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## Forging a policy pathway for Arts Education

*Release of white paper highlights role of arts education strategies in Title I schools*

Washington DC – Today the California Alliance for Arts Education and Arts for LA, two of the leading advocacy organizations in the state, will release a new policy paper at the Arts Education Partnership's National Forum Spotlight: Educating the Next America. *A Policy Pathway: Embracing Arts Education to Achieve Title I Goals* documents the work done by the Alliance and Arts for LA for the past eighteen months to make it possible for schools and districts to embrace the arts among their strategies for achieving the goals of Title I and improving educational outcomes for low-income students.

“Our goal is to address the question posed by the challenge of federal Title I funding: how can we improve educational outcomes for low-income students who are often underserved in public schools,” said Joe Landon, Executive Director of the California Alliance. “Our interest is spurred by the substantial body of research demonstrating that certain forms of arts education can be an asset to schools and districts in achieving Title I educational goals in literacy and math.”

“Secretary of Education Arne Duncan has stated that “Arts education remains critical to leveling the playing field of opportunity,” said Danielle Brazell, Executive Director of Arts for LA. “But we have found a lack of clarity about whether and how the arts might play a role in Title I programs.”

In response, the Alliance and Arts for LA have been working to clarify a policy pathway – a shared understanding aligned across school, district, state and federal levels of leadership regarding what is allowable when it comes to expending Title I funds on arts education.

The paper will be presented during a panel discussion at the national conference, hosted by Arts Education Partnership. Besides Landon and Brazell, the panelists include Dr. Monique Chism, Director of Student Achievement and School Accountability at the Department of Education; Lynn Tuttle, Director of Arts Education, Arizona Department of Education; Dr. Lauren Stevenson, researcher with Junction Box Consulting and co-author of the white paper.

For more information, contact Sibyl O'Malley at the California Alliance for Arts Education.



A digital copy of the paper is available at: <http://www.artsed411.org/resources>