

**STUDENTS  
ACQUIRE  
21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY  
SKILLS**

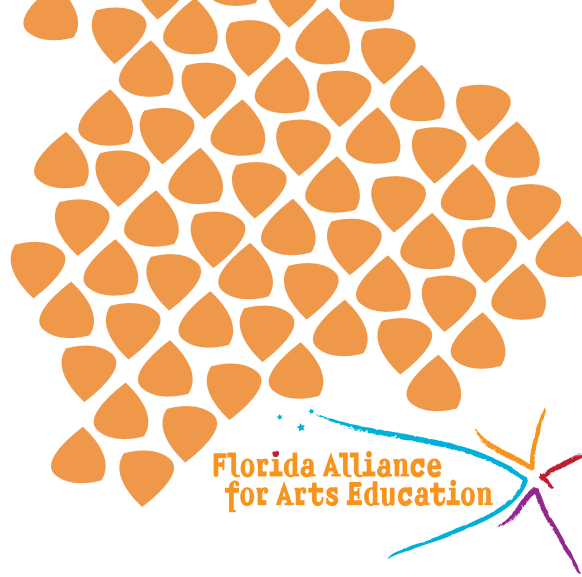


**REDUCES  
DROP OUT RATES**

**EDUCATES THE  
WHOLE  
CHILD**



**CAREER  
OPPORTUNITIES**



Florida Alliance  
for Arts Education

**REASONS TO  
SUPPORT  
ARTS  
EDUCATION**



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Become a member of FAAE and join us in supporting arts education for every child.

Visit [www.faae.org](http://www.faae.org) for more information and to join today.



## Preparing Students for the 21st Century

The future success of America in the global economy will rely on its creativity and innovation. Arts education (music, visual art, theatre, dance) teaches and nurtures creativity, judgment, and discipline.

“...the difference between success and failure for the students who will grow up to be the workers of 21st Century America:

- \* creativity and innovation;
- \* facility with the use of ideas and abstractions;
- \* self-discipline and organization; and
- \* ability to function well as a member of a team.\*”

\* Tough Choices or Tough Times, The Report of the New Commission on the Skills of the American Workforce, [www.skillscommission.org](http://www.skillscommission.org)

## Reduce Dropout Rates

### Student • Engagement v. :

1. Capture students' attention and commitment
2. Connect students to their school and community
3. Nurture a love of learning

Students engaged in the arts are engaged in learning and committed to education. Dropout rates decrease as arts credits increase. Skills learned and developed in the arts transfer to other academic areas and result in improved academic achievement.

A study\*\* of the 2008 cohort of Florida 12th graders showed that students with more arts education had higher academic achievement (SAT, FCAT Reading, Writing, Math) compared to students with less arts education.

- \* For the general population, the more arts classes taken, the higher student achievement
- \* For students on “free and reduced lunch,” an indicator of socioeconomic levels, the more arts classes taken, the higher the student achievement
- \* For students divided by ethnicity, the more arts classes taken, the higher the student achievement
- \* The more arts classes taken, the less likely a student is to dropout of school

Senators Stephen R. Wise and Nancy Detert, chairs of key Florida Senate Education Committees, spoke out in response to the study:

*“It is rare to find a curricular area that demonstrates such wide effect on student achievement and reaches across ethnic and socio-economic barriers. By the data provided, it is clear the arts do just that. Given that student achievement gains appear to increase with sequential arts instruction, it would be counter-intuitive to cut programs at elementary, middle, or high school levels.”*

The arts can help students become tenacious, team-oriented problem solvers who are confident and able to think creatively.

— Arne Duncan,  
Secretary of Education

## Educate the Whole Child

The arts engage our emotions and help to develop the humanity of our students – educating them to be whole people who are good neighbors, good parents and good citizens. Through arts education students learn to:

- \* Make connections with others;
- \* Understand our culture and the cultures of others;
- \* Practice empathy and embrace diversity;
- \* Understand ourselves and others.

## Career Opportunities

From theatre technician to computer animator, you can swing a hammer or wield a mouse and put your education and training in the arts to work in wide range of careers:

- \* Graphic designers outnumber chemical engineers by four to one;
- \* 30% increase in people earning a living as writers (since 1950);
- \* 50% increase in music composers or performers (since 1950);
- \* More Americans today work in arts, entertainment, and design than work as lawyers, accountants, and auditors.

\*\* Study sponsored by Florida Music Educators Association with the help of Senator Wise based on data from the Florida Department of Education data vault. Dr. Steve Kelly of Florida State University published a report analyzing the data. It is available at [www.faae.org](http://www.faae.org)

