



Utah Arts Council
Jean Tokuda Irwin, Arts Education Program Manager

General Information

Agency Mission Statement

The Utah Division of Arts & Museums's goal is to promote innovation in and the growth of Utah's arts and culture community. It provides funding, education, and technical services to individuals and organizations throughout the state so that all Utahns, regardless of race, gender, ethnicity or economic status, can access, understand, and receive the benefits of arts and culture. The Division is the primary agency in Utah through which state and national funds combine to stimulate and encourage the arts. It distributes funds appropriated directly for the arts by both the Utah State Legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts. It acts as a state coordinator and adviser, having an awareness of various programs that might be underway at any given time around the state. The Division assists with professional development where needed and provides direct matching grants to more than 200 nonprofit organizations statewide.

The Utah Division of Arts & Museums includes the Utah Arts Council, established in 1899 by the Third Utah Legislature, and the Office of Museum Services as advisory boards.

The Utah Division of Arts & Museums conducts programs which provide more than 500 outreach services to schools, local arts councils and organizations, community centers, performing groups and individual artists. These programs include folk arts, arts education, public art, literary arts, community development, design arts, and visual arts. Financial assistance is available through several programs including grants to individual artists, funding to schools through arts education, creative communities initiative funds, visual arts fellowships, and apprenticeships for folk and ethnic artists. Overall the Division serves as a catalyst for arts programming throughout the state, assisting arts organizations, groups and individuals in bringing the arts to the people of Utah.

Arts Education Program Overview

The mission of the Utah Arts Council's Arts Education (UAC/AE) Program is to demonstrate, advocate and embody the principle that the arts are essential to the lifelong education of all Utahns. Since 1971, the Arts Education Program has worked to encourage the public's perception of the value of arts education. Arts education programs seek to support educational access to professional artists and artistic companies/organizations and their works of art; assist in making the arts basic to education in school and community settings; support the Utah State Office of Education Fine Arts Division and the fine arts core curriculum and all efforts in assuring teachers have the skills to teach the arts and students have access to arts learning; and advocate for the arts at home, school and in the community.

UAC/AE meets its goals and objectives through some of the following strategies and program components:

- Providing statewide leadership in arts education by:
 - partnering with Utah State Office of Education in Arts Education Networking Conferences; Infinity Programs (designed to link teachers with visual and performing works of art, including follow-up workshops); Utah State Office of Education (USOE)/Utah Arts Council Arts Education leadership retreats for arts education leaders, teachers and administrators; and quarterly district arts coordinators' meetings and other joint workshops;
 - service on various boards and advisory bodies, such as Utah Parent-Teacher Association, Utah Center for Families in Education, and Utah Alaskan Native/American Indian Education Plan Advisory Committee;
 - developing new initiatives, such as Beverley Taylor Sorensen Arts Education Initiative (full-time arts specialist in 57 elementary schools), Coalition for Arts in Utah Schools, Utah Parent-Teacher Association Reflections categories in dance, theatre and film/video, dance education research initiatives, Infinity Programs, and Reading, Arts and Math (RAM).
- Informing schools, communities, decision makers and arts organizations about national arts education initiatives and best practices, and arts education research and studies
- Conducting workshops as requested about the efficacy of arts education for groups such as Utah Parent-Teacher Association, Utah Victims Assistance Association, Utah Office of Child Care (early childhood education) and Title VII Indian Education Coordinators
- Funding arts education activities in Utah by seeking federal funds and by granting funds to schools, arts organizations, communities, hospitals, juvenile facilities, museums, recreational facilities and other eligible nonprofit organizations
- Applying for grants from the National Endowment for the Arts (Arts Learning, Challenge America) and other national and regional re-funding sources to support arts education efforts in Utah schools and nonprofit organizations
- Facilitating partnerships and collaborations that further arts education
- Supporting arts education professional development organizations: Utah Arts Education Association, Utah Music Education Association, University of Utah Drama Day for teachers and students, Sundance Film Festival screening and labs for teachers/students, individual support for "teachers as artists" and "teachers as muse," Utah Dance Education Organization
- Supporting and partnering with college and university summer professional development institutes for elementary classroom teachers (Utah State University, Brigham Young University, University of Utah, Southern Utah University)
- Providing technical assistance to schools, community organizations, arts organizations and artistic companies in arts education strategic planning, program development, grant-writing, program evaluation and assessment
- Disseminating program materials through print and Web site

Arts Education Grants Programs

Kinds of Arts Education Grants Distributed by Agency

- residency program
- in-school arts education
- out-of-school-time arts education
- early childhood learning in the arts
- lifelong learning in the arts
- arts education program/project support for arts organizations
- other: Teacher Initiated Project grants

Groups Eligible for Arts Education Grant programs

- pre-K centers
- public schools
- private/nonparochial schools
- private/parochial schools
- charter schools
- regional/local arts agencies
- arts organizations
- non-arts organizations
- social service agencies (shelters, juvenile facilities)
- Indian Education Title VII summer programs
- school districts
- colleges and universities

Total Number of Arts Education Grants Awarded in Most Recent Fiscal Year

57 grants

Total Dollar Value of Arts Education Grants Awarded in Most Recent Fiscal Year

\$168,000

Additional Comments on Arts Education Grant Programs

In fiscal year 2009, UAC was not able to fully fund arts education grants approved by the board for that year. 90% of arts education projects received 70% of their funding. Any residencies not completed by December 2008 were cancelled on the provision they would be funded in fiscal year 2010 without submitting a new application.

Major Initiatives & Partnerships

Utah State Office of Education and Beverley Taylor Sorensen Arts Education Initiative

This Initiative is funded by the Utah Legislature to the Utah State Office of Education, with implementation led by the UAC director of arts education initiatives. This funds one full-time-equivalent arts specialist in the discipline of his or her choice in 57 elementary schools. Funded initially for four years, the Initiative is currently in its second year. Because of the drastic loss of state funds, efforts are under way again to seek funds for fiscal years 2011 and 2012.

Coalition for Arts in Utah Schools

A loosely organized but amazingly inclusive group of arts education advocates from higher education, public and private education, independent arts organizations and artistic companies, individual artists, parents, and community leaders. The Coalition meets at least twice a year to address burning arts education issues, e.g., the increase of science and math requirements that reduce a student's access to arts electives, reduction of arts specialists and arts teachers in secondary schools. The Coalition informs the larger group and establishes strategies to address the issues. Its single greatest impact has been to inform efforts to maintain and increase arts learning throughout the state in school, after school and in the community.

Utah Parent-Teacher Association Partnership

UAC partnered with Utah Parent-Teacher Association to increase the categories in the National Reflections Program from visual arts, photography, music composition and creative writing to include dance, theatre and film/video. Under the leadership of the arts education program manager, Utah served as a pilot for the nation for 10 years. In 2007, the national Parent-Teacher Association adopted both dance and film/video. UAC/AE continues to provide arts education sessions at the Utah Parent-Teacher Association annual convention for 1,200 parents. Sessions include math and dance, literacy and the arts, parents and implementing arts education, and others. UAC/AE also helped the Utah Parent-Teacher Association develop its own grants program for arts education in local schools.

UAC/AE ArtsPartners

UAC/AE has 10 formal ArtsPartners. All partners are long-standing artistic companies and organizations nationally recognized for artistic excellence and commitment to arts education. These 10 ArtsPartners deliver summer and ongoing professional development to teaching artists, arts specialists, and classroom teachers in how to teach the fine arts core curriculum and how to assess student learning in the arts. Current ArtsPartners include: Utah Festival Opera, Utah Opera/Symphony, Springville Museum of Art, VSA arts of Utah/Art Access Gallery, Children's Dance Theatre, Repertory Dance Theatre, Ririe Woodbury Dance Theatre, Moab Music Festival, Utah Shakespearean Festival and Ballet West.

Elementary/Secondary Survey for Principals on the Status of Arts Education in Utah

In partnership with the Utah State Office of Education, UAC/AE developed a statewide survey to explore the status of arts education in Utah schools (public, private and charter). The survey, now in its fourth year, is disseminated to all principals through the UAC/AE program. UAC and USOE share in the costs for the research analyst. In 2009 the Utah survey will be modified and incorporated with a four-state survey that includes Idaho, Montana and Wyoming. Utah-specific survey questions will remain in the survey distributed in Utah.

UAC/AE and USOE Formal Partnership

As demonstrated in the Annual Events section, UAC/AE and USOE have long enjoyed a strong and collegial partnership. The Arts Education Program manager and USOE fine arts curriculum specialist communicate almost daily, meet weekly and meet monthly with a state-level fine arts team of consultants to the State Office of Education. The team shares responsibility for an arts education conference for 500+ school administrators, teachers, teaching artists, specialists and community leaders; a summer leadership retreat for 40 district arts coordinators; the survey initiative described above; and the Infinity Program, to name a few partnership activities.

Funding for Arts Education Program from Sources Other Than NEA and State General Fund

UAC has received matching funds for the ArtsPartners from the Sorensen Legacy Fund.

Artist Residency Program

Artist residency program is administered by the state arts agency office.

- Mandatory orientation is provided for artists.
- Mandatory orientation is provided for sponsors.
- Optional training is provided for artists.
- Mandatory training is provided for sponsors.
- Entities other than schools may apply to sponsor a residency.

Fee Structure for Teaching Artists

- \$30 per hour
- There is additional compensation outside of the fee structure. UAC pays \$50 per week in addition for preparation time, all travel, per diem and lodging costs. The artist receives preparation time and per diem funds in advance of the residency. UAC makes all travel arrangements and all motel/hotel costs are charged to UAC/AE.

Additional Comments on Residency Program

Utah teaching artists are required to attend teaching artists workshops offered by ArtsPartners. Many also attend the statewide Arts Education Networking Conference. Out-of-state artists are not required to attend training in Utah. However, the interview process for out-of-state artists requires the artist to demonstrate their participation in teaching artist training.

Teaching Artist Roster Program

Teaching Artist Roster Basics:

- Out-of-state artists may apply for artist roster. (Utah does not accept dancers because of the plethora of highly qualified dancers in Utah.)
- Roster artists are required for residency and project programs funded by UAC.
- A discipline panel is used to select roster artists and an education panel interviews artists once accepted by the discipline panel.
- Applications for roster are reviewed every two years.
- To retain eligibility, artists must reapply every two years.

Additional Comments on Teaching Artist Roster

Artists are required to provide the arts education office with documentation of their continued work as professional artists. Therefore, artists send playbills, media reviews of their work, invitations to exhibitions, other written reviews, catalogues and raisonnés. If there is no evidence of continued professional work, UAC notifies the artist and asks them to reapply for a review by the discipline panel. Continued placement on the roster is also dependent on the artist submitting timely reports following residencies and projects and positive evaluations from administrators, teachers, principals and participants.

Annual Events

Daniel Summit Arts Education Leadership Retreat

UAC/AE supports and assists in the implementation of this retreat to develop arts education leadership in Utah. The retreat convenes the district arts coordinators (DACs) from each of the 40 Utah school districts. For specific components of the three-day retreat, school administrators, policymakers and community leaders are invited. During the retreat, DACs report on arts education issues in their school districts (e.g., loss of personnel, addition of secondary courses, new developments in arts education policies at the local level). Part of the retreat is dedicated to articulating a specific plan for the school year with each district submitting a plan of action (including, for example, specific professional development activities, the development of professional learning communities, addressing special issues such as additional graduation requirements, and loss of arts specialists).

Quarterly, Regional DAC Meetings

Because of geographic distance, USOE and UAC meet with the DACs quarterly in regional settings. During these gatherings, UAC and USOE update DACs about any state issues directly affecting their work. DACs report any new development in their school districts and USOE and UAC inform DACs of any upcoming grant due dates, professional development opportunities, new research, new publications/studies, advocacy articles and artistic events that might be of importance in their region.

Statewide Arts Education Networking Conference

This professional development conference is for elementary teachers, specialists, teaching artists, school administrators and community leaders who serve on local school community councils. This 2_ -day conference is in its 38th year and serves some 500 teachers annually. Participants receive instruction in all four fine art forms from teaching artists, and teaching artist/master teacher teams provide instruction in how to implement the fine arts core curriculum. Participants watch colleagues teach the arts to children. The conference offers keynote speakers (Lily Yeh, Sherry Kafka Wagner and David O'Fallon are past speakers) and usually a commissioned performance that incorporates all four major disciplines. For the first time in 38 years, this conference has been temporarily suspended because of massive budget cuts.

Professional Associations' Conferences

UAC/AE and USOE offers partial assistance to all of Utah's professional associations for keynote support, advocacy materials, stipends for teachers and financial support for presenters, and the like. This includes the Utah Music Educators' Association, the Utah Arts Education Association, the Utah Theatre Association and the Utah Dance Education Organization. Their conferences are all held annually. In addition, USOE offers a summer "Trade Winds" conference to music educators. This component has been temporarily suspended because of impending budget cuts.

Professional Development Services

Provision of Professional Development Trainings, Workshops and/or Institutes

- For classroom teachers, professional development is administered in partnership with another organization. See Major Initiatives & Partnerships section.
- For arts specialists, professional development is administered in partnership with another organization. See Major Initiatives & Partnerships section.
- For teaching artists, UAC directs artists seeking to be teaching artists to professional companies and arts organizations that use teaching artists, such as Utah Shakespearean Festival, Repertory Dance Theatre, Ririe-Woodbury Dance Company, Children's Dance Theatre, Utah Symphony/Opera, Utah Festival Opera and Utah Museum of Fine Arts. These organizations, many of which are UAC/AE ArtsPartners, provide professional development not only for classroom teachers and arts specialists but for professional artists.
- For school administrators, professional development is administered in partnership with another organization. See Major Initiatives & Partnerships section.

Poetry Out Loud

Poetry Out Loud Administration

- in-house with other state arts agency staff

Poetry Out Loud Participation

- number of schools participating in Poetry Out Loud statewide: 24
- Home-schooled students participate.
- number of regional semifinals: 1

Poetry Out Loud Resources and Activities

- lesson plans
- documentation
- residency model
- original poetry component
- workshops in conjunction with state finals
- prestate final workshops for students to prepare students for state finals

Partners, Funders or In-kind Donors That Support the Poetry Out Loud Program

Salt Lake County donated use of space for finals. Salt Lake Acting Company donated the salary of its resident poet/dramaturge.

Resources & Publications

Publications and Media Resources Provided:

- arts education handbook
- cultural resources directory including arts education
- statewide data/research on arts education in schools
- social networking: Facebook (in process with Utah State Office of Education Fine Arts Division)
- video or audio CD

NowPlayingUtah.com is a Web site for cultural and recreational activities in Utah. A partnership among UAC, the Salt Lake Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Utah Department of Community and Culture, Utah's Hogle Zoo, Zoo, Arts and Parks, and the Downtown Alliance, NowPlayingUtah.com is the site for the Arts Education Roster.

Arts education annual report information is incorporated into the agency's annual report. UAC/AE gives a handbook to artists and grantees to help them plan, implement and evaluate residencies, projects and teacher-initiated projects.

The Sky Is Green: True Stories of Artists and Teachers of Children with Disabilities was an ArtsPartner project with VSA arts of Utah and Art Access Gallery. It features artist/special education teacher partnership experiences, jointly developed lesson plans and resources.

A Manual for Artists Working in Prisons was developed by UAC/AE's program in response to requests from artists. An updated version with a new article about artists working in juvenile detention facilities will be ready in fall 2009.

Evaluation & Assessment

Assessment of Student Learning in the Arts

- UAC works in a strong collaborative partnership with the Utah State Office of Education to provide training in assessment. Through this partnership, UAC/AE continues to support and help implement training in assessment of student learning in the arts, especially as it relates to the state fine arts curriculum. Much of that training takes place through the annual UAC/AE and USOE cosponsored statewide Arts Education Networking Conference, through discipline-specific professional development held during the summers at four universities, and through professional development workshops offered by state approved artistic companies and professional development associations in dance, music, theatre and visual arts.
- Utah has an elementary arts education endorsement, Level 1 and Level 2 for elementary teachers. Endorsements designate these individuals as qualified to teach a specific artform. To successfully complete the endorsement, the participant must demonstrate competency in assessing student learning in the art form in which they are seeking endorsement. UAC/AE and USOE continually seek to offer multiple opportunities in how to implement the core and how to assess student learning.

Program Evaluation for Grantees

- Evaluation tools and frameworks are provided for grantees.
- To continue to receive funding, all grantees must complete program evaluation forms. For schools and school districts, that includes the on-site coordinator, participating classroom teachers and students. All principals must submit the Elementary/Secondary School Status of Arts Education in Utah surveys. All artists must submit program evaluation forms to receive their project/residency salary.
- All other grantees (artistic companies, social service agencies, correctional facilities, parks and recreation programs, and other nonprofit organizations) must complete similar program evaluations to continue to be eligible for future funding. All teacher-initiated program recipients must complete an evaluation form, as must the artist who provides the one-on-one instruction to the teacher.
- The evaluation tools encompass the opportunity to address the effectiveness of achieving both student learning and professional development goals and the degree to which all activities aligned with the state fine arts curriculum standards. There are additional opportunities to evaluate the artist's work beyond what was delivered in instruction to the learner (professionalism, reliability, preparedness, and the like); public response to the residency or project; particular impact on students with special needs; how the experience might impact the ongoing instruction by the classroom teacher or programmer; and other measures.
- UAC/AE has used those responses to inform its work, tweak the program, respond to constituent needs, and especially to demonstrate to decision makers and policymakers that arts education is rigorous and has a distinct body of knowledge and skills.
- UAC/AE and USOE have used program evaluation to inform further professional development for teachers. Here is one example of how program evaluation was used. Many teachers seemed to rely more on the artist and visits by future artists to continue any instruction in a particular art form. Further inquiry revealed that, although many classroom teachers love the arts, they had little confidence in their own artistic skills. The Teacher Initiated Program Grant, which provides a safe environment for teachers to receive personal instruction in the art form of their choice to improve the teacher's own knowledge and skills as an artist, has proved to be one of the most inexpensive and valuable grants UAC has ever offered. It also appears to reinforce that the more comfortable teachers are with a given art form, the more easily they develop avenues for delivering instruction in that art form or for integrating it in more meaningful ways into other disciplines. Confidence is remembered success.

Methods of Self-Evaluation of State Arts Agency's Arts Education Program

- quantitative and qualitative grants data
- participation data
- performance measurements
- surveys and feedback forms
- interviews
- focus groups and town hall meetings
- direct observations

Utilization of Evaluation

With past practice in mind and because of massive budget cuts, UAC/AE is reevaluating virtually every component of the Arts Education Program. Because of massive cuts to the Utah State Office of Education, many activities shared by the partnership also are being redesigned. This cannot be done without using the information gleaned from the grantees. Although the final outcome is unknown, all UAC/AE evaluation tools and activities are informing future direction.

Arts Education Staffing & Network Contacts

State Department of Education Arts Curriculum Specialist

Carol Ann Goodson, Ph.D.

State Alliance for Arts Education

The Utah Alliance for Arts and Humanities Education (UAAHE) was redesigned in the 1980s by a three-way partnership with the Utah Humanities Council (UHC), the Utah Arts Council, and the Utah State Office of Education. Each entity contributed \$20,000 to the Alliance. In the early 1990s, both USOE and UHC discontinued the direct financial support but continued to provide human support and in-kind support. Ultimately, the UAC board also chose to withdraw direct financial support and UAAHE became an organization run solely by volunteers.

The informal partnership continues through such activities as the Consortium for Arts in Utah Schools (universities, arts organizations, UHC, UAC, USOE, Utah Music Education Association, Utah Arts Education Association, Utah Dance Education Organization, Utah Teachers Association and others). UAC participation has diminished at the request of its current executive director, who felt the originally designed partnership that included the Artst Education Program manager as having a board position on the UAAHE board as a "conflict of interest."

Arts Education Program Staff, Job Title, FTE

- Jean Tokuda Irwin, Arts Education Program Manager, 1.0
- Alyssa Hickman Grove, Arts Education Coordinator, 0.66

Staff Biographies

Since 1991, Jean Tokuda Irwin has been the arts education program manager for the Utah Arts Council. She has served on the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Arts Learning, Planning/Advancement, Media Arts and Folk/Traditional Arts Learning, and Basic State Grants/Arts Education panels and served as a panelist for the Ohio, Kentucky and Arkansas arts councils. She served on the NEA/NASAA Arts Education Leadership Task Force and the Arts Education Advisory Group. She is one of five non-Indian facilitators for the Utah American Indian Education Task Force. Prior to her tenure at UAC, Irwin was director of programs for the CTC Museum in Galveston, Texas, director of museums for Western Texas College (art, history), and director of the Lyon County Museum, Emporia, Kansas. She has held adjunct faculty positions at Galveston College, Odessa College, and Western Texas College. She was a founding member of a visual arts cooperative (now the Permian Basin Visual Arts Institute). Still a visual artist, her mixed media work was featured in the 2002 Winter Olympics Cultural Olympiad Women Beyond Borders exhibition, featuring 20 works by Utah artists. She holds an M.A. from the University of Texas of the Permian Basin.

Alyssa Hickman Grove has been the UAC arts education coordinator since 2007. Her duties include processing applications, creating panel books and spreadsheets, communicating with grantees and artists, and maintaining databases. Her prior experience includes working as a grant writer for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Utah, the Fourth Street Clinic and Utah Health Choice Network. Grove has 12 years of experience as a writer and editor for Ancestry.com, *Salt Lake Observer*, Overstock.com, *Deseret News*, the Utah Division of State Parks, Woodland Publishing, *The Salt Lake Tribune*, *Utah Business*, and *Utah Homes and Garden*. She holds a B.A. in theatre from the University of Utah and has pursued graduate studies in acting and directing. She is a member of the Pinnacle Acting Company.