

Our Children, Our Families Council
Summary of Art Providers Alliance of SF
May 5, 2015

Goals of the Effort

The Arts Providers Alliance of San Francisco (APASF) is a group of professional artists and arts organizations based in San Francisco that strengthens the education and well-being of all children and youth through involvement with the arts. APASF believes that artistic experiences are essential to the lives of children and youth inside and beyond the classroom.

The APASF's goals are threefold:

- 1) Collaborate with partners. APASF will strengthen the education and well-being of all children and youth through involvement with the arts by working in collaboration with the SFUSD, community-based organizations, city agencies, and funders to connect resources for schools and communities.
- 2) Provide professional development opportunities. APASF will cultivate and build on relationships with teachers and teaching artists by offering professional development that includes resources for collaboration, information-sharing, education, and promotion.
- 3) Advocate for arts education. APASF will support and deepen the role of artists and arts organizations by advocating for sound arts education policies at local, state, and national levels.

The function of the APASF has changed over time as SFUSD Public Education Enrichment Funding has replaced some philanthropic efforts, as the school district has institutionalized an art coordinator position, and as the Arts Education Master Plan provided a road map for arts education in SFUSD. The Alliance would love to see standards based curriculum around arts education in SFUSD.

Focal Population of the Effort

The APASF targets all children and youth in San Francisco.

Impact

The APASF partners with other art organizations to hold an annual resource fair for art providers. They also provide professional development to arts providers and networking opportunities at their meetings every other month.

Challenges

The APASF recognizes the challenge of fitting arts into a school day that has been driven by testing standards.

Origins of the Effort

The APASF was started in 1994 to connect funders, arts providers, and the school district in order to ensure that arts education funds were being used efficiently. The APASF's purpose has shifted to providing professional development and networking opportunities to arts education providers.

Leading the Effort

The Alliance is funded by the SF Arts Commission. Liz Ozol is an employee of the Arts Commission and staffs the Alliance.

Members of the Effort

The APASF is made up of 33 member organizations for the 2014-15 year:

- A.C.T. (American Conservatory Theater)
- Alphabet Rockers
- Arts Ed Matters/Michelle Holdt
- Art Span

- Asian Art Museum
- Center for Art of Translation
- Contemporary Jewish Museum
- Create Peace Project
- Handful Players
- KQED
- LEAP Arts
- Lua Hadar
- Luna Dance Institute
- Marilyn Zoller Koral
- Marsh Youth Theater
- Music in Schools Today
- ODC School
- Pacific Singers and Actors Workshop
- Paul Drescher Ensemble
- PeopleOlogie/Linda Janklow
- Performing Arts Workshop
- Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra
- San Francisco Symphony
- SF Arts Education Project
- SF MOMA
- SF Opera Ed Programs
- SF Opera Guild
- SF Recreation & Parks
- ShadowWrite
- Todd Berman/The Art Don't Stop
- Young Audiences of No. CA
- Youth Art Exchange

Structure of the Effort

The alliance meets about every two months for general membership meetings. The executive committee of 12 meets on the off months. General meetings usually involve some learning opportunity and networking opportunity. Usually 18-20 people are in attendance at each meeting. The Alliance sends out a monthly newsletter.

Related Documents

- Arts Education Master Plan 2014-15 Calendar of Events
- Implementing High-Quality Arts Education in Public Elementary Schools and Child Development Centers: Lessons learned from a Four-Year Journey Within the San Francisco Unified School District