

Portrait, ARTS FIRST Institute 2011, Oahu

## ARTS FIRST FY2013-2018 Strategic Action Plan

ARTS FIRST is a network of organizations that works collaboratively to support educational opportunities in, about, and through the arts and enhance the quality of learning for Hawai'i's youth.

ARTS FIRST partners are government and private non-profit agencies responsible for education through the arts across the state. ARTS FIRST partners include: Hawai'i Arts Alliance; Hawai'i Association of Independent Schools; Hawai'i

Department of Education, Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts; University of Hawai'i at Mānoa College of Arts and Humanities; and University of Hawai'i at Mānoa College of Education. ARTS FIRST also works with two affiliates: Honolulu Theatre for Youth and Maui Arts & Cultural Center.

ARTS FIRST is a mandated partnership of arts organizations initiated in 1999 by the Hawai'i state legislature in ACT 80. At that time, ARTS FIRST was called to revise the state's Fine Arts Standards and



develop a strategic plan to support arts education statewide. In 2001, ACT 306 was passed into law, which officially tasked the partnership with promoting education in, about, and through the arts in the state of Hawai'i.



## ARTS FIRST MISSION

ARTS FIRST partners work collaboratively to create the conditions and culture that promise a comprehensive high-quality arts education – learning in, about, and through the arts – for every student in Hawai‘i.

ARTS FIRST FY2013-2018 strategic priorities emerged from conversations across the partnership, with legislative leaders and with community stakeholders.

### **Goal 1: ARTS FIRST advocacy strengthens public support, awareness, and funding of arts education.**

**Strategy:** ARTS FIRST partners will advocate for every student in Hawai‘i to have the opportunity to learn in, about, and through the arts.

ARTS FIRST partners will participate in advocacy that effectively promotes the significance of arts education for Hawai‘i’s students.

ARTS FIRST partners will build on current relationships and establish new ones to continue to

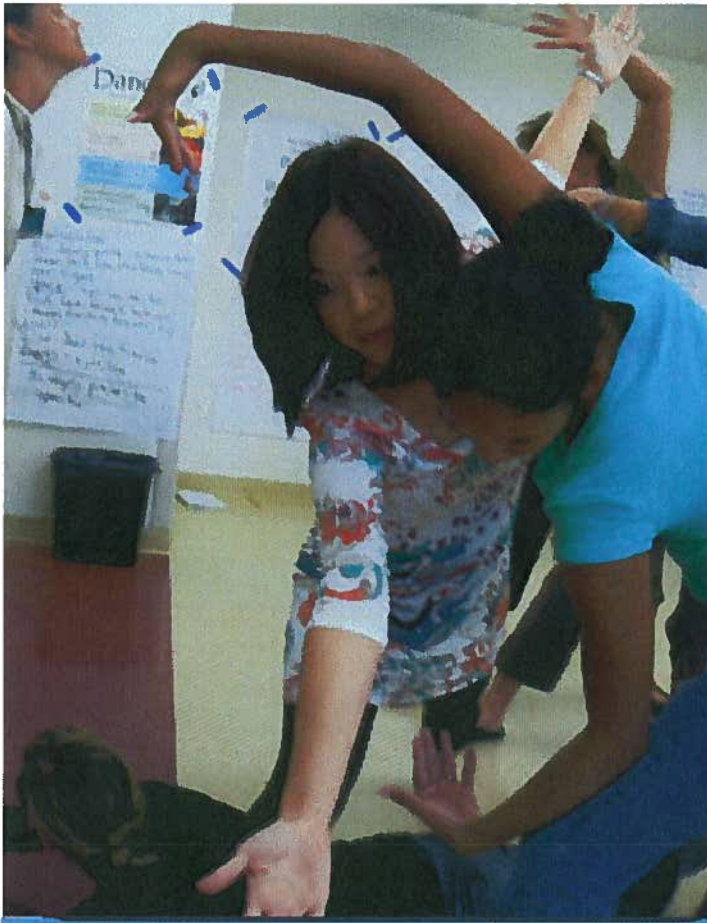
expand its community support base; circulate published materials that advance critical messages about the impact of arts education; and continue to engage in the legislative process to make the case for arts education. Connections with national advocacy organizations, Americans for the Arts and Kennedy Center, will continue to inform the statewide actions.

### **Goal 2: ARTS FIRST partners regularly conduct and disseminate research on the scope and impact of arts education in Hawai‘i.**

**Strategy:** ARTS FIRST will continually assess the state of arts education in Hawai‘i to inform public policy and educational practice, and use results to prioritize and engage in targeted research projects.

ARTS FIRST will conduct comprehensive and pertinent, issues-based research that informs Hawai‘i’s communities about the impact of arts education on student learning, and which helps stakeholders, lawmakers and citizens make critical decisions about the future of arts education in Hawai‘i. ARTS FIRST will develop and disseminate reports, research studies and briefs (technical and policy).





ADVOCACY  
RESEARCH  
TEACHER DEVELOPMENT  
STANDARDS FOR STUDENT LEARNING

**Goal 3: Pre-service teachers, in-service teachers and teaching artists have access to ongoing and high-quality professional learning opportunities.**

**Strategy:** ARTS FIRST advocates for comprehensive, evidence-based professional development opportunities for Hawai'i's teachers and teaching artists; partners also collaborate to develop and deliver each others' programming to teachers.

ARTS FIRST partners will work together to ensure ample and high quality professional learning opportunities. ARTS FIRST will support the development of opportunities where they do not exist and enhance those that do by meaningfully integrating the arts with pedagogic practice at all levels of education. Partners will continue to work through each others' direct service programs, such as the Artists-in-the-Schools program, promote the formation of certificate and capstone courses through University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, and direct current and future

teachers to other arts-based professional learning opportunities.

**Goal 4: All Hawai'i students have access to a high quality formal and informal sequential arts education, which is inclusive of fine arts disciplines and enables proficiency in an art form.**

**Strategy:** ARTS FIRST partners work collaboratively to support and enhance delivery of a comprehensive, quality arts education to Hawai'i students.

ARTS FIRST will work to ensure that arts education programs in and outside the classroom are informed by the highest of standards. Partners will do this by using research to advocate for best practices in arts education programming; reviewing and revising Fine Arts Performance Standards to align with current best practices; and working through each others' programs to deliver high quality programming to all students.

## EXAMPLES OF ARTS FIRST PARTNER PROGRAMS

### ***Artists-in-the-Schools***

(Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, in collaboration with the Hawai'i Arts Alliance)

### ***ARTS FIRST Summer Institutes***

(Hawai'i Arts Alliance, Hawai'i Department of Education, the Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, and Maui Arts & Cultural Center)

### ***Art Bento Program***

(Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, in collaboration with the Hawai'i Arts Alliance)

### ***Master of Education in Teaching***

(University of Hawai'i Mānoa College of Education)

### ***Page-to-Stage***

(University of Hawai'i Mānoa College of Arts & Humanities)

***Poetry Out Loud*** (Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts and Honolulu Theatre for Youth)

***Collaboration Residencies Program*** (Hawai'i Department of Education, Honolulu Theatre for Youth, and Maui Arts & Cultural Center)

***Essential Arts Tool Kit***  
(All Partners)



## ARTS FIRST PARTNERS

Hawai'i Arts Alliance

Hawai'i Association of Independent Schools

Hawai'i Department of Education

Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa College of Arts and Humanities

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa College of Education

## AFFILIATES

Honolulu Theatre for Youth

Maui Arts & Cultural Center



## RESOURCES ON ARTS EDUCATION

[Americans for the Arts](#)

[ArtsEdge](#)

[Arts Education Partnership](#)

[ARTSCAN: Education Commission of the States](#)

[Center for Educator Development in Fine Arts](#)

[Center on Education Policy](#)

[Keep Arts in Schools](#)

[Kennedy Center: Alliance for Arts Education Network](#)

[Lincoln Center for Arts Education](#)

[National Art Education Association](#)

[National Assembly of State Arts Agencies](#)

[National Endowment for the Arts](#)

[National Guild for Community Arts Education](#)

[Partnership for 21st Century Skills](#)

[U.S. Department of Education: Arts in Education](#)



September 2012

We, the members of the Hawai'i Arts Education Partners aka ARTS FIRST Partners, affirm our belief in the value of arts education for all the *keiki o Hawai'i* from pre-kindergarten through higher education and in our shared vision that the arts are central to the learning process:

**ARTS FIRST, ARTS LAST: EDUCATE THE WHOLE CHILD!**

On behalf of all the people of the State of Hawai'i, we re-commit our support to the implementation of the *ARTS FIRST: Hawai'i's Arts Education Strategic Plan FY2013-18* as mandated by Act 306/2001.

**ARTS FIRST Partners**

Handwritten signature of Kathryn S. Matayoshi in blue ink.

Hawai'i Department of Education: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent

Handwritten signature of Robert Witt in black ink.

Hawai'i Association of Independent Schools: Robert Witt, Executive Director

Handwritten signature of Marilyn Cristofori in black ink.

Hawai'i Arts Alliance: Marilyn Cristofori, Chief Executive Officer

Handwritten signature of Eva Laird Smith in black ink.

Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts: Eva Laird Smith, Executive Director

Handwritten signature of Peter Arnade in black ink.

College of Arts & Humanities, University of Hawai'i at Manoa: Peter Arnade, Dean

Handwritten signature of Donald Young in black ink.

College of Education, University of Hawai'i at Manoa: Donald Young, Dean

**ARTS FIRST Affiliates**

Handwritten signature of Becky Dunning in black ink.

Honolulu Theatre for Youth: Becky Dunning, Managing Director

Handwritten signature of Art Vento in black ink.

Maui Arts & Cultural Center: Art Vento, President & CEO



## **STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN: FY2013-2018**

### **ARTS FIRST Partners**

College of Arts & Humanities, University of Hawai'i, Mānoa  
College of Education, University of Hawai'i, Mānoa  
Hawai'i Arts Alliance  
Hawai'i Association of Independent Schools  
Hawai'i Department of Education  
Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts

### **ARTS FIRST Affiliates**

Honolulu Theatre for Youth  
Maui Arts & Cultural Center

## **ARTS FIRST MISSION**

*ARTS FIRST partners work collaboratively to create the conditions and culture that promise a comprehensive high-quality arts education – learning in, about, and through the arts – for every student in Hawai`i.*

**AF Goal 1.** ARTS FIRST advocacy strengthens public support, awareness, and funding of arts education.

**AF Goal 2.** ARTS FIRST partners annually conduct and disseminate research on the scope, impact and pertinent topics of arts education in Hawai`i.

**AF Goal 3.** Pre-service teachers, in-service teachers, and teaching artists have access to ongoing and high-quality professional learning opportunities.

**AF Goal 4.** All Hawai`i students have access to high quality formal and informal sequential arts education, which is inclusive of fine arts disciplines and enables proficiency in an art form.



**Goal 1. ARTS FIRST advocacy strengthens public support, awareness, and funding of arts education.**

| Inputs  | Strategy and Action Items   | Outcomes  |
|---|---|---|
| <p><u>Suggested Co-Leads</u><sup>1</sup>:<br/>HAIS &amp; Arts Alliance</p> <p><u>Contributing Partners</u>:<br/>HIDOE<br/>HSFCA<br/>HTY<br/>MACC<br/>UH COAH<br/>UH COE</p> <p><u>Resources Needed</u>:<br/>Staff time for internal meetings, research, and composition.</p>  | <p><u>Strategy</u>: Advocate for every student in Hawaii to have the opportunity to learn in, through and about the arts.</p> <p><u>Action Items</u>:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Update targets of advocacy (elected officials and community)</li> <li>2. Update State Arts Action Network (SAAN) database.</li> <li>3. Circulate procedure/actions for advocacy as per Americans for the Arts, SAAN, and Kennedy Center.</li> <li>4. Maintain and leverage existing relationships and build new strategic relationships.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Decision makers gain increased awareness of arts education issues.</li> <li>2. Increase of arts education services in schools/communities.</li> <li>3. Talking Points</li> </ol>  |
| <p><b>Resources</b><br/> <a href="#">Americans for the Arts – Arts Action Center Kennedy Center Advocacy Toolkit</a><br/> <a href="#">National Assembly of State Arts Agencies Advocacy Tools</a><br/> <a href="#">Arts &amp; Economic Prosperity Study IV</a><br/> <a href="#">Keep the Arts in Public Schools Toolkit</a></p> |   | <p><b>Sample Evaluation Questions</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To what extent have the ARTS FIRST partners met the advocacy goals?</li> <li>2. What impact have ARTS FIRST advocacy activities made on public policy?</li> <li>3. How has the ARTS FIRST partnership enabled members to advance arts education?</li> </ol> |

<sup>1</sup> Co-leads to be determined annually by AF partners. Co-leads develop agenda items, convene meetings, suggest and identify action items, suggest implementation schedules, solicit the support of AF partners to accomplish action items, monitor and evaluate progress towards respective goals.





**Goal 2. ARTS FIRST partners conduct and disseminate research on the scope, impact and pertinent topics of arts education in Hawaii.**

| Inputs   | Strategy and Action Items   | Outcomes  |
|--|---|---|
| <p><u>Suggested Co-Leads:</u><br/>UH COAH and COE, MAAC</p> <p><u>Contributing Partners:</u><br/>Arts Alliance<br/>HAIS<br/>HIDOE<br/>HSFCA<br/>HTY</p> <p><u>Resources Needed:</u><br/>Staff time for research, instrument creation, data collection, analysis and reporting; online survey account; contacts list-serve.</p> | <p><u>Strategy:</u> Continually assess the state of arts education in Hawaii to inform public policy and educational practice, and use results to prioritize and engage in targeted research endeavors.</p> <p><u>Action Items:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identify data to be collected.</li> <li>2. Develop instruments if conducting needs assessment (suggest an online survey).</li> <li>3. Collect and review existing documents (HIDOE, HAIS, and arts organization annual reports).</li> <li>4. Collect extant data (i.e. numbers of students accessing formal arts education, number of schools with trained arts educators, numbers of students served by AITS, number of annual professional learning opportunities presently provided to HIDOE and HAIS students, amount of time dedicated to arts education, number and type of after-school arts programs, fiscal expenditures).</li> <li>5. Analyze data.</li> <li>6. Summarize and report findings.</li> <li>7. Distribute report to stakeholders; ensure partner access to data for purposes of further research and fund development.</li> <li>8. Solicit AF partner input to determine research needs.</li> <li>9. Conduct review of extant literature if conducting research studies or composing briefs.</li> <li>10. Prioritize and conduct research on specific topics aligned with AF's mission.</li> <li>11. Publish select research findings.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Needs Assessment Report</li> <li>2. Data Inventory</li> <li>3. Research Studies (specific topics)</li> <li>4. Briefs (policy, technical)</li> </ol> |

**Resources**

Developing and administering needs assessments:  
[AFTA: Assessing the Needs of Your District](#)  
[NEA: Arts Education Research](#)

On-line survey tool:  
[Survey Monkey](#)

**Sample Evaluation Questions**

1. How well does the Needs Assessment Report detail the scope and impact of arts education in Hawaii?
2. Are data reported on complete and accurate?
3. What additional data are needed for ARTS FIRST partners to accomplish their mission?
4. For what purposes have ARTS FIRST partners used the findings?



**Goal 3. Pre-service teachers, in-service teachers, and teaching artists have access to ongoing and high-quality professional learning opportunities.**

| Inputs   | Strategy and Action Items  | Outcomes   |
|--|--|--|
| <p><u>Suggested Co-Leads:</u><br/>HTY and HSFCA</p> <p><u>Contributing Partners:</u><br/>Arts Alliance<br/>HAIS<br/>HIDOE<br/>MACC<br/>UH COAH<br/>UH COE</p> <p><u>Resources Needed:</u><br/>Staff time for internal and stakeholder meetings; funds for implementation; relationships that can be leveraged; expertise on teacher PD; working knowledge of UHM and Outreach College systems.</p> | <p><u>Strategy:</u> Advocate for comprehensive, evidence-based professional learning opportunities for Hawai'i's teachers and teaching artists; collaborate to develop and deliver partners' respective programming to teachers.</p> <p><u>Action Items</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Set aside time during SC meetings to share respective program needs and better understand how AF partners can support/work with each other to advance teacher PD opportunities.</li> <li>2. Determine priorities and strategies for partner program enhancement. Possibilities include:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaboration with SFCA to advertise the AITS program to education and arts stakeholders; review and update the AITS roster.</li> <li>• Collaboration with COAH to develop a certificate program for teaching artists through Outreach College, if this is deemed a way to broaden AITS roster.</li> <li>• Collaboration with COE to enhance existing teacher preparation programs to include arts preparation, especially in elementary education.</li> <li>• Advocacy for COAH graduate student capstone and community outreach projects.</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Collaborate to produce a comprehensive listing of arts organizations and working artists willing to mentor pre-service teachers.</li> <li>4. Provide research to UH on the impact of similar/parallel professional learning opportunities and degree programs at other institutions.</li> <li>5. Provide UH with community contacts for student practicum, mentoring and job shadowing opportunities.</li> <li>6. Advertise evidence-based professional learning opportunities for teachers, working artists and members of the community. PD opportunities can be advertised through a list-serve, organizational newsletters to public and/or independent school teachers.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Professional Learning Modules (HIDOE)</li> <li>2. Enhanced ARTS FIRST partner programs related to teacher licensure. Example: Enhanced MEEdT Program (UH COE)</li> <li>3. Graduate student capstone courses in COAH</li> <li>4. Expanded AITS Roster</li> <li>5. Certificate Program for Teaching Artists (UH Outreach College)</li> </ol> |

**Resources**  
[Kennedy Center Alliance for Arts Education Network](#)  
[Kennedy Center Partners in Education Network](#)  
[USED: Arts in Education-Professional Development for Arts Educators](#)  
[Designing the Arts Learning Community: a Handbook for K-12 Professional Development Planners](#)

**Sample Evaluation Questions**

1. To what extent have the strategy and action items resulted in the desired outcomes?



**Goal 4. All Hawai'i students have access to high quality formal and informal sequential arts education, which is inclusive of fine arts disciplines and enables proficiency in an art form.**

| Inputs   | Strategy and Action Items  | Outcomes  |
|--|--|---|
| <p><u>Suggested Co-Leads:</u><br/>HIDOE &amp; UH COE</p> <p><u>Contributing Partners:</u><br/>Arts Alliance<br/>HAIS<br/>HSFCA<br/>HTY<br/>MACC<br/>UH COAH</p> <p><u>Resources needed:</u><br/>Staff time for research, communications, stakeholder meetings, community outreach events and logistical planning; relationships that can be leveraged; space/forums.</p>   | <p><u>Strategy:</u> ARTS FIRST partners and affiliates work collaboratively to enhance and support delivery of a comprehensive, high quality arts education to Hawai'i students.</p> <p><u>Action Items:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Set aside time during SC meetings to share respective program needs and better understand how AF partners can support/work with each other to design and deliver high quality programming for all students.</li> <li>2. Determine priorities and strategies for partner program enhancement.</li> <li>3. Review existing Fine Arts Performance Standards to align with current research.</li> <li>4. Provide HIDOE recommendations for change based on current research/best practices.</li> <li>5. Review and revise the existing ARTS FIRST Toolkit as needed, and/or to reflect changes in standards.</li> <li>6. Review needs assessment findings to identify gaps in arts education programming.</li> <li>7. Identify public allocations to arts education programming (workforce, time, fiscal) to advocate for the reallocation or further allocation of funding.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Complete and update Fine Arts standards.</li> <li>2. High school graduation requirement of one arts credit.</li> <li>3. More arts specialists in the schools.</li> <li>4. Funding from HIDEO for professional development of teachers.</li> </ol> |
| <p><b>Resources:</b><br/><u>Choices, Changes, and Challenges: Curriculum and Instruction in the NCLB Era</u><br/><u>No Subject Left Behind</u><br/><u>Arts Education: Creating Student Success in School, Work, and Life</u><br/><u>Improved Academic Performance for Students with High Levels of Arts Involvement</u><br/><u>Kennedy Center: ARTSEEDGE Standards</u></p> | <p><b>Sample Evaluation Questions</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To what extent have the strategy and action items resulted in the desired outcomes?</li> </ol>   |   |