



Arts Education in Maryland Schools

(AEMS) Alliance is a not-for-profit 501(C)3 organization comprising individuals and arts organizations that work in a statewide partnership dedicated to advancing the cause of the arts as a basic component of public education.

The mission of AEMS Alliance is to build support for high-quality systemic arts education —in dance, music, theatre and visual arts— for all Maryland schoolchildren.

GOALS

- To impact formulation and implementation of state and local policies that support enabling all students to meet the Maryland Fine Arts standards.
- To stimulate the development of high- quality arts education programs that integrate the arts substantively into other subject areas and utilize community resources effectively.
- To cultivate support for arts education among many constituencies, including parents, educators, public policy makers, community groups and political, civic and business leaders.

To become a member of the AEMS Alliance Listserv please contact us:

Arts Education in Maryland Schools Alliance
175 W. Ostend Street, Suite A-3
Baltimore, MD 21230

www.aems-edu.org

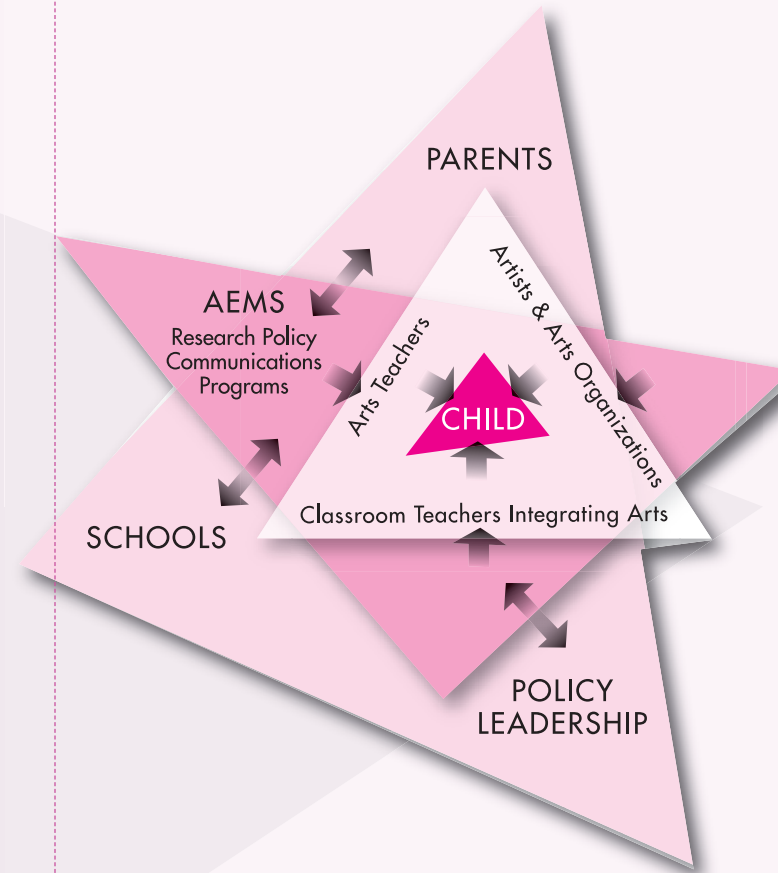
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AEMS Alliance maintains a long-standing and key partnership with the Maryland State Department of Education to support high-quality arts education initiatives, programs and goals throughout the State of Maryland.

AEMS Alliance is funded by an operating grant from the Maryland State Arts Council, an agency dedicated to cultivating a vibrant cultural community where arts thrive.

AEMS Alliance is a member of the Kennedy Center Alliance for Arts Education Network, a coalition of statewide nonprofit Alliances for Arts Education working in partnership with the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.



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AEMS Alliance Provides:

Professional Development for Artists and Teachers

Maryland Artist/Teacher Institute (MATI): AEMS Alliance administers MATI, an arts integration training program for teams of Maryland teachers and administrators. Week-long workshop sessions are sponsored by the MD State Department of Education (MSDE) and the Maryland State Arts Council (MSAC).

The Artist/Teacher Institute International (ATI International): Professional Development modeled on the MATI program is open to educators from within and outside the U.S.

Teaching Artist Institute (TAI): TAI training enhances the capacity of teaching artists to collaborate with schools and support student learning in and through the arts. AEMS initiated this program in 2006-2007 in partnership with the MSAC and Young Audiences of Maryland.

International Artist/Teacher Exchange (IATE): The IATE program provides the opportunity for Maryland educators to obtain professional learning experiences in the arts and culture of Italy while touring the country and working with Italian artists.

The MSDE “Maryland Fine Arts Instructional Tool Kit”: In partnership with MSDE, AEMS Alliance sponsors Instructional Tool Kit workshops for Maryland public school systems to facilitate implementation of best instructional and assessment practices based on the Maryland Voluntary State Curriculum for the Fine Arts.

Arts Integration Outreach Workshops: AEMS presents workshops on arts integrated approaches to instruction for teachers, arts specialists and school leaders throughout Maryland.

Conferences AEMS Alliance

- Sponsors the **Cultural Arts for Education (CAFÉ) Conference** annually. Co-hosted by the State Superintendent of Schools, CAFE offers workshops on innovative practices and model programs in the arts and provides networking opportunities for arts and educational professionals.
- Convenes **Superintendents Summits on *The State of Arts Education in Maryland*** for educational leadership of the state.
- Convenes **Deans Roundtables** for Deans of Education and Deans of Arts and Humanities/Sciences from institutions of higher learning. Meetings focus on the implications for teacher training and PreK-20 partnership of Maryland Fine Arts Standards.

AEMS Task Forces

The Higher Education in the Arts Task (HEAT) Force addresses teacher training and preparation. In 2007, the HEAT Force created the *Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Arts Integration*, a multi-institutional graduate credential for educators who wish to expand their capacity to use arts integration as a strategy for enabling their students to learn in and through the arts.

The Presidents Advisory Council consists of university presidents who offer guidance and support for the implementation of promising initiatives.

The Principals Task Force provides guidance on effective arts education programs to local school administrators.

Arts Education Advocacy/Support

Policy – AEMS works in partnership with MSDE for implementation of the State of MD Goal for Arts Education that: *100% of MD students shall have the opportunity to participate in fine arts programs that will enable them to meet the content and achievement standards established by MD State Standards in Fine Arts.*

Partnerships with Schools/School Systems – AEMS Alliance

- Assists administrators in implementing arts programs that meet MD Fine Arts standards, in creating high performing schools, and in engaging students in learning.
- Conducts presentations detailing research concerning the benefit of arts inclusion in the curriculum.

Technical Assistance – AEMS partners with and consults with school system administrators, teachers, and community members to provide services that support the essential role of the arts in education.

Evaluations – AEMS coordinates the evaluation of professional development and other programs to provide a clear focus on the critical importance of high quality instruction in the arts and the resources needed to provide it.

Recognition Programs – In conjunction with the Kennedy Center Alliance for Arts Education Network **Creative Ticket State and National Award Program**, AEMS honors Maryland schools for *Outstanding Achievement in Arts Education*.

Information Dissemination – AEMS provides multiple resources including: an extensive website (www.aems-edu.org); electronic communications such as E-alerts and a quarterly E-newsletter; and publications designed to inform constituents of policy and best practices, to develop effective arts and education partnerships, to assist arts education advocacy, and to summarize current arts education research. Resources include the *Maryland Essential Learner Outcomes for the Fine Arts* brochure series; *A Review of the Implementation of Fine Arts Strategic Plans in MD School Systems*; the *Evaluation Tool Kit*; the *Parents Tool Kit*; the Myerberg Foundation advocacy DVD *Hard Fun* and the CD Rom and companion brochure, *The Arts and Children: A Success Story*.