

2021 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 that may cause unintended consequences.

- ***Support the Florida Seal of Fine Arts Program for high school graduates Senate Bill 1740 and House Bill 1375. 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.***
- CFAE is following Senate Bill 86 closely and concerned about potential negative consequences for students seeking Bright Future Scholarships. This program needs to be equitable for all students.
- Oppose bills that restrict students' access to high quality arts programs
- Oppose bills that erode the Fine Arts graduation credit.
- Support the Arts Are Education Movement. <https://nafme.org/advocacy/arts-are-education-national-campaign/>

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, transition back to traditional learning modes, and to expand offerings for all students.
- Support Covid Federal Relief Funding plans that support arts programs. For example, this could include additional staffing, purchase of equipment or music protective items such as bell covers and masks.

Educational Accountability

- Pause negative consequences of the accountability system prompted by statewide assessment for the 2020-2021 school year.
- Work toward including the arts to become part of the school grade.

Safe and Healthy Learning Environments

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

- Strengthen arts programs to ensure all students have access to a well-rounded education.
- Support Legislation that provides for Diversity, Inclusion, Equity and Access
- Support Federal Relief Funding that supports arts programs. This could include or music protective items such as bell covers and masks.
- Arts programs support mental health initiatives by providing students creative outlets and rigorous curriculum that honors student voice. Support the ***Florida Seal of Fine Arts legislation.***