries to the [Fighting Words Poetry Contest](#).

Current K-12 students anywhere in the world may enter. Students may write in any language, and are welcome to submit multilingual poems. Judges will have reading fluency in English and Spanish.

Entries Due Sunday, May 11, 2025, 11:59pm EDT. [See site for details.](#)

Photo by [Trust "Tru" Katsande](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Umpqua Valley Arts Youth Pride Art Group

The Youth Pride Art Group is an after-school opportunity for students to meet once a week with a professional artist to learn new artistic skills and vocabulary, practice these skills, connect with other teens, and more!

This is a FREE opportunity for all Douglas County youth ages 12-18, Tuesdays 5:30pm-7:00pm from April 1st to May 6th. [Learn more and register here.](#)

Artist, Arts Organization and Partner Opportunities

Dear Education Partners,

We are excited to announce that applications are now open for the **Immigrant/Refugee Student Success Advisory Group**! The Oregon Department of Education (ODE) is seeking passionate individuals—including students, educators, and community members—to serve on this advisory group. Members will help guide the implementation of the **Immigrant/Refugee Student Success Plan**, ensuring that policies, programs, and investments effectively support immigrant and refugee students across Oregon.



Who Should Apply?

According to ORS 329.849, the advisory group must include:

- individuals who identify as immigrant/refugees
- students who identify as immigrant/refugees
- representatives of community-based organizations serving immigrant/refugee communities
- education partners, including representatives from the Department of Early Learning and Care, Youth Development Oregon, and the Higher Education Coordinating Commission

We encourage applicants from diverse backgrounds, roles, and lived experiences.

Commitment & Meeting Schedule

- **Virtual monthly meetings** (third Thursday of each month, 1:00–3:00 PM PST)
- **First meetings:** May 22 & June 19, 2025. then will resume in September.
- **Annual in-person retreat** (between school years)
- **Term length:** Two or three years

How to Apply

Applications open February 26, 2025, and must be submitted by Wednesday, April 9, 2025, at 5:00 PM (PST).

[Submit your application here](#)

If you prefer to apply via phone, video call, written letter, or need translation services or accommodations, please contact us at

ODE.ImmigrantRefugee.Success@ode.oregon.gov. For any questions, feel free to reach out. We appreciate your support in sharing this opportunity with your networks!

New Music Organization Fund Opportunity

The [New Music Organization Fund](#) offers grants to non-profit organizations, performance groups, dance organizations, festivals, presenters, and venues that need support to sustain their programming of new music, nurturing of music creators, and other artists. This program is for outstanding organizations that work regularly with and support the development of music creators and artists and offer crucial resources to their community. The main criteria for this fund are:

- Artistry of applicant organization and/or supported artists.
- Impact on the community of artists and/or audiences served.
- Need for funding now.

- The organization's commitment to inclusion and belonging.

Applications close **March 27, 2025 at 11:59pm ET / 8:59pm PT**. [See site for application details.](#)



National Endowment for the Arts Research Grants

The National Endowment for the Arts invites applicants to engage with the [agency's five-year research agenda](#) through two funding opportunities for research projects:

- **Research Grants in the Arts** funds research studies that investigate the value and/or impact of the arts, either as individual components of the U.S. arts ecosystem or as they interact with each other and/or with other domains of American life.
- **NEA Research Labs** funds projects that support transdisciplinary research teams grounded in the social and behavioral sciences, yielding empirical insights about the arts for the benefit of arts and non-arts sectors alike. The NEA may enter into up to one subsequent renewal award with the recipient of a NEA Research Labs grant for a project consistent with the intent of these guidelines. Any such future awards are subject to agency priorities, the availability of funds, awardee performance, and the agency's regular review process.

Submission Deadline: March 24, 2025. [See site for submission details and eligibility requirements.](#)

Upcoming Events, Training & Conference Opportunities

All trainings are listed in Pacific Time zone unless otherwise noted.

ODE Professional Learning Opportunities for the 2024-25 School Year:

[ODE Professional Learning Opportunities Page](#)

Relevant educator opportunities:

- Southern Oregon University | [SOU Music Student Recitals - Free and open to the public!](#) | Thursday, January 30 - Thursday, May 22 2025 | In person and Online | [See site for details](#)
- National Arts Education Association (NAEA) | [NAEA National Convention: VIBRANT](#) | March 20-22 | Louisville, KY | [See site for registration details](#)
- The Kennedy Center | [Collaborate to Create: Supporting Youth with Disabilities in Developing Collaboration, Problem-Solving, & Art Skills by Simulating the Music Album Production Process](#) | Wed., Mar. 26, 2025 | 3:00-4:00 p.m. ET | Online | \$10 | [See Site for Registration](#)
- Oregon ASK | [Oregon Ask Spring Conference: Fostering Growth & Connection](#) | April 26th, 2025 | 8am to 5pm | Canby Grove Resort, 7501 S. Knights Bridge Rd, Canby, OR 97013 | [See site for registration details](#)
- Educational Theatre Association (EdTA) | [Theatre Education Conference: Join the Ensemble](#) | June 22-24 | Indiana University, Bloomington, IN | [See site for registration details](#)

Unless hosted or facilitated by The Oregon Department of Education (ODE), these events and training opportunities have not been endorsed by ODE, but are being shared as relevant opportunities for arts education professionals to consider.

Questions? Connections?

We welcome your submissions to [ODE's Arts Education Newsletter!](#) If you have information about events or opportunities for arts educators or students, please contact [Shannon Johnson, Arts Education Specialist](#).

In an effort to streamline the communication process, newsletters will be sent out once a month. To ensure that we can equitably share announcements from everyone, please submit your Newsletter posts no later than the 1st of each month.

Did someone forward you this newsletter? Want to stay connected with arts education at the Oregon Department of Education? [Subscribe to the ODE Arts Education Newsletter today!](#)

Stay Connected with the [Oregon Department of Education](#)



SUBSCRIBER SERVICES:
[Manage Subscriptions](#) | [Help](#)

It is a policy of the State Board of Education and a priority of the Oregon Department of Education that there will be no discrimination or harassment on the grounds of race, color, sex, marital status, religion, national origin, age, sexual orientation, or disability in any educational programs, activities or employment. For more information, [visit the Anti-Discrimination Policy page.](#)

Powered by



[Privacy Policy](#) | [Cookie Statement](#) | [Help](#)