

National Assembly of State Arts Agencies

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A "Who's Who" Guide to NASAA Partnerships and Collaborations

Americans for the Arts (AFTA)

In addition to working with Americans for the Arts and the Cultural Advocacy Group (see below) on federal advocacy efforts, NASAA collaborates with Americans for the Arts by:

- Routinely exchanging research and data
- Arranging for state arts agencies to receive communications from AFTA's State Arts Advocacy Network (SAAN)
- Serving on the advisory committee for AFTA's Arts & Civic Engagement Initiative
- Participating, with AFTA, in the state arts agency Community Development Directors' network
- Promoting the work of state arts agencies by contributing to AFTA Webinars and publications

Arts Education Partnership (AEP)

Arts education is a top policy priority for NASAA because it captures nearly 40% of state arts agency resources every year. To that end, NASAA is a founder of the Arts Education Partnership, whose purpose is to help arts education stakeholders advance the quality and availability of arts education at the local level. Participants include:

- Council of Chief State School Officers
- National Endowment for the Arts
- U.S. Department of Education
- ...and more than 100 other organizations representing arts, education, business, government and grant-making groups

ArtsReady

ArtsReady, a national program of South Arts, is a web-based emergency preparedness platform designed to provide arts and cultural organizations with customized business continuity plans for postcrisis sustainability. To ensure state arts agencies and their constituents can protect their assets and continue to serve their communities when crisis strikes, NASAA supports the planning encouraged by Arts Ready. NASAA is an ArtsReady partner.

Cultural Advocacy Group (CAG)

NASAA works in coalition with other national arts organizations to advocate for a robust arts presence at the federal level. Through CAG, NASAA helps increase the federal appropriation to the National Endowment for the Arts, maintain support for arts education via the Department of Education, and promote international cultural exchanges through the Department of State.

- Americans for the Arts
- American Association of Museums
- American Symphony Orchestra League
- Association of Performing Arts Presenters
- Dance | USA

- Opera America
- Theatre Communications Group
- ...and more than 50 other arts and humanities organizations

Grantmakers in the Arts (GIA)

Cross-pollination between the public and private sectors benefits the overall ecology of arts funding in America. To that end, NASAA partners with Grantmakers in the Arts (an association of more than 300 public and private grant makers) to foster mutual understanding of the different sectors' purposes in supporting the arts. NASAA sits on GIA's Research Advisory Committee and has served on its Arts Education Steering Committee.

National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Awards (NAHYPA)

The National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Awards (formerly known as Coming Up Taller) is a national awards program for out-of-school arts and humanities programs. Designed to recognize exemplary initiatives, the awards bring visibility to programs that foster the creative and intellectual development of America's youth. NASAA manages the awards process, the White House ceremony and related activities that support the growth of these programs. Collaborators include:

- President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities
- National Endowment for the Arts
- National Endowment for the Humanities
- Institute of Museum and Library Services

National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL)

One of NASAA's most important goals is to help state officials understand the value of the arts as an investment, as a citizen demand and as a role for government. NASAA's relationship with the National Conference of State Legislatures helps elected officials understand how the arts can help address their most pressing policy issues. NASAA and NCSL have a history of formal information exchange (at the board and staff level) as well as project collaborations (see the "What Do State Legislators Think About the Arts" study).

National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)

NASAA represents state arts agency interests and fosters planning and policy collaborations between the NEA and its state partners. NASAA also leads advocacy efforts that encourage Congress to support a strong federal leadership role for the arts in America.

National Governors Association (NGA)

To promote the arts with top policy officials at the state level, NASAA collaborates with the National Governors Association's Center for Best Practices to produce *Issue Briefs* and reports that document the value of the arts in public policy and economic development. This collaboration has been sponsored by funding from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Regional Arts Organizations (RAO)

NASAA collaborates with individual regions on projects that serve states and advance the knowledge or influence of state arts agencies. Recent collaborations include:

- Orientations to regional arts organizations at NASAA conferences and Boot Camps
- Collaborative design of conference sessions on topics including emergency preparedness and nonprofit financial management
- Participation in regional discussions on arts education and other special topics
- Collaboration on National Standard and information collection training