



DATE: February 4th, 2021

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Illinois Art Education Association to Receive Grant from the National Endowment for the Arts

The Illinois Art Education Association has been approved for a Grants for Arts Projects award to support the Collaborating for Excellence program. The IAEA's project is among 1,073 projects across America totaling nearly \$25 million that were selected during this first round of fiscal year 2021 funding in the Grants for Arts Projects funding category.

"The National Endowment for the Arts is proud to support this project from the Illinois Arts Education Association," said Arts Endowment Acting Chairman Ann Eilers. "The IAEA is among the arts organizations across the country that have demonstrated creativity, excellence, and resilience during this very challenging year."

"The IAEA is grateful for the National Endowment for the Arts' support of Collaborating for Excellence," said Nick Hostert, IAEA Past President. "This program serves to highlight art, design, and media educators and the quality of learning that occurs in the arts."

Collaborating for Excellence connects educators across Illinois to collaboratively refine their existing lessons. Working through a series of training modules, participants gain insights on how to improve 1)the inclusion of research-informed practices, 2)the application of social-emotional learning within the lesson 3) the utilization of standards based assessment and 4)engagement with equitable and culturally responsive teaching practices. Sessions, led by field experts, will also include resources from the Brandywine Workshop in Philadelphia. Final lessons will be disseminated statewide through a digital portal on the Illinois Art Education Association website.

For more information on Collaborating for Excellence and other IAEA initiatives, please visit www.ilaea.org

