



KyAEA



Our Students Need the Arts NOW More than Ever

ARTS EDUCATION REMAINS ESSENTIAL!

"It is imperative that all students have access to an equitable delivery of arts education that includes dance, media arts, music, theatre, and visual arts that supports their educational, social, and emotional well-being, taught by certified professional arts educators in partnership with community arts providers."

From [https://nafme.org/wp-content/files/2020/05/Arts Education Is Essential-unified-statement-2.pdf](https://nafme.org/wp-content/files/2020/05/Arts_Education_Is_Essential-unified-statement-2.pdf), a document supporting arts education endorsed by over 50 national organizations, including the national organizations of elementary and secondary principals and the national visual and performing arts organizations

Educators and Schools are facing unprecedented challenges:

- schools reopening?
- face-to-face learning with social distancing and masking?
- sharing supplies
- making music, art, theatre, and dance?

How can we, as educators, support art-making while keeping ourselves, our students, and our families safe and healthy?

As we begin the school year facing a continuing global pandemic, the Kentucky Coalition for Arts Education reminds all arts education stakeholders that visual and performing arts education play a fundamental role in a well-rounded education for all Kentucky students.

We call on schools and districts to continue providing an arts education curriculum which includes access for all students to:

- standards-based visual and performing arts courses taught by certified arts teaching specialists in all learning formats: virtual, hybrid or face-to-face instruction.
- regular, consistent arts experiences that develop social emotional competencies, which help students cope with complex emotions during these uncertain times.
- sequenced arts courses in each art form at the secondary level to support college and career readiness.

Contact the Kentucky arts education organizations for resources, lesson plans, and support of best practices in arts education during this pandemic.

Kentucky Music Educators Association, <https://kmea.org/>,
Kentucky Art Education Association, <https://www.kyarted.net/>,
Kentucky Theatre Association, <https://www.kentuckytheatreassociation.com/>
KySHAPE/KAHPERD, <https://www.shapeamerica.org/covid19-resources.aspx>