



## NDCA Arts in Education Newsletter September 2020

*Cover image designed by Drawing and Design student from West Fargo Public High School, teacher Chelsea Odden.  
Funding for this project was provided through NDCA's Arts in Education Collaboration Grant program.*

### **RETURNING TO SCHOOL DURING COVID-19**

#### ***Why the Arts Matter***

At a time when we are deliberately distancing ourselves from other people, we turn to the arts to entertain, distract and comfort us. But the arts do even more! During challenging times, the arts are critical for helping us connect with each other, express difficult emotions, process stress, and stay engaged. Now more than ever, children and adults need art to remind us why life is worth living, to reawaken our sense of the wonder of being, to remind us of our freedom, and to highlight the things in our cultures that connect us and enable us to withstand unexpected challenges.

During this unprecedented time we invite you to celebrate the arts in your schools and consider taking advantage of our funding opportunities to support your students' social and emotional well-being in and through the arts.

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### **GOVERNOR BURGUM OFFICIALLY DECLARES ARTS IN EDUCATION WEEK SEPTEMBER 13-19, 2020**

North Dakota Council on the Arts in partnership with the Communications, Speech and Theater Association of North Dakota, North Dakota Arts Education Association, North Dakota Music Educators Association, and North Dakota Choral Directors Association are proud to announce

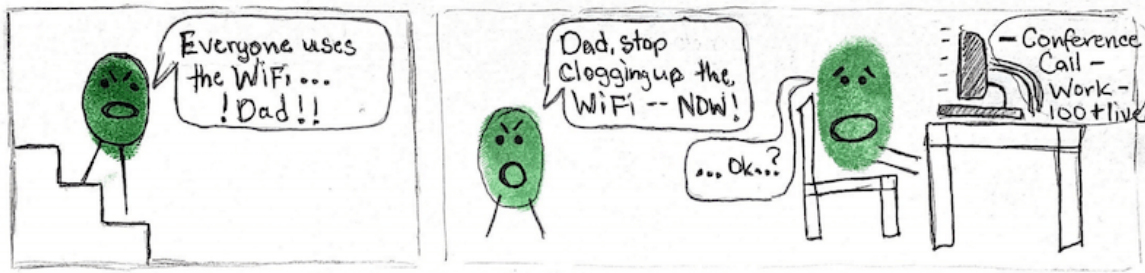
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that Governor Doug Burgum has joined in the national celebration and proclaimed September 13-19 as Arts in Education Week in North Dakota.

This came by way of an [official proclamation from his office](#), which recognized the “arts as an integral part of life in North Dakota and an integral part of a complete education that contributes to the vibrancy and vitality of communities and the nation.” Please reach out and let Governor Burgum know you appreciate his support of arts in education via [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), or [Email](#).

Passed by Congress in 2010, House Resolution 275 designates the week beginning with the second Sunday in September as National Arts in Education Week. During this week, the field of arts education joins together in communities across the country to tell the story of the impact of the transformative power of the arts in education.

Share your personal stories of the impact the arts and arts education have made in your life and the lives of your students and community. Be sure to share using **#NDGOV**, **#BecauseOfArtsEd**, and **#ArtsEdWeek**.



[Kids' Coronavirus Art Reveals How They're Processing the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)  
ABC Health & Wellbeing / By Tegan Taylor for Coronacast, Posted Friday, May 1, 2020 at 2:00pm

## **ANXIOUS CLASSROOMS, ANXIOUS STUDENTS** *Te Rito Toi - Meeting student needs through the arts*



Events that shake our confidence and trust in the world leave us all feeling vulnerable and anxious. How we handle that anxiety is key to how well we manage our return to school. In response to Covid-19, primary school teachers in New Zealand and Australia worked with a team at the University of Auckland to develop a rich, arts-based resource to implement as

students returned to school. Referred to as Te Rito Toi, this project grew from the understanding that schools must not just prepare students for the future but they also need to help them make sense of the present. After disasters and crises, schools must as a first priority help learners safely explore the changed world in which they live. All lessons contained in this resource have been written by curriculum experts who understand the potential of the arts to draw students back to learning. More information on the Te Rito Toi program and available lessons can be found [HERE](#).

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## ND POETRY OUT LOUD PROGRAM GOING VIRTUAL



Now more than ever, our students need opportunities for synthesizing and expressing feelings and emotions. To provide a more inclusive program and ensure ALL students in North Dakota have access to rich social/emotional and English/Language Arts learning, our [2020-21 ND POL Program](#) will be going virtual. This also includes our [Poets in Schools](#) grant program where schools, officially registered for Poetry Out Loud (POL), can apply for up to \$2,000 in non-matching funds to bring a highly-qualified, practicing poet into their classroom to work with and/or present for students. Visits may be conducted in-person or virtually. Participation in the POL program is FREE and includes a variety of resources for classroom implementation. [Registration deadline is November 1, 2020.](#)

### WHY POETRY?

#### MAKING ROOM FOR POETRY IN OUR CURRICULUM TOOLBOX...

- Offers students a chance to find within themselves something previously hidden;
- Fosters a new way of looking at the world, insights that spark the imagination;
- Improves students' analytical skills through reading and interpreting a variety of poems;
- Opens venues for speaking and listening;
- Invites us to know each other on a deeper level, and;
- Shapes the building of community in profound way.

### WHY POETRY OUT LOUD?

#### THIS IS WHAT TEACHERS TELL US: POETRY OUT LOUD...

- Easily adapts to online learning, or as an independent study program. Perfect for this time of COVID uncertainty;
  - Fits well into existing high school ELA curriculum;
  - Is flexible and can be implemented in schools of all sizes, in regular classrooms or as part of an afterschool program;
  - Does not require full class periods and can be easily implemented within a two - three week period;
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- Creates an entry point for English Language learners and for social/emotional learning;
  - Reaches students who never thought they would take to poetry or perform on stage;
  - Integrates the dramatic arts and public speaking; and
  - Satisfies most of the National Council for Teachers of English (NCTE) Language Arts and ND English Language Arts State Standards.
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## **NDCA AWARDS \$79,943 TO SCHOOLS AND NON-PROFITS THROUGH THE ARTS IN EDUCATION COLLABORATION (AIEC) GRANT PROGRAM**

[Arts in Education Collaboration](#) is a grant program that provides up to \$6,000 in funds to arts organizations, schools, school districts, nonprofits, and government agencies to build collaborations and community partnerships that strive to increase access to high-quality, sustained arts education for K-12, North Dakota students. \$79,943 has been awarded to fifteen schools and non-profits for FY21. List of grantees, project goals and award amounts can be found [HERE](#).

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## **ARTIST IN RESIDENCE (AIR) GRANT NOW AVAILABLE!**

Applications are now being accepted for the Artist in Residence Grant program. Applications must be submitted 6 weeks prior to project start date. [Artist in Residence](#) is a noncompetitive reimbursement grant program that provides up to \$2,500 in support for North Dakota pre-K-12 students and teachers to work with professional artists either in a traditional school setting or during after-school and/or summer programs. Residencies include 20 or more contact hours spanning four days or longer. Artists work together with teachers and staff to design activities that enhance educational programs and help to address learning standards or curricular goals.

Due to COVID19 restrictions, NDCA is prepared to provide schools and artists with flexibility concerning project design and implementation process. Projects may take place in person or virtually. More grant information and directions for applying can be found [HERE](#).

Questions? Contact the Arts and Education Director at [rengelman@nd.gov](mailto:rengelman@nd.gov).

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## **BEAT THE ODDS® WORKSHOPS DELIVER A FRAMEWORK FOR IMPROVING SOCIAL EMOTIONAL SKILLS**

[Beat the Odds®](#) is an evidence-based and trauma-informed program that integrates activities from group drumming and group counseling to build core strengths such as focusing and listening, team building, leadership, expressing feelings, managing anger/stress, empathy, and gratitude.

During the months of February and August 2020, North Dakota teachers, counselors and mental health care providers gathered in West Fargo, Bismarck and Williston where they participated in Beat the Odds® workshops facilitated by [Ping Ho, Founder & Director of UCLArts & Healing](#), and co-developer of the program, Beat the Odds®: Social and Emotional Skill Building Delivered

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in a Framework of Drumming.

Workshops and the purchase of drums for classroom use were provided to a consortium of schools led by the [Central Region Education Association \(CREA\)](#) and funded through the [2019-20 North Dakota State Legislature's Music Education Grant](#) and North Dakota Council on the Arts.

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