introduction

The purpose of this brochure is to provide information to increase access to arts experiences for children in the state of Utah. This brochure lists community resources as well as ideas for increasing arts opportunities in schools. Utah is home to many quality arts organizations that enrich our lives by providing experiences that refine our sensitivities, inform our cultural literacy, and define who we are as a community. It is important to join together to increase access to these great resources for all children.

“Art is my very, very, very, very favorite sport.”

– 4th Grader, Daggett School District
10 lessons the arts teach

1. The arts teach children to make good judgments about qualitative relationships.

2. The arts teach children that problems can have more than one solution and that questions can have more than one answer.

Compiled from *10 Lessons the Arts Teach* by Elliot Eisner, Emeritus Professor of Art and Education at the Stanford University School of Education.
3. The arts celebrate multiple perspectives.

4. The arts teach how problems can be solved with changing circumstances and opportunities.

5. The arts teach that neither words in their literal form nor numbers exhaust what we can know.

6. The arts teach students that small differences can have large effects.

7. The arts teach students to think through and within a material.

8. The arts help children learn to express what sometimes cannot be said.

9. The arts enable us to experience the world in ways we cannot through any other source.

10. The arts’ position in the school curriculum symbolizes to the young what adults believe is important.

“Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once we grow up.”

– Pablo Picasso
“It is good to love many things, for therein lies the true strength, and whosoever loves much performs much, and can accomplish much, and what is done in love is well done.”

– Vincent van Gogh

Provide materials for children to create:

• Crayons, markers, colored pencils
• Water with food coloring for watercolors
• Scrap paper
• Old clothes and hats for playmaking
• Old magazines for making collages
• Cardboard from cereal boxes and paper towel rolls for sculpture
• Musical instruments or household objects to be used as instruments
• Open space for dancing
• An “art area” where messes are OK
• A stage area created by hanging old sheets

Provide moments for pretending and play acting:

• Make up stories together while you are in the car
• Drum out musical rhythms or clap syllables of names or words
• Tell round-robin stories – each person makes up part of the story by building on what the last person said
• Make up characters and stories to go with them
• Write plays and perform them
• Pretend to be characters while doing chores
Use Arts for Parties and Celebrations

- Go to a live arts performance
- Use a hand-held video camera and make a 5-min film
- Gather art supplies and make a mural
- Make & decorate cookies or cupcakes
- Have the children create and perform a play
- Play drama games as party games

Consider a Variety of Arts Activities:

- Create homemade valentines, Christmas cards, etc
- Use a smartphone to make a short video
- Create a theater piece from a storybook
- Build a puppet theater out of a box
- Make puppets out of materials around the house: sticks, pinecones, old socks, lunch sacks, etc
- Organize a dance performance
- Make funny faces or sculptures out of food
- Set up play dates to do arts activities
- Organize a dance performance
- Organize a children’s group to meet weekly at different homes for arts activities
- Take children to museums, concerts, plays, art shows
- Organize neighborhood field trips

“Art is not what you see, but what you make others see.”

– Edgar Degas
“I do not want art for a few any more than education for a few, or freedom for a few.”

− William Morris
Remember:

Be sensitive that the teacher is working towards required educational goals.

Allow the teacher to see you as a valuable educational resource.

Volunteer:

• Be a room parent
• Include arts activities at classroom parties
• Provide musical accompaniment for programs and activities
• Build and/or paint sets for performances
• Create costumes
• Record class productions
• Gather art supplies
• Create displays of student artwork
• Assist with an arts project, play, dance, etc.
• Chaperone trips to arts exhibits or performances
• Organize a school arts team of teachers and parents to plan events and connect curriculum
• Join your PTA/PTO and serve on the school community council to give voice to the arts

Support:

Survey other parents for talents they are willing to share and keep your teacher informed about arts events in the community.

“Dance first. Think later. It’s the natural order.”

– Samuel Beckett
Survey teachers and parents about personal talent and/or passion for the arts that they are willing to share.

Get involved with the following programs:

PTA
Band
Orchestra
Dance
Visual Arts
Theatre
Choir
Arts Clubs

Advocacy & Service

- Participate in Utah PTA Reflections.
- Host an arts night, Christmas concert, musical play or program, Shakespeare festival, or after school program.
- Become involved in the arts programs currently in place at your school. Be a booster parent for the choir, band, drama club, etc.
- Join your local PTA/PTO or serve on the school community council.
- Be informed when Professional Outreach Program to Schools (POPS) groups will be coming to your district and help facilitate school participation in performances, lectures demonstrations, and professional development.
- Let your school and principal know about professional development opportunities and arts opportunities in your community.
- Stay up to date with school board meeting agendas and attend school board meetings when possible.
- Become a candidate for your local school board or support a candidate in favor of arts inclusion in schools.
- Write a grant for an artist-in-residence or arts education project in your school.
- If your school district has an arts committee, identify someone from the school to consistently attend district committee meetings.
- Form an arts team of parents, teachers, and administrators to coordinate school arts activities and events.
The most important thing you can do is build a positive relationship with the principal and understand the current vision.

Show the principal you are interested in the overall balanced education of the students by volunteering for and showing interest in areas in addition to the arts.

Assure the principal that the goal of arts education is not to make every child a concert violinist, but to offer every child opportunities to explore the arts.
Utah Core Standards

The arts are designated as an academic core curriculum by the Utah State Board of Education and by the US Department of Education via the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

The New Utah Core Standards are amenable to arts integration. The Utah State Board of Education supports the Utah Core Curriculum in dance, music, drama, and visual arts for grades K-6.

Critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and communication all identified as essential 21st Century workforce skills—are strengthened through arts education. For additional information visit www.p21.org

Title I funds designated for low income schools may be used for arts education programs and activities that support the school’s primary objectives and goals.
“The arts provide a more comprehensive and insightful education because they invite students to explore the emotional, intuitive, and irrational aspects of life that science is hard pressed to explain.”

– Charles Fowler
The best way to be an arts advocate in your child’s school is to **visibly support** your child’s teacher in both arts activities and other areas.

**Questions to Ask Yourself**

1. Why are the arts important to me?
2. When did the arts impact my life or the life of someone I care about?
3. With whom can I share my story?
4. What would I like to see happen in the arts this year in my family, school, or community?
5. What would I like to see happen in five years?
6. What can I do to make my goals happen?
School Community Council

Parents who are arts advocates can work effectively with the school community council.

- Understand the district and school parameters for the school’s improvement plan.

- Identify the curricular areas designated by the district and school for improvement.

- Find out what the school community council has designated as the greatest need for your school.

- Identify ways the arts might contribute to accomplishing your school’s designated goals.

- Include arts education where possible in your school.

- Select an arts representative to serve on the school community council.

- Use trust lands funding to support arts programs that are tied to district and school goals and guidelines.

- Build partnerships with local businesses to provide additional arts funding for your school.

“An elementary school that treats the arts as the province of a few gifted children, or views them only as recreation and entertainment, is a school that needs an infusion of soul. That arts are an essential element of education, just like reading, writing, and arithmetic.”

– William Bennett, Former U.S. Secretary of Education
“Art is a nation’s most precious heritage. For it is in our works of art that we reveal to ourselves and to others the inner vision which guides us as a nation. And where there is no vision, the people perish.”

—Lyndon Johnson, on signing into existence the National Endowment for the Arts
More Professional Development Workshops

- Repertory Dance Theatre
- Ririe-Woodbury Summer Workshops for Teachers
- Utah Symphony/Utah Opera Workshops for Teachers
- Utah Arts Festival Workshops for Teachers
- Utah Arts & Museums Workshops for Teachers
- Utah Festival Opera
- Arts Inc.
- Timpanogos Storytelling Festival
- Children’s Dance Theatre Summer Workshop
- Statewide Arts Partnership “Evenings for Educators”
  (Held alternately at museums across the state – Free to the public)
- University of Utah Library and Book Arts Center
- University of Utah Art in a Box
- Crayola Workshop (free for schools)
- Springville Museum Art Talks (free for schools)
arts in the community

Local Arts Centers:

• Alpine Art Center, Alpine
• Bountiful Davis Art Center, Bountiful
• Cache Valley Center for the Arts, Logan
• Covey Center for the Arts, Provo
• Eccles Community Art Center, Ogden
• Kimball Art Center, Park City
• Moab Arts & Recreation Center, Moab

Providers

• Professional performing arts companies
• Local Arts Councils
• City or County-sponsored organizations
• University performing arts groups
Manners for Enjoying the Visual and Performing Arts:

- Be respectful of the visual and performing artwork and those who created it
- If you are in a gallery or museum, respect the space, do not touch the artwork or leave litter
- Please arrive for performances on time
- Stay until the completion of the performance so all artists have an audience, especially children
- At performances, turn all electronic devices off and leave them off
- Do not take photos of performers or videotape/record performances
- Leave munchies at home or save them for movies and athletic events
- Keep feet off the seats in front of you
- Applauding and BRAVO or BRAVA are fine but save whistles and screams for a rock concert
- Make sure you take all your belongings when you leave, including playbills and programs

Directory:

Now Playing Utah has a directory of events, resources, workshops, artist profiles, and educational opportunities throughout Utah.

nowplayingutah.com

Don’t be afraid to take your child with you to public arts events and festivals.

Even if the programs are not specifically catered for children, with a bit of research, you can make it a worthwhile learning activity for the whole family.
Dance
Ballet West, Salt Lake City
Ririe-Woodbury Dance Company, Salt Lake City
Repertory Dance Theatre, Salt Lake City
Children’s Dance Theatre & Virginia Tanner Dance, Salt Lake City

Drama
Capitol Theatre, Salt Lake City
Hale Center Theatre, West Valley & Orem
Ellen Eccles Theatre, Logan
Peery’s Egyptian Theatre, Ogden
Egyptian Theatre, Park City
Pioneer Theatre Company, Salt Lake City
SCERA Center for the Arts, Orem
Utah Festival Opera, Logan

Colleges and Universities have a wide variety of concerts and performances for families. Please visit their websites for more information.
Film and Media Arts
Final Cult Film Festival, BYU, Provo
Red Rock Film Festival, Springdale
Salt Lake City Film Festival, SLC
Spy Hop Productions, SLC
Southern Utah International Documentary Film Festival
Sundance Film Festival, Park City, Ogden SLC
Utah Film Center’s Tumbleweeds Film Festival for Children & Youth, SLC

Music
City/County symphonies
Moab Music Festival, Moab
Ogden Music Festival, Ogden
Utah Chamber Artists Youth Music Festival, SLC
Utah Festival Opera, Logan
Utah Symphony Utah Opera, SLC
Utah Youth Symphony Orchestras & Ensembles

Visual Arts
Brigham City Museum, Brigham City
Chase Home Museum of Utah Folk Arts, SLC
Children’s Museum of Utah, SLC
Church History Museum of Utah, SLC
Fairview Museum of History & Art, Fairview
Salt Lake City Public Library Gallery, SLC
Springville Museum of Art, Springville
St. George Art Museum, St. George
Utah Museum of Fine Arts, SLC
Western Heritage Museum, Vernal
Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery, SUU, Cedar City
Museum of Art, BYU, Provo
Nora Eccles Harrison Museum of Art, USU, Logan
Sears Art Museum Gallery, Dixie State College, St. George
Shaw Gallery Weber State University, Ogden
Utah Museum of Fine Arts, U of U, SLC
Utah Museum of Contemporary Art, SLC
Woodbury Art Museum, UVU, Orem

“The future belongs to young people with an education and the imagination to create.”
– President Barack Obama

“Logic will get you from A to B. Imagination will take you everywhere.”
– Albert Einstein
Need Supplies?

Freecycle is a grassroots movement of people who are giving (and getting) stuff for free in their own towns. It’s all about reuse and keeping good stuff out of landfills. Each local group is moderated by local volunteers. Membership is free.

freecycle.org

websites & resources

Utah Resources
Arts events in Utah  > nowplayingutah.com
Arts Inc.  > artsineducation.org
Friends of Art Works for Kids!  > artworksforkids.org
Utah Education Network  > uen.org
Utah Division of Arts & Museums  > arts.utah.gov
Utah PTA  > utahpta.org
Utah State Office of Education Fine Arts  > schools.utah.gov/curr/fineart

National Resources
Americans for the Arts  > artsusa.org
Arts Education Partnership  > aep-arts.org
National Endowment for the Arts  > nea.gov
Kennedy Center  > kennedy-center.org/education/kcaeken
Champions of Change  > whitehouse.gov/champions/arts-education
Advocacy, Activities, & Lesson Plans

Learn More About Arts and the 4 C’s
http://cdn.crayola.com/educators/NAESP/media/downloads/
Crayola-Bibliography-Resources.pdf

Arts-Infused Education Leadership
cdn.crayola.com/educators/NAESP/media/downloads/
Crayola-Introduction-Guide.pdf

Crayola Dreammakers Lessons
crayola.com/for-educators/resources-landing/dream-makers.aspx

BYU Arts Partnership: Lesson plans & other resources
education.byu.edu/arts

Fun, Free, Drama Activitives for Kids
http://www.public.asu.edu/~atbrl/dramania.html

Donate!

Each school district has a foundation to which parents can make tax-deductable donations to support the arts.
Get to KNOW your decision makers at all levels – local, district, state. Build relationships and get to know them as people, neighbors, and friends.

Invite a decision maker to your school arts events. If the individual is unable to attend, send a short email report with photos, links to video clips, etc. with a short note like the following:

“I’m sorry you weren’t able to make it to this arts event. I thought you’d like to know about the accomplishments of our students.”

When you can, attend school board meetings. When arts-related issues are on the agenda, school board members will be interested in your input because they know you are dedicated to arts education.

Follow arts and education legislation through your PTA legislative vice-president. Consider issues such as extra graduation requirements reducing time for arts classes, the impact of online education, etc.

Write letters asking for decision makers’ attention to arts and education issues.

Write thank you letters to decision makers. Even a short postcard will do. Remember, a letter that is heartfelt and concise holds attention more effectively than one that is lengthy and complex.

Keep communication short and positive, and express disappointment courteously.
My Contact List

Principal

District Arts Coordinator/Arts Curriculum Representative

Local School Board Member

City Council Member

Utah State Board of Education Representative

County Commissioner

Utah State Senator

Utah State Representative

“The arts are the best insurance policy a city can take on itself.”

—Woody Dumas, former Mayor of Baton Rouge

“Politicians don’t bring people together. Artists do.”

—Richard Daley, Former Mayor of Chicago
Photo Credits

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Provo High School – Utah ornaments for National Christmas Tree Ceremony – page 2
“Baggy” Beverly Taylor Sorenson school – page 3
Jack Trent’s Van Gogh, Third Grade, Canyon Rim Elementary – page 4
Juan Diego High School student, Utah Senate Visual Arts Scholarship Competition – page 5
Jackson Elementary violin program, Salt Lake School District – page 6
Dancer, Utah PTA building dedication – page 7
Miss Sorenson’s First Grade, Mountain View Elementary – page 8
Andy Jones from Africa Heratwood Project, Jeremy Ranch Elementary – page 9
Four Youngsters residency, Jeremy Ranch Elementary – page 10
Salt Lake City Foundation, Youth City Artways – page 10
Cameraman, Spy Hop Productions – page 11
Pirates, Three Peaks Elementary, Beverly Taylor Sorenson Arts Learning Program – page 12
Visual artist, Manila Elementary School – page 13
Zinse, Agginie, Heritage Elementary School – page 14
Teacher in Psansky egg workshop with artist, Ingrid Hersman – page 15
Mondays in the Park Kenshin Taiko Drummers, Japanese Church of Christ – page 16
Rio Gallery, Salt Lake City – page 17
Posada procession dance, Centro Civico – page 18
Artist-in-Residence with Chara Huckins and Repertory Dance Theatre, Hobble Creek Elementary – page 19
Murray High School, Ryan Moffet students, Arts Day on the Hill – page 20-21
Sadie Merkley, Utah Poetry Out Loud winner, Box Elder High School – page 22
Assemblage by teacher in Beverly Mangham workshop, Utah Arts Festival – page 23