



## ***Massachusetts Champions of Arts Education Annual Advocacy Awards***

**NOMINATE A CHAMPION TODAY!**

***All Nominations must be submitted digitally by April 28<sup>th</sup>***

Distinguished Arts Educator Advocate (art, dance, drama, media, music)  
Schools of Distinction in Arts Education  
Tosolini Excellence in School Administration Arts Advocate  
Massachusetts School Committee Arts Advocate  
Outstanding Parent Arts Education Advocate  
Outstanding Community Arts Education Collaborative  
Corporate/Business Support of Arts Education  
Outstanding Student Arts Advocate  
Good Neighbor Award

***The Arts|Learning Champions of Arts Education Awards*** honor individuals and organizations that have made exceptional contributions to arts education advocacy and the goal of high quality arts education for every student in Massachusetts.

From 1984 through to the present, the *Champions of Arts Education Awards* have recognized over 265 teachers and arts advocates in our schools and communities for their accomplishments educating students and for supporting arts education. Arts|Learning continues this tradition of recognizing excellence in arts education programs and advocacy. Nominations may be submitted by any Massachusetts resident or current A|L members. Self-nominations are encouraged.

**All Awards will be presented at the Arts|Learning Awards Celebration in June.  
*Award Recipients must commit to attending the Awards Celebration***

Please share this information with  
Arts Teachers, Principals, School  
Committees, Arts Advocates, Local  
Cultural Institutions/Community Arts  
Programs and Parent/Teacher  
Organizations.



Nomination information available  
online:  
<http://www.artslearning.org/advocacy-awards/>



## **Award Categories**

**Nominations may be made by any individual.  
Self-nominations are encouraged.**

### **Distinguished Arts Educator Advocate**

*(One award may be made annually in each of the disciplines: Dance, Media, Music, Theater, and Visual Arts.)*

To honor arts educators for: (1) demonstrated leadership in advocating for the nominee's discipline and arts education (2) superior teaching in the nominee's discipline; and (3) creation of model arts programs and partnerships.

**Schools of Distinction in Arts Education** *(Please note that due to budgetary restraints, the Kennedy Center's "National Schools of Distinction Award" has been suspended, but Arts|Learning still gives the state award)*

To recognize individual schools that have done an outstanding job of making the arts an essential part of education by including two or more of the following components: (1) teaching all the arts (dance, music theatre, visual arts) as specific disciplines; (2) providing imaginative learning environments; (3) including parental involvement; (4) promoting learning about other cultures; and (5) encouraging community connections.

### **Kathy Tosolini Excellence in School Administration Arts Education Advocate**

To honor a school administrator for: (1) exemplary support for, and commitment to high-quality arts education programs; and (2) exemplary leadership in promoting arts education and building community support. The recipient will be an active advocate for the arts and show outstanding leadership and rapport with students, teachers, parents, and the community.

### **Massachusetts School Committee Arts in Education (Deadline December 1)**

For a school committee that: (1) demonstrates long-term support for, and commitment to high quality arts education in its school district, community, state, or special jurisdiction; (2) shows evidence of incorporation of all arts into its local educational reform efforts, including the National Arts Standards, the Massachusetts Arts Curriculum Framework, and the adoption of local arts standards; (3) demonstrates leadership in promoting arts education and building community support; and (4) creates opportunities for multicultural learning. This award recipient will become the state nominee for the Kennedy Center Alliance for the Arts Education Network and National School Boards Association Annual School Board Award. Nominations forms have already been sent to all Massachusetts School Committees.

### **Outstanding Parent Arts Education Advocate**

To honor a parent or parent organization for demonstrating (1) outstanding support for the arts; and (2) exemplary leadership in promoting arts education in schools and building community support.

### **Outstanding Community Arts Education Collaborative** (Multiple Disciplines, or Dance, Media, Music, Theater, Visual Arts)

For arts educators who have developed a model arts education collaborative between school and community cultural resources. Recipients demonstrate excellence in: (1) leadership in promoting arts education and building community support beyond the classroom; (2) collaborative programming between cultural institutions and schools; (3) exemplary teaching and programming in the arts; and (4) addressing the cultural and arts education needs of the community.

### **Corporate/Business Support of Arts Education**

To honor a business or corporation in Massachusetts that has demonstrated: (1) extensive financial, technical, and promotional support of the arts; and, (2) exemplary support for the presentation of cultural and artistic events and initiatives in the schools and the community.

### **Outstanding Student Advocate**

Awarded to a student who has demonstrated exceptional leadership in making the case that the arts are important for Massachusetts youth. The recipient should be seen as a model within the school/organization and exemplify its mission. *Requires nomination by a teacher or school official.*

### **Good Neighbor Award**

Awarded to organizations or individuals who have gone out of their way to offer logistical, technical, moral, or financial support for arts education to thrive in their community.



**Nominations may be made by any individual.  
Self-nominations encouraged.**

## **Required Nomination Materials**

The following awards: **Distinguished Arts Educator, Excellence in School Administration, Outstanding Parent Advocate, Outstanding Arts Collaborative, Corporate/ Business Support of Arts Education, Student Advocate, Good Neighbor** require:

1. Nomination cover pages (please use the form provided by Arts|Learning).
2. Up to a two-page narrative addressing the narrative topics listed below (also in the form provided).
3. A biography of the nominee or institution, not to exceed 300 words (also in the form provided).
4. At least one letter of recommendation from any of the following:
  - School Superintendent
  - Arts Administrator or Supervisor
  - Persons knowledgeable about the nominee's teaching, program, or service to arts education

*Please do NOT send any additional materials other than what is listed above, or the nominee's application will be disqualified. The above four sections must be sent in **one** merged "Word" or "PDF" document.*

### **Narrative Topics for Each Award are as Follows:**

#### **Distinguished Arts Educator Advocate Award**

1. Describe the nominee's arts advocacy activities for the nominee's program and discipline, for arts education in the nominee's community, and for arts education in general.
2. Discuss evidence of the nominee's superior teaching in the nominee's discipline.
3. Describe the nominee's model program and its innovation and connections to the standards and frameworks; Describe arts education partnerships the nominee has developed with local or regional arts resources.
4. Please list degrees earned, including date, name, and location of institution and major field of study.

#### **Excellence in School Administration Arts Advocate Award**

1. Describe the nominee's active advocacy for the arts in the nominee's school(s) and community and the nominee's ability to communicate effectively about arts education.
2. Describe the nominee's current school arts program. Detail how the nominee's leadership has strengthened arts education in the nominee's school(s) in terms of budget, staffing, materials, facilities, curricula, professional development, and school culture.
3. Give examples of the nominee's leadership and rapport with various constituents in the nominee's school community (ex. students, parents, teachers, arts/cultural/community organizations).
4. Please list degrees earned, including date, name, and location of institution and major field of study.



### **Outstanding Parent Advocate**

1. Describe the current school arts program. Detail how the nominee has strengthened arts education in the nominee's school(s). Give evidence of the nominee's leadership (ex. financial, political, and/or organizational support to arts in the nominee's school(s)).
2. Describe the nominee's active advocacy for the arts in the nominee's school and community and the nominee's ability to communicate effectively about arts education.
3. Give examples of the nominee's leadership and rapport with various constituents in the nominee's school community (ex. students, teachers, parents, and arts/cultural/community organizations).

### **Outstanding Community Arts Education Collaborative Award**

1. Summarize the model collaborative program. Highlight arts content, describe the process and product of the nominee's collaboration, and discuss how the program demonstrates exemplary teaching and programming.
2. Describe the need(s) addressed in the development of the program and how the nominee's program has contributed to long-term solutions to the problems.
3. Describe how the program has given participants (students and/or adults) greater involvement in the arts and in the community.
4. Describe changes -- such as curriculum development, professional development, and budget allocation - - which have occurred as a result of this program.

### **Corporate/Business Support of Arts Education Award**

1. Describe the nominee's active advocacy for the arts and the nominee's ability to communicate effectively about the role of arts education in the nominee's community.
2. Give a history of the nominee's business and how the nominee became involved in support of arts education.
3. Describe the nominee's financial, technical, and/or promotional support of arts education locally or statewide.
4. Describe the nominee's sponsorship of cultural and artistic events, community cultural institutions, resources, and/or arts education (indicate the arts discipline, audience age level, size of program, etc.).

### **Outstanding Student Advocate Award**

1. Please describe how the student has advocated for the importance of the arts for youth to the program's administrators, teachers, other community leaders, and/or his or her peers, including any challenging circumstances the student may have met to accomplish goals.
2. Please describe the student's most outstanding leadership moment related to arts advocacy.
3. Please describe the student's involvement with the school/organizations [include program(s) and length of participation].
4. Attach a separate page listing complete parent/guardian contact information including name(s), address(es), email address(es), home & work phone(s), cell phone(s).

### **Good Neighbor Award**

1. Describe the nominee's active advocacy for the arts and the nominee's ability to communicate effectively about the role of arts education in the nominee's community.
2. Describe why you feel this nominee should be recognized as a "good neighbor" and how the nominee has supported and/or advocated for arts education in your community.

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For the **Schools of Distinction** or **School Committee Awards**: *Please contact* Arts|Learning at [info@artslearning.org](mailto:info@artslearning.org) or 508-335-1670 to obtain the specific nomination packet(s).

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**All nomination materials (cover form, narrative, bio, and letters) must be sent by April 28<sup>th</sup> via email in one merged "PDF" or "Word" document to: [info@artslearning.org](mailto:info@artslearning.org).**