

## Artists in Education: Making Connections



Donna Wissinger demonstrates teaching history through music.

In partnership with the Florida Department of State/Division of Cultural Affairs, FAAE collaborated with Mary Palmer & Associates, LLC to present this two-day Symposium for teaching artists and educators. Challenges and opportunities in successful Artists in Education programs were explored: what works and why when artists/arts organizations and schools work together and how to apply these successes to local situations. The program was designed to assist teaching artists, schools, and arts organizations in developing strong collaborative connections to meet the needs of students and teachers.

Keynote speaker, Dr. Larry Thompson, president of Ringling College of Art and Design, is destroying the myth of the starving artist. Referring to the work of Daniel Pink, Dr. Thompson showed how design has become an intrinsic part of consumer expectations as well as how the creative mind is required in traditionally non-creative fields in order to compete in the 21st Century Economy. Teaching Artist Donna Wissinger urged participants to embrace their passion as they design meaningful programs for education settings. A host of successful programs were shared by outstanding artists, arts organizations and educators.



Susan Burke, Dr. Larry Thompson, and Mary Palmer.

Over 100 people from throughout the state participated in this event, hosted by the Museum of Florida Art in Deland. A complete report of the program is available at [www.faae.org](http://www.faae.org).



Peggy Nolan, Brevard County, leads discussions at the symposium.

## Taking the Technology Plunge

This has been the year of technology for FAAE. Perhaps the most visible evidence is the "new" website. In February 2009, [www.faae.org](http://www.faae.org) took on a new and exciting look. Behind the striking new façade is more information and interactivity – opportunities to share your ideas. FAAE has taken the first steps into social networking with a Facebook page. Become a fan and stay informed. This is also your opportunity to be heard – write on our wall and connect with others who are committed to arts education. A new data base was implemented to help us better manage our communications with partners.



Webinars are the latest addition to the FAAE outreach offerings. The need for FAAE's services has only increased as more school districts face budget cuts, population declines and the pressures of high-stakes testing. These challenges, coupled with widespread travel restrictions and the cost of travel, led us to webinars in order to maintain interactive communication across the state. The service was inaugurated in April with plans for extensive use in the coming year.

## Become a Friend

You can help ensure that every child in Florida has access to art education. As we educate children to live and work and thrive in this rapidly changing world, the arts as a part of a complete education are more important than ever.

### The arts...

- \* Teach 21st Century Workplace Skills such as problem solving, judgment, & persistence
- \* Prepare students for careers in the dynamic creative sector of Florida's economy
- \* Develop creativity and adaptability – essential for thriving in our changing world
- \* Give students a connection to our culture and heritage

Become a Friend on our website or send your contribution to:  
FAAE, P.O. Box 782050, Orlando, FL 32878-2050

## PRIMARY PARTNERS

The Florida Alliance for Arts Education (FAAE) celebrates 20 years of partnership with the Florida Department of Education (DOE) and the Florida Department of State/Division of Cultural Affairs (DCA). In 1989, ACE - Arts for a Complete Education was formed through a cooperative effort of the DOE and DCA. ACE continues as a program of the Department of Education which funds core activities and programs of FAAE. The Division of Cultural Affairs recognizes FAAE as a strategic partner in the Culture Builds Florida Strategic Plan and supports FAAE programs related to the strategic cultural plan of Florida.

### Florida Department of Education

The Florida Department of Education (DOE) provides annual funding through the ACE (Arts for a Complete Education) Grant. Music and Fine Arts Curriculum Specialist, Dr. Linda Lovins, sits ex officio on the FAAE Board of Directors.

### Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs

The Division of Cultural Affairs (DCA) provides funds through grants primarily focused on supporting Culture Builds Florida the strategic plan of the Florida Department of State. Laura Stone, DCA Program Manager for Arts in Education, sits ex officio on the FAAE Board of Directors.

### Kennedy Center Alliance for Arts Education Network

The Kennedy Center Alliance for Arts Education Network (KCAEEN) is a coalition with state arts education alliances. This partnership brings access to research tools, grant opportunities, connections with peers across the nation, and opportunities for national recognition of outstanding schools, school boards, and students.

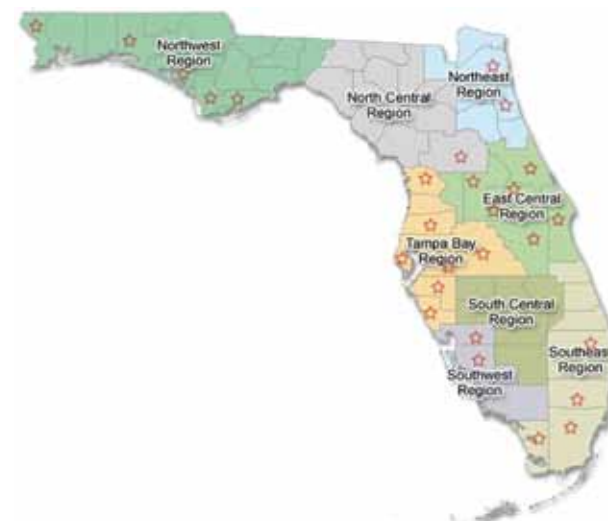
## STATEWIDE PARTNERS

Florida Art Education Association  
Florida Art Museum Directors Association  
Florida Arts Council  
Florida Association of School Administrators  
Florida Association for Theatre Education  
Florida Association of District School Superintendents  
Florida Association of Local Arts Agencies  
Florida Association of Museums  
Florida Cultural Alliance  
Florida Dance Educators Association  
Florida Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance

Florida Higher Education Arts Network  
Florida Learning Alliance  
Florida Music Educators Association  
Florida Parent Teacher Association  
Florida School Board Association  
Florida School Music Association  
Florida State Music Teachers Association  
Florida Theatrical Association  
Foundation for Excellence in Education  
National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, Florida Chapter  
VSA arts of Florida

## Network Partners

FAAE Network Partners represent a diverse ensemble of arts supporters committed to working for access to quality arts education for all students in Florida. Network Partnerships are county-based and take many forms. They are commonly comprised of local businesses, educational institutions, arts organizations, politicians, parents and community leaders; all of whom have a vested interest in enjoying a healthy, vibrant arts community. Arts education is the foundation of any vibrant arts community and is the focus of these partnerships. FAAE provides tools and strategies to assist Network Partners in advocacy, building partnerships between schools and communities, and ensuring access to arts education for all.



## 2008-2009 ANNUAL REPORT



## President's Letter



The first decade of the 21st Century will certainly be recorded as a time of change. The world is adjusting to a global economy, global warming, and amazing advances in technology, which have come together to change the playing field for everyone and everything. Today's students will need to be creative, innovative, and flexible to thrive as workers and citizens in this world.

Luckily we have the arts. Research shows, and we see evidence everyday, that learning in and through the arts gives our children the basic skills they need to excel academically and in life – the creative, innovative, problem-solving workers that the business world calls out for. More importantly, as the arts touch our emotions they engage students in learning and help them build meaningful connections with their community and the world. Ensuring that every child in Florida has the advantages of a complete education that includes the arts is more important now than ever. Highlights of 2008-2009 are included in this report. What you see here only touches on the excitement, dedication and creativity or our many partners and the difference their work has made in the lives of children. It has been my privilege to serve as president of Florida Alliance for Arts Education (FAAE). As I step down as board president, I hand the gavel to the very capable Jennifer Coolidge of the Museum of Florida Art. I am confident that FAAE will thrive under her leadership.

I urge you to visit [www.faae.org](http://www.faae.org) to find out more and become involved in the important work of FAAE.

There is much to do.

Sincerely,

*Sibille*

Sibille Pritchard, President 2007-2009



## Florida Alliance for Arts Education

**Susan Burke**  
Executive Director

**Rebekah Pearson**  
Program Coordinator

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## 2008-09 FAAE Board of Directors

**Sibille Pritchard**  
Brooksville Development

**Jennifer McInnes Coolidge**  
Museum of Florida Art

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West Port High School

**Cindy Balistreri**  
Sarasota County Public Schools

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Ex officio, Department of State,  
Division of Cultural Affairs

**Dr. Tom Pearson**  
Palm Beach County Public Schools

**Shigeko Honda**  
Florida/Japan Center  
University of West Florida

## FAAE 2009 Leadership Summit

### Programs...Partners...Policy: Arts Education for Florida's Future

The 2009 summit, held in Kissimmee, featured keynote speakers: Rick Walsh, president of the Knob Hill Group and former executive at Darden Enterprises, and Eric Oddleifson, author on arts education and education reform and an investment consultant in sustainable forestry from Boston, Massachusetts. Both challenged summit attendees to extend the good news about arts education outside the arts and education community. Walsh encouraged new methods of communication and networking. Social networking is both a communication tool and a test of relevance and an opportunity shape our message for a spectrum of audiences. Oddleifson offered his views on policy and school structure as necessary considerations in advancing arts education – arts education can be the catalyst for reforming schools to educate the whole child.

Attendees participated in panel discussions, talk back sessions and brain storming sessions as well as traditional question and answer sessions following speakers.

- \* Network Partners discussed the challenges of advocacy within the schools and building community awareness before addressing advocacy to policy-makers.
- \* Statewide Partners discussed the need to share information in a more systematic way – a status report that captures current issues would help them be more effective.
- \* *Arts Achieve! Model Schools* identified higher visibility as important to making them better ambassadors for arts education. They were interested in creating coalitions at the instructional level.

The condensed format was a break from tradition that accommodated financial constraints and travel restrictions. Seventy-one attended: *Arts Achieve! Model School* representatives (10), Network Partners (20), and FAAE Board of Directors and Statewide Partners (41). Attendees rated the summit 2.6 of 3.0 overall. Participants recognized the value of convening stakeholders from diverse geographic regions and across the spectrum from administrators, teachers, community members and policy-makers. They cited new ideas and perspectives, a chance to be heard, and being re-energized as positive outcomes. Time constraints were the down-side of the format, according to comments, as participants wanted more time to network and follow up on the ideas and issues raised.

## Putting Creativity to Work



### Middle School Career Exploration Program

Middle school students, their teachers and parents now have a resource on the FAAE web site. The Careers website was incorporated into [faae.org](http://faae.org) when the web site was redesigned. A growing Job Bank provides a handy reference for the expanding list of careers in the arts. 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. Go to [faae.org/careers](http://faae.org/careers) to find out more about the many opportunities for careers in the arts.



*Dorothy Johnson, a.k.a. "Mother Art." Past president and ongoing supporter of FAAE.*

## RECOGNITION PROGRAMS

*Arts Achieve! Model Schools* demonstrate well-rounded education for every child and outstanding arts education programs. For a three-year designation period, these schools agree to mentor other schools interested in improving or enhancing their arts education programs. See profiles of *Arts Achieve! Model Schools* on our website along with recognitions criteria and application forms. FAAE selects from among the *Arts Achieve! Model Schools* and other outstanding schools in Florida to put forward nominations for national recognition as Kennedy Center National Schools of Distinction in Arts Education.

### 2009 Arts Achieve! Model Schools

**Booker Middle School:** Joe Bazenas, principal, Sarasota  
**Ridge Community High School:** Sherry Wells, principal, Davenport  
**Robert Louis Stevenson Elementary:** Michael Corneau, principal, Merritt Island

**Silver Sands Middle School:** Les Potter, principal, Port Orange

**Taravella High School:** Shawn Cerra, principal, Coral Springs

**Booker High School:** Honorable Mention, Constance White-Davis, principal, Sarasota

“The arts are essential to quality of life for all Floridians. They are culturally and economically important, and are building blocks for our communities. Our cultural resources are valuable as Florida continues to grow and prosper. It is inspiring to see students participating in and learning through the arts.”  
— Secretary of State Kurt S. Browning



*2009 Leadership Awardees and Arts Achieve! Model School awardees*

### 2009 FAAE Leadership Recognition



*Bill Vogel, Ed.D. of Seminole County Public Schools, received the Superintendent's Leadership Award presented by FAAE President Sibille Pritchard, and Recognition Chair, Bob Radock.*

FAAE recognizes outstanding leadership in 10 categories to recognize the many contributions required to keep arts education available to Florida's children in our schools and communities.

**Business Leader:** Stephanie Ansin, The Playground Theatre

**Arts Education Professional:** Vladimir Issaev, Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida

**School Administrator:** Tom Pearson, School District of Palm Beach County

**Principal:** Michael Corneau, R. L. Stevenson Elementary

**Superintendent:** Bill Vogel, Seminole County Public Schools

**Community Volunteer:** Carlos Santelli, Orange County high school student

**Legislative Leader:** Senator Stephen R. Wise, District 5, Florida Senate

**Legislative Leader:** Representative Dorothy Hukill, District 28, Florida House

**Emerging Coalition:** Lee County, Janet Carter, co-chair

**School Board Award:** School District of Palm Beach County, Bill Graham, Board President

**ACE of Hearts:** Lawrie Platt Hall, Acting Executive Director emeritus, FAAE

### Polk County School Board Receives National Recognition

Polk County was the 21st annual recipient of the Kennedy Center's Alliance for Arts Education Network and National School Boards Association Award. This award is bestowed annually to a school district for its outstanding arts education programs. At the national conference in San Diego, Polk County school board members, superintendent and Executive Director of Fine Arts (and FAAE Board Member) Frank Howes, addressed the national convention. Polk County was the 2007 recipient of the FAAE School Board Award for Leadership in Arts Education.



*Polk County school board Chair Frank O'Reilly, Director of Fine Arts Frank Howes and Darrell M. Ayers, vice president for education at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.*

“Students entering school this year will retire in the 2070s, and will work and live in significantly different times. Arts education helps prepare students to be innovative, creative citizens who have the tenacity, confidence, and skills to listen and observe in new ways as a means of solving problems. Every Florida student deserves a complete education, which includes both direct instruction in the arts and arts integration as an instructional strategy throughout the curriculum.”  
— Dr. Eric Smith, Commissioner of Education