



ALL THE ARTS FOR ALL THE STUDENTS in LA County public schools

Arts Education Four-Part Intensive Dialogue and Discussion July 25-August 19

Beginning the week of July 25 and continuing through August 19, Barry Hessenius, former Director of the California Arts Council, and Julie Fry, Program Officer with the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, will moderate a *Four-Part Intensive Dialogue and Discussion on Arts Education on Barry's Blog*, a service of the Western States Arts Federation (<http://blog.westaf.org/>). The series will also promote September 11-17 as **National Arts in Education Week** as mandated by Congress in July 2010.

More than 30 arts education leaders will participate, including **Los Angeles County Arts Commission Executive Director Laura Zucker (Aug. 3 "Field Building")**, and the **Commission's Arts for All Director of Education Ayanna Hudson (Aug. 17 "Research")**.

The conversations among all of the participants will explore a wide range of the issues that must be addressed to move arts education forward. These topics by week are:

(7/25-29) PRACTICE

- From the 'direct arts instruction' vs. 'arts integration' as a strategy debate, to the role of artists, arts organizations and higher academia in the ecosystem for the provision of arts education.

(8/1-5) FIELD BUILDING

- From an analysis of what we are and are not doing (and might do) to help parents and the public understand the value of arts education, to addressing the various barriers beyond budget shortfalls – including lack of equity and access, high turnover in arts education leadership, the need for relevant assessment and accountability, and the status of innovation in our efforts.

(8/8-12) POLICY

- From the efforts to develop a comprehensive national policy on arts education to the problems of effective arts education advocacy and the great wall of budget cuts.

(8/15-19) RESEARCH

- From the recent *President's Committee on the Arts & Humanities Report on Arts Education* recommendations to where we stand on the development of credible research in support of the proposition that the arts do indeed teach the very skills supposedly wanted in the new global market place.

The goal of the series is to expand awareness and understanding of the depth and scope of current arts education issues and to spark more discussion about practical approaches and solutions to these challenges.

We encourage you to check-in on the conversation and contribute your own comments and thinking.