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Brought to you by the Nebraska Arts Council and Nebraskans
for the Arts

-UNO Great Plains Jazz Festival-

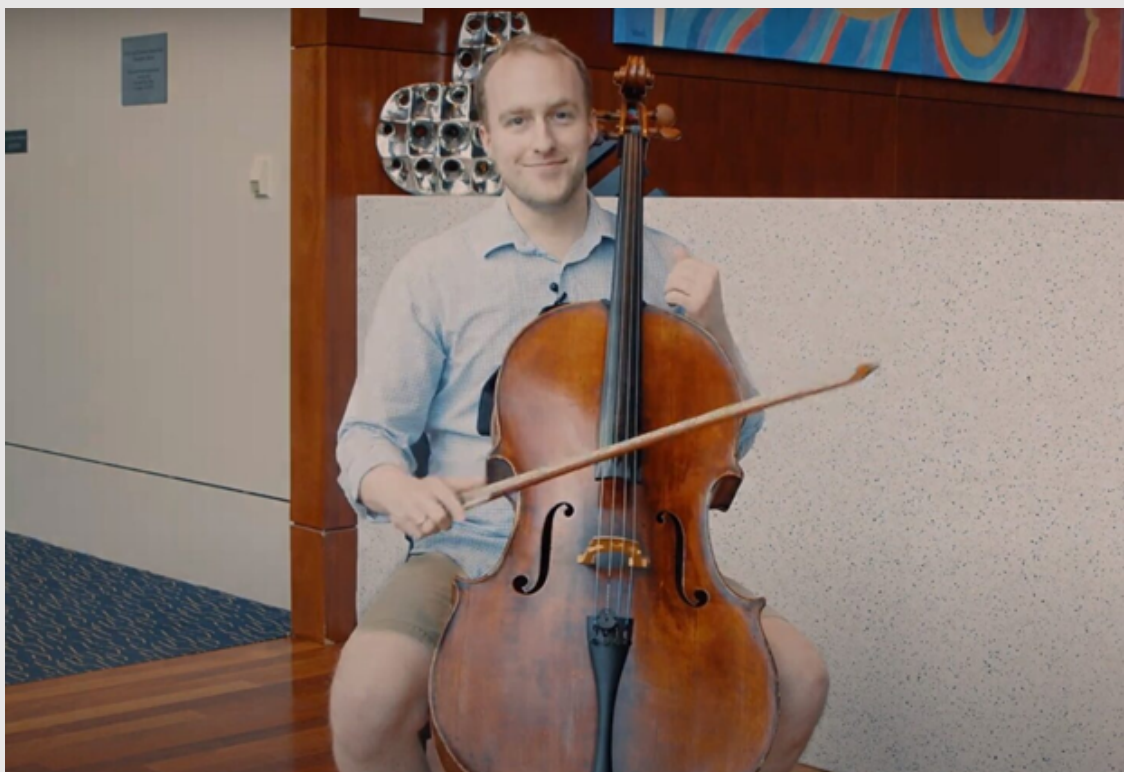


Founded in 1973, the University of Nebraska at Omaha's Great Plains Jazz Festival is one of the premier educational jazz festivals in the nation. Each year, music teachers and students from high schools

The festival included professional performances and clinics. The Metropolitan Area Youth Jazz Orchestra (MAYJO), the Great Plains Great Big Band, and the UNO Jazz Ensemble, and many guest artists including Bria Skonberg were featured.

[Click here to learn more](#)

-Omaha Symphony Virtual Classroom-



The Omaha Symphony is offering free online resources to enhance classroom experiences for Nebraska schools.

Enjoy the benefit of the Omaha Symphony in concert where-ever and whenever best suits your students with digital concerts! Each program is divided into episodes for maximum flexibility and comes with a myriad of lesson plans and wrap around materials to complement curricular goals.

for intermediate players, this resource is widely available for individualized instruction.

Teachers can request real time instruction beamed into your classroom via the platform of your choice! If your school is located outside of the Omaha metro, connect with a member of the Education team to schedule a virtual visit with a musician from the Omaha Symphony!

[Click here to learn more](#)

-Fine Arts Exchange-



Check out the curated list of arts organizations, both non-profits and state agencies, from the Fine Arts Exchange. Information for 26 different organizations across Nebraska that have programs and opportunities that extend, enrich, and enhance arts learning is available on the [NDE Fine Arts Education Website](#).

resource for arts educators and will continue to be updated.

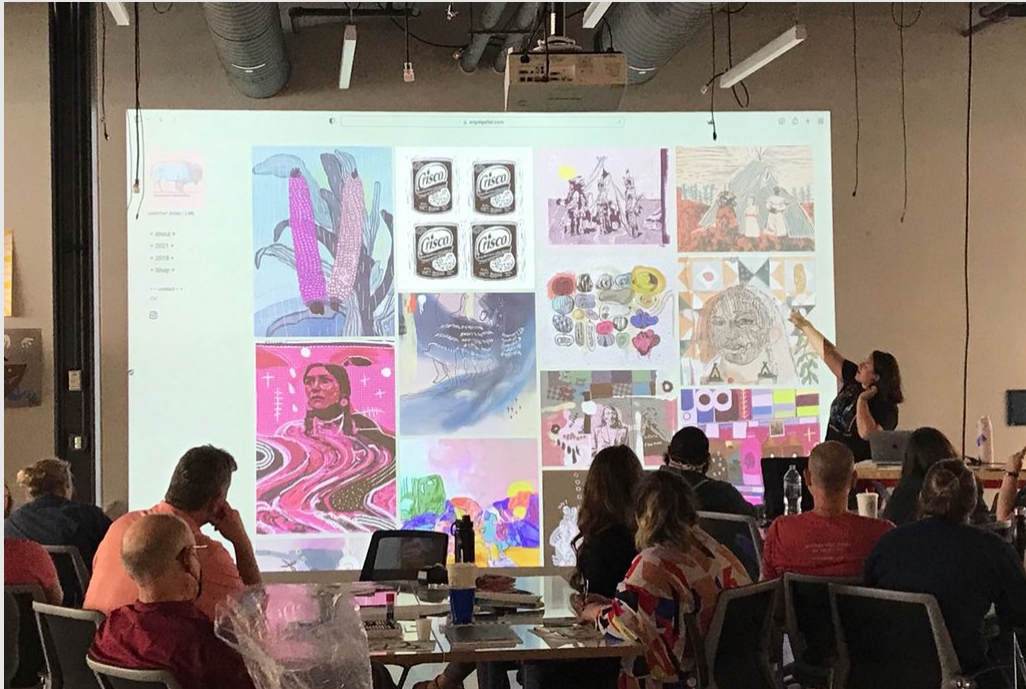
-Nebraska Department of Education Fine Arts-



Want to stay up on what's happening in fine arts education with the [Nebraska Department of Education](#)? Check out the spring education of the [NDE Fine Arts Education EXPRESSIONS](#) for resources for arts educators, news from the arts education teacher organizations, ideas for arts instruction, webinar with the Smithsonian American Art Museum, and more.

You can sign up to be on the [NDE Fine Arts Education Mailing List](#), too. You'll receive the EXPRESSIONS, announcements, and invitations to special events.

“Art TEAMS”-



The Teaching with Arts and Emerging Media (Art TEAMS) project is in its second year of researching ways to develop self-driven creative learners who connect disciplines using arts and emerging media as a language to engage and organize knowledge and life experiences.

The project is led by a research team including Guy Trainin, Ph.D, Kimberly D’Adamo Green, Lorinda Rice, and Hyeon Jin Yoon, Ph.D. Art TEAMS is currently developing, implementing, and evaluating a professional development program for cohorts of K-12 art educators, generalist teachers, teaching artists, and museum educators.

Now in its first cohort, Art TEAMS expects to open the project to a new cohort of educators in summer 2024.

[Click here to learn more](#)

Poetry Out Loud State Champion-



Congratulations to the 22-23 Nebraska Poetry Out Loud State Finals champ: Amelia Escalante from Bellevue West High School in Bellevue.

Congratulations also to the first runner up, Madeleine Smith from Marian High school (Omaha), and the second runner up, Bryant Peck from Wisner-Pilger High School (Wisner).

Amelia will go on to represent Nebraska in the POL National Competition in Washington D.C. in May, where she will compete with students from all 50 states for over \$20,000 in prizes and scholarships.

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The national semi-finals contest will take place May 9th and Amelia will be taking stage along with other state champs beginning at 12:00pm CT.

Nine national finalists will compete on May 10th at 6:00pm CT.

The events will be live steamed as a one-time only webcast.

[Click here to learn more](#)

-Family Fun Fest-

Crane River Theater, in partnership with the Kearney Cultural Partners, hosted the Family Fun Fest in August 2022. Stay tuned for the next event in 2023!

It's a day of free family fun, filled with music, art, theater, dance, culture, and more! Kids can step into a giant bubble, run the obstacle course, meet Disney Princesses, take part in a Shinja, Zumba or Yoga workshop, step inside a fire truck, create balloon animals, jump in the bounce houses, and visit all of our interactive stations.

Families can also meet stilt walkers, see amazing fire jugglers, and enjoy special live performances featuring Edgerton Explorit Center, Polka Dot Entertainment, and The String Beans!



EXPLORING ARTS & CULTURE IN KEARNEY

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-36th Annual Juried Undergraduate Art Exhibition-



The 36th Annual Juried Undergraduate ArtExhibition opened on February 3rd of this year. 68 undergraduate artists were represented in the exhibit. Mediums ranged from digital to traditional, installation and oil paintings are interspersed with landscape photography and ceramic sculptures, drawings and designed newspaper spreads.

The guest juror this year was University of Nebraska-Lincoln alumnus Trent Claus (Bachelor of Fine Arts 2006), a special effects supervisor and senior compositor for Lola VFX. Claus' work on feature films has contributed to 19 Academy Award nominations for Best Visual Effects and 10 nominations for Best Picture.

[Click here to learn more](#)



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