



**DATE:** June 2022

**TO:** District Administrators, Curriculum and Instruction Directors, Principals

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**SUBJECT:** DPI Fine Arts Resources and Statewide Conference Attendance

General Colin Powell once said, “Great leaders are almost always great simplifiers, who can cut through argument, debate, and doubt to offer a solution everybody can understand.” The past two years have been tumultuous, to say the least. THANK YOU for your leadership and striving to simplify what could be considered one of the most challenging, complex times in public education. Through all of the challenges, one truth remains that our teachers need our continued support and encouragement.

After spending twenty-five years teaching in Wisconsin public schools, I am excited to be in this new role as the Arts and Creativity Education Consultant with DPI. Please allow me to be a resource to you and your arts educators through professional development, classroom visits, or the updated [DPI Fine Arts Website](#).

We are fortunate in Wisconsin to have a number of outstanding arts organizations that are dedicated to supporting the work of your arts educators. Each year these organizations go above and beyond to offer timely professional development, mentoring, collaboration, and inspiration. Below is a list of the statewide arts conferences to consider for your fine arts staff. The time and money invested in supporting your arts teachers' attendance will surely benefit your students and schools.

- [Alliance for Wisconsin Theatre Education Conference](#) – Oshkosh, September 23, 2022
- [Wisconsin Dance Council Conference](#) – Oshkosh, October 15, 2022
- [Wisconsin Art Education Association Conference](#) – Red Wing, MN, October 20-22, 2022
- [Wisconsin School Music Conference](#) – Madison, October 26-29, 2022

These annual gatherings are the largest professional development opportunities scheduled statewide for educators engaged with the arts in learning. Conference opportunities often include the sharing of effective arts instructional strategies and assessment methods, in-depth standards reviews, the latest research, integration of technology, and inclusive arts practices.

I am asking for your encouragement and support of your art educators in building their knowledge and professional skills by providing release time for their participation in a statewide conference within their content area. Thank you for your partnership in fostering a comprehensive education for our children and for supporting the continual building of professional capacity in our educators.