Arts Education for All Act

Addressing the gap in access to arts education has the potential to improve the lifelong health and success of both children and adults. Arts education and programming are an allowable use of federal funding under a number of existing programs, but there is a significant lack of clarity and information available about how the funds can be used. This results in limited and inequitable access to the arts for students and adults in underserved communities.

The Arts Education for All Act will support and encourage arts education and programming for our youngest learners, K-12 students, and youth and adults involved in the justice system. The bill also includes provisions that support rigorous arts and arts education research to inform how elementary and secondary education outcomes are affected by a well-rounded education.

Caregiving & Early Education

- Makes sure Child Care Development Block grant funding can be used for arts programming

K-12 Access & Supporting Arts Educators

- Expands upon Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) plan requirements to clarify how states can support and encourage arts education to improve student achievement in all subjects
- Guarantees professional development for arts educators and for all educators on arts integration
- Directs research activities on arts and arts education at the Institute of Education Sciences
- Provides critical data to assess arts education disparities by reinstating the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) in the Arts, which was terminated in 2019

Afterschool & Summer Learning

- Reinforces that the integration of the arts and arts education can be accomplished by 21st Century Community Learning Centers and other arts nonprofit organizations
- Incorporates support for partnerships to increase the amount of arts education and creative youth development available in afterschool and summer learning programs in state plans

Arts Education and the Justice System

- Requires state plans under the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act to describe how the state will coordinate services and activities for juvenile justice and delinquency prevention with arts agencies and arts organizations
- Facilitates arts education to be used for reentry efforts and to reduce recidivism by connecting adults involved in the justice system to educational opportunities and employment after reentry