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Brought to you by Nebraska Arts Council in partnership with  
Nebraskans for the Arts



**-NebraskArts Awards-**

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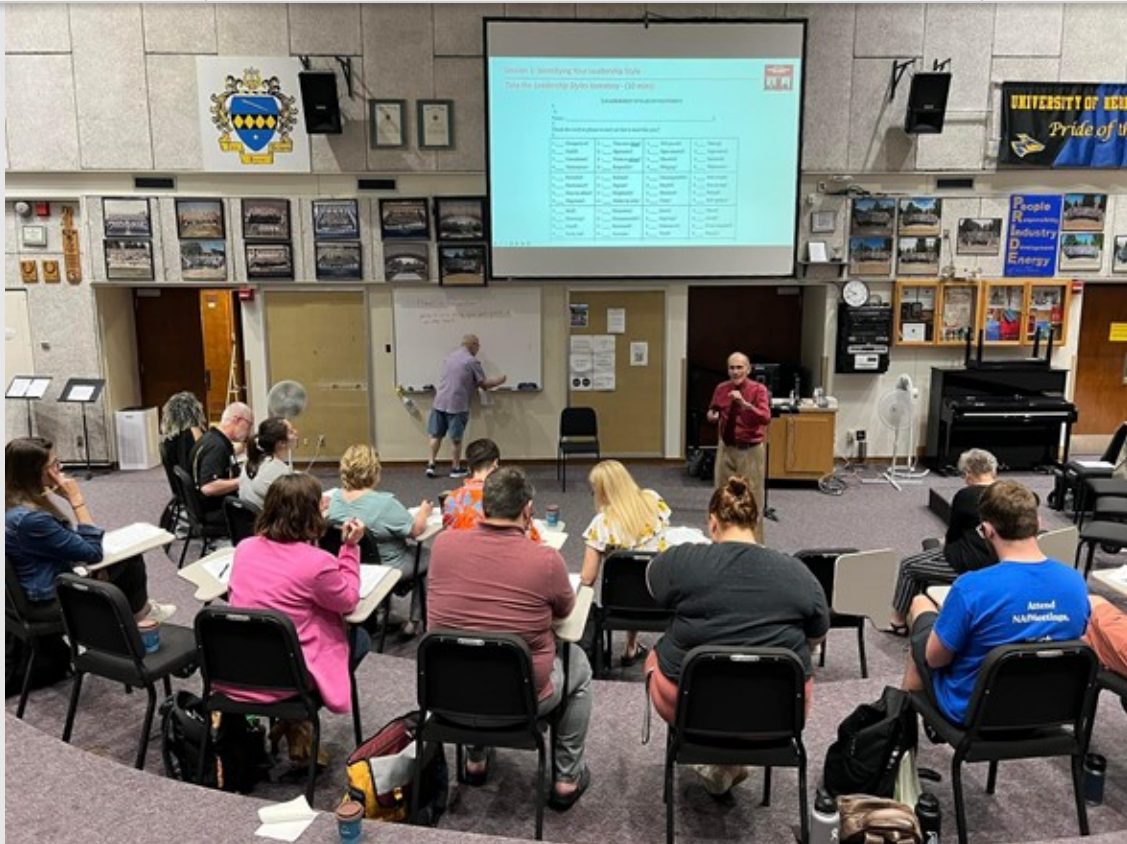
Each year, Nebraskans for the Arts honors two Nebraska schools or school districts that have supported and encouraged achievement in the media arts, visual arts, dance, music, or theatre.

The 2023-24 award application period is now open through October 13th. Visit the website below for information and to download the application.

[Click here to learn more](#)

**-Nebraska Music Education Association  
Professional Learning-**

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The [NMEA Conference/In-service Clinic](#) (November 16-18, 2023) provides members with professional development opportunities that include sessions, performances by student ensembles from around the state, as well as discussions and networking with other music educators from all over Nebraska and the United States. Sessions are designed to help expand teaching techniques and offer new ideas and knowledge to better understand Nebraska arts curriculum standards and offer innovative ways to incorporate these into a vibrant music classroom environment.

[Click here to learn more](#)

**-Creativity in the classroom study-**

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Of 1,000 K-12 educators and school leaders surveyed, the top benefit from creative activities was “greater student engagement,” as reported by 81 percent of respondents. “Creative and self-expression activities have increased the overall engagement of my students significantly, as they are excited to share their talents, interests, and methods that they, themselves, have found instrumental to their learning,” To learn more about how the creative arts can impact teacher and student mental health, read the whole article listed below.

[Click here to learn more](#)

**-Poetry Out Loud registration-**

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## Sign up now!

All Nebraska high schools are invited.

Registration deadline – October 15

- POL is free of charge
- Addresses many educational learning standards in English Language Arts and Theatre
- Students compete for great prizes and scholarships
- Personalized assistance for teachers
- Free virtual coaching sessions are available for students

[Click here to learn more](#)

**-ARTS ACROSS NEBRASKA - Lied  
Center for Performing Arts-**

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Arts Across Nebraska connects Lied Center artists to Nebraska communities throughout the state. We provide up to three tours every year at an affordable rate to presenting partners. The Lied is responsible for contracting with the artists, routing, and providing technical assistance. Each tour stop includes public performances, student matinees, and educational outreach.

[Click here to learn more](#)

## Arts NOW Grants

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## Made possible by the Nebraska Department of Education in partnership with the Nebraska Arts Council

Arts NOW is a competitive grant program supporting arts education projects that help students in grades K-12 achieve artistic excellence while implementing Nebraska Fine Arts Learning Standards. Arts NOW grant projects may occur in a single building or multiple buildings and may include one or more arts subject areas. Grants allow for the acquisition of items that to help implement the project such as arts supplies, sheet music, stage lights, instruments, pottery wheels, and more. Public school districts may apply in one of three funding tiers based on the number of students impacted. Each Nebraska public school district is invited to submit one application by Friday, October 13.

[Click here to learn more](#)

## -Willa Cather 150-

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Acclaimed Nebraska novelist Willa Cather, who would have marked her 150th birthday in 2023, will be celebrated throughout the year with a series of events. Cather is celebrated for her discovery and use of a “distinctive American language” that included authentic immigrant experiences. Novels such as “O Pioneers!” and “My Antonia” (published in 1913 and 1918) marked the “wellspring” of Cather’s youth in Nebraska. Please check out the website for educational resources and educational field trip opportunities to be shared with your teachers.

[Click here to learn more](#)

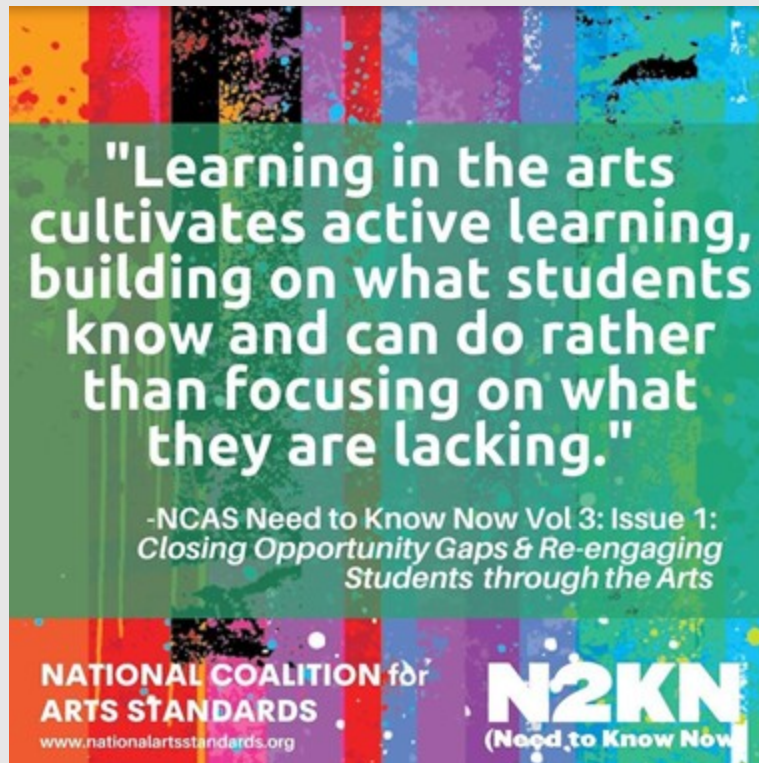
## -Closing Opportunity Gaps & Re-engaging Students through the Arts-

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know and can do rather than focusing on what they are lacking."

Want to know more? Check out the National Coalition for Arts Standards' Need to Know Now Vol 3: Issue 1: Closing Opportunity Gaps & Re-engaging Students through the Arts.



[Click here to learn more](#)

**-NATA Celebrates 100 years with Professional  
Development Conference-**

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The Nebraska Art Teachers Association (NATA) provides the most current and relevant professional development opportunities in the state for visual art educators in K-12 settings. NATA will host its 2023 fall conference in Lincoln on October 13-14 at venues on the UNL campus. Included are several dozen member presentations along with two keynote speakers, regionally-known for their work in education and the arts. NATA also celebrates its 100 years of excellence in visual art education this year and will be a highlight of this year's conference.

[Click here to learn more](#)

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