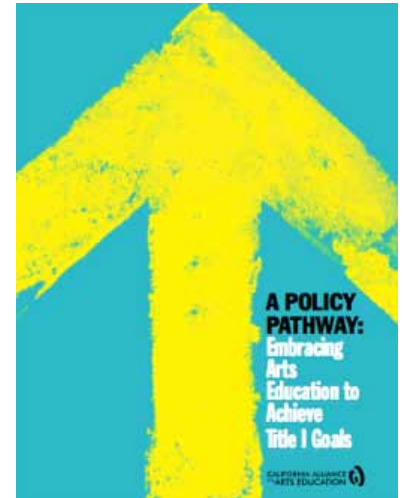


# Title I Funds & Art Education

BY LEE HANSON, PH.D.

Until recently, there has been a lack of clarity whether or not the arts are permissible within Federally funded Title I programs. To overcome this obstacle, The California Alliance for Arts Education (CAAE) has pursued a “policy pathway” to establish shared understanding throughout leadership regarding what is allowable when it comes to expending Title I funds on arts education. These efforts are documented in the Alliance’s policy paper: Embracing Arts Education to Achieve Title 1 Goals – now used as the foundation for a helpful online guide.



## ONLINE GUIDE AND TITLE I

The California Alliance for Arts Education (CAAE) has launched an online resource that puts Arts Integration within reach of Title 1 schools: <http://www.title1arts.org>

The website takes school leaders through a step-by-step process designed to help them plan and evaluate arts strategies while achieving the goals of the Title1 program. Detailed information and support is included along with informative video clips and guidelines (state and Federal) for designing a Title I plan that includes the arts.

The website offers a seven-step procedure aligned with state and federal title 1 regulations. From analyzing student data to selecting the appropriate strategy, the online resource offers best practices and real life examples for school leaders so that they can align arts programming with Title I goals.

Read the paper: [http://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)

# Title 1 Funds for Art Education

BY MARTY STEGEMAN AND RUSS SPERLING, San Diego Unified School District

Yes, it is true! Title 1 funds can be used for arts education as “part of an instructional strategy that is designed to improve the academic achievement of at-risk students so they can meet the State’s academic standards”.<sup>1</sup> Several districts and school sites throughout California have opened up their Title 1 budgets to create new arts education initiatives to do just that.

Museums, community arts associations and individual artists or teaching artists are working alongside teachers (classroom and arts specialists) to integrate arts learning while building academic achievement in the areas measured by standardized tests. One such initiative, *Learning Through the Arts* (San Diego Unified) employs a vast variety of teaching artists from all the arts disciplines to plan

and execute units of study that require co-teaching with the classroom teacher. Wages, professional development, instructional materials and supplies all covered by Title 1 funds.

Field trips, arts related activities and performances are other ways to enrich student learning, build attendance percentages and provide social behavior opportunities. Exhibitions of student work and student performances create strong parent engagement.

As you ponder how to use Title 1 funds for arts education in your school or district, keep in mind the Title 1 goals: Student achievement in literacy and math, attendance and behavior, teacher effectiveness and parent engagement. Focus in on the needs within your own circumstance and be diligent about how you will

measure the success of your initiative. Keep these words of former Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, in mind: “The arts can help students become tenacious, team-oriented problem solvers who are confident and able to think creatively.” As a result, “Arts education remains critical to leveling the playing field of opportunity.”<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Monica Chism, Ph.D., Director of Student Achievement and School Accountability Programs with the U.S. Department of Education addressed Title 1 State Coordinators in June of 2013.

<sup>2</sup> Duncan, A. (2012). Address to the national Arts Education Partnership forum, Washington, DC.