



## **2022 Legislative Platform**

*The Legislative Platform is a product of the Center for Fine Arts Education (CFAE) Advocacy Committee*

### **Elevate Arts Education for All Florida Students**

Protect students' rights to be enrolled in sequential fine arts course work by supporting the Florida Seal of Fine Arts bill and opposing mandates or legislation that may cause unintended consequences.

- ***Support the Florida Seal of Fine Arts Program for high school graduates Senate Bill 318. This bill recognizes high school students who meet rigorous benchmarks in fine arts coursework (dance, music, theatre, and/or visual arts) and complete additional requirements to demonstrate mastery and impact beyond the classroom.***
- Oppose bills that restrict students' access to high quality arts programs
  - For example, SB 1054 regarding financial literacy. We support financial literacy for students. We oppose requiring an elective class to meet the requirement.
- Oppose bills that erode the Fine Arts graduation credit.
- Support Marching Band PE Credit to include Personal Fitness/Physical Education Activity ***and*** HOPE (This aligns with JROTC.)
- Support Dance PE Credit to include Personal Fitness/Physical Education Activity ***and*** HOPE (This aligns with JROTC.)
- Support waiver to enable middle school dance programs to meet Physical Education requirement.
- Address teacher shortage by recommending that the Department of Education designate Music and Visual Arts as critical shortage.

### **Education Funding**

Adequate, equitable funding is critically important to ensure world-class education for all Florida students.

- Support increased funding to address the needs of all students to provide a high-quality education and to expand offerings for all students.
- Support COVID Federal Relief Funding (ESSER) plans that support arts programs. For example, this might include additional staffing to support recruitment and retention of teachers, purchase of equipment, or music protective items such as bell covers and masks.

### **Educational Accountability**

- Support revised accountability measures that would recognize arts as part of school grades or as part of a new accountability system.

### **Safe and Healthy Learning Environments**

Provide students, educators, volunteers, and parents with safe, productive learning environments.

- Ensure all students have access to a well-rounded education including arts programs known to support positive mental health outcomes by providing students creative outlets and rigorous curricula that honor student expression.