



Advancing creativity in education

maeia-artsednetwork.org

For Immediate Release—photos and logo available (contact us)

Contact: Michigan Assessment Consortium, (517) 816-4520

Michigan Arts Education Instruction and Assessment Project Receives MCACA Grant

The Michigan Arts Education Instruction and Assessment Project (MAEIA) has been awarded a grant of \$30,000 from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA). The grant was awarded through the MCACA peer review process and was one of 559 applications to compete for fiscal year 2016 funding.

MAEIA supports Michigan school districts, buildings, educators, and the public in implementing a high quality arts education program in dance, music, theatre, and visual arts for all K-12 students. MAEIA also shares and supports the assumption embedded in our nation's new Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) that for Michigan's young people to be fully prepared when they leave high school for college, career, and life, they will need a complete and competitive education.

"The Michigan Department of Education offers to schools the tools developed by the MAEIA project to support their pursuit of the highest quality arts education for Michigan students," said Brian Whiston, Michigan State Superintendent of Public Instruction. "I encourage school improvement teams to use the MAEIA tools to assess the status of their programs; identify criteria for improvement; and use Michigan developed model assessments toward student and teacher growth and program improvement."

Organizations receiving a MCACA grant award are required to match those funds with other public and private dollars. Major support for the project has included the Michigan Department of Education and the Michigan Assessment Consortium. Also, a volunteer team of nearly 1,000 Michigan arts educators has contributed to the MAEIA tools and resources. This team researched and drafted front-end tools, then developed, reviewed, field-tested, and revised model assessments. [View a complete list of contributors.](#)

MAEIA is the first statewide project to create a comprehensive one-stop-shop of tools and resources that can help Michigan's K-12 school districts answer some key questions:

- What does an exemplary arts program look like?
- Where do I find research that supports the need for quality arts programs?
- What tool would help my district evaluate its arts program?
- What does authentic assessment in the arts look like?
- What tools can I use to have meaningful conversations about arts education in my district?

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Data that results from using the MAEIA voluntary tools can be used for assessing student learning or for program and instructional improvement.

The MCACA peer review process allows for each grant application to be competitively considered by a panel of in-state and out-of-state arts and culture professionals. This ensures the taxpayers, who support this project through legislative appropriations, and all other visitors or residents in Michigan will have access to the highest quality arts and cultural experiences.

A complete list of grant awards in Michigan is available by contacting MCACA at (517) 241-4011 or by visiting their website at <http://www.michiganbusiness.org/community/council-arts-cultural-affairs/#MCACA>.

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The MAEIA Project has been developed by the Michigan Assessment Consortium (MAC) and Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) for the Michigan Department of Education (MDE), in partnership with Michigan educators. This activity is supported in part by a 2016 award from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs. Join the MAEIA Community to learn, grow, connect, and contribute to an ongoing conversation about quality K-12 arts education! Visit www.maeia-artsednetwork.org to learn more!

