

## Fast Facts

### Title I Funds for Arts Education

by Melissa Junge, Esq. and Sheara Krvaric, Esq.  
of [www.fededgroup.com](http://www.fededgroup.com)

**TITLE I, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S** largest K–12 education program for disadvantaged students, can be used to support arts programming in schools receiving Title I funding. Annually, Title I provides more than \$14 billion to help struggling students in high poverty schools succeed academically. Many states, school districts, and schools believe Title I can only support certain academic subjects, such as reading and math. In fact, Title I funds can support the arts if certain conditions are met.

"Getting to yes" on using Title I funds for arts programming can be hard. Despite years of communications from the U.S. Department of Education indicating Title I can support the arts in many circumstances, it can be difficult to convince administrators such uses of Title I funds are permissible.

Here are some strategies and resources that may help:

- **Don't lead with "Fund my arts program with Title I!"** Instead, explain how your arts program will support improved educational outcomes for students.
- **Use research to back up your argument.** The Arts Education Partnership maintains a research clearinghouse of studies showing that arts programming can support improved academic achievement, student engagement, and teacher engagement. Find the research that supports your argument best at [www.artsedsearch.org](http://www.artsedsearch.org).
- **Point to how other states are using arts programming to meet Title I goals.** The California Alliance for Arts Education has a helpful tool kit showing how the California Department of Education "got to yes" on using Title I funds for the arts: [www.artsed411.org/files/Embracing\\_Arts\\_Ed\\_to\\_Achieve\\_Title1\\_Goals.pdf](http://www.artsed411.org/files/Embracing_Arts_Ed_to_Achieve_Title1_Goals.pdf)
- **Use available federal guidance for support.** The NAMM Foundation has posted three federal communications regarding Title I and the arts. [www.nammfoundation.org/support-music/update-use-title-1-arts-funding](http://www.nammfoundation.org/support-music/update-use-title-1-arts-funding)

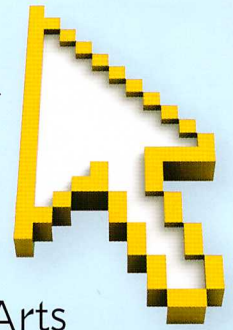
While changing mindsets about how Title I can be used is challenging, increasing disadvantaged students' access to high-quality arts programming is a worthy fight.



From left to right: Sheara Krvaric and Melissa Junge.

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