

STATE OF THE ARTS

Tennessee: State of the Arts was developed as a public-private partnership between the Country Music Association (CMA) Foundation and the State of Tennessee. This initiative seeks to leverage Tennessee's rich history in the arts to launch a statewide program focused on expanding students' access to high-quality music and arts education.

The Partnership

After a commitment of \$1 million in funding over three years, State of the Arts will leverage the expertise of the CMA Foundation to help develop a statewide initiative that aims to create a cohesive model for arts and music education in Tennessee. The CMA Foundation has invested over \$20 million across all 50 states working to ensure every child has access to a quality music education.

The Implementation

In its first year, State of the Arts will launch a new, competitive grant opportunity with the Tennessee Department of Education that will allow school districts to receive funding to improve or develop their music education programs. Beginning with the 2018-19 school year, three-year grants will be awarded to eight districts across the state. Grants will focus on the goal of expanding access to music education and may fund a range of strategies including professional development for music teachers; additional arts and music supplies, materials, and equipment to address equity challenges; or expansion of local arts educational outreach programs, etc.

Informing the Future of Arts Education

The Tennessee Arts Education Data Project, developed in partnership between the CMA Foundation and the Tennessee Arts Commission, will also support this initiative by presenting school-level data around student access to arts education. This project will empower nonprofits, foundations, and districts with data for informed decision-making and to support strong learning networks for arts and music programs.

Grant applications will be made available by the Tennessee Department of Education in July 2018 with a webinar to share more information about the application process.

More information about State of the Arts can be found at:
<https://www.tn.gov/education/instruction/state-of-the-arts.html>

The Importance of Arts Education



Research shows that the impact of expanding arts education stretches far beyond growth in arts and musical ability into a student's overall academic performance, their attendance and engagement at school, and their likelihood of graduating.¹



Tennessee has devoted the last several years to improving standards and instruction in other core content areas and the goal of State of the Arts is to bolster the attention placed on music and arts education to support all content areas and ensure that we are building well-rounded students ready to compete in tomorrow's workforce.

¹ Eason, B.J.A., & Johnson, C.M. (2013). *Prelude: Music Makes Us* baseline research report. Nashville, TN: Metro Nashville Public Schools.

A partnership between:



Tennessee
State Government