



## **2020 Legislative Platform**

*The Legislative Platform is a product of the Center for Fine Arts Education Advocacy Committee*

### **Elevate Arts Education for All Florida Students**

Protect students' rights to be enrolled in sequential fine arts course work by opposing mandates that may cause unintended consequences.

- ***Support the Florida Seal of Fine Arts Program for high school graduates bill – Senate Bill 1100 – House Bill 1123. This bill recognizes students who successfully complete a rigorous sequential program of arts education in dance, music, theatre, and/or visual arts and complete additional community requirements.***
- Oppose bills that restrict students' access to high quality arts programs
- Oppose bills that erode the Fine Arts graduation credit.

### **Address Teacher Shortage to retain and attract qualified teachers to Florida**

- Increase teacher salaries in a meaningful sustainable manner to attract and retain highly effective teachers.
- Support proper reporting of the arts education teacher shortage. (Currently Florida does not list music or arts as a shortage area despite the shortage of arts educators).

### **Keep Students and Schools Safe**

Provide students, educators, volunteers, parents with safe and productive learning environments.

- Strengthen arts programs to ensure all students have access to well-rounded education.
- Arts programs support mental health initiatives by providing students creative outlets and rigorous curriculum that honors student voice. Support the ***Florida Seal of Fine Arts Program for high school graduates legislation.***

### **Enhance Early Childhood Education**

Recognize the importance of early childhood education for children from birth to grade 2. All young children have the capacities for learning in the arts

- ***Support Senate Bill 156 sponsored by Senator Keith Perry.***