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Charlie Day, Craig Ferguson, and Lisa Kudrow "pARTy!" at P.S. ARTS' 25th Anniversary Bash

P.S. ARTS celebrated its 25th anniversary with a starstudded fundraising event, the pARTy!, on May 20th at NeueHouse Hollywood. The event helps support the organization's efforts to provide arts education to underserved public schools and communities. A-list guests including Adam Scott, Joel McHale, Lisa Kudrow, Johnny Knoxville, Craig Ferguson, Kathryn Hahn, Mark Duplass, and more walked the purple carpet before going into the venue to enjoy an eclectic variety of hands-on arts activities.

READ FULL ARTICLE HERE via VARIETY

2015 Otis Report on the Creative Economy of CA

The statewide 2015 Otis Report on the Creative Economy was released earlier this month. Findings show that California had the largest number of creative industry workers in the nation in 2014 (722,600 direct workers) and that these creative occupations often require high levels of education or skills training.

READ FULL REPORT HERE

Inclusive Arts Day

Up until a few years ago, a chain link fence separated LAUSD's Grand View Blvd. Elementary School from the McBride Special Education Center. McBride was absorbed into Grand View, and since then, the arts have played a key role in bringing students together. Hosted by P.S. ARTS with the help of Delta Air Lines volunteers, Inclusive Arts Day featured a special appearance by Lakers Forward Julius Randle, who participated in hands-on arts activities with the 700+ students.

READ FULL ARTICLE HERE via KPCC

Turnaround Arts Adopts More Struggling Schools in CA

Students from Compton's Martin Luther King Elementary School performed along with kids from schools around the country as part of First Lady Michelle Obama's annual "Talent Show" celebrating the Turnaround Arts program -- a White House initiative that brings arts instruction to low-performing elementary and middle schools with the goal of improving every aspect of learning. The local branch, Turnaround Arts: California, recently announced that it's adopting six more schools, bringing the state count up to 16.

READ FULL ARTICLE HERE via KPCC

NATIONAL

New National Study: Options for Community Arts Training & Support

Intermedia Arts, in conjunction with Americans for the Arts, commissioned a national study of local arts agencies to assess community arts activity and training opportunities. The study was conducted by William Cleveland and the Center for the Study of Art and Community, and the study cohort was composed of leadership from 423 local arts agencies who had previously indicated their interest and/or involvement in community arts programming in the 2015 Americans for the Arts Local Arts Agency Census. The study's purpose was two-fold: to provide a greater understanding of the demand and availability of arts-based community development training; and to investigate how the benefits of Intermedia Arts' Creative Community Leadership Institute could be made accessible for a broader range of communities.

READ FULL ARTICLE HERE via AFTA

Michelle Obama Secures a Post-White House Future for Turnaround Arts

One of Michelle Obama's key arts programs will continue after she leaves the White House. Management of Turnaround Arts, started five years ago to bring high-quality music, theater, dance, and visual arts instruction to underperforming schools, will be housed at the Kennedy Center and carry its imprimatur.

READ FULL ARTICLE HERE via WASHINGTON POST

NEA Approved for Arts Funding Increase

The House Subcommittee on Interior Appropriations unanimously approved a bill that would increase spending on the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) by nearly \$2 million. This would bring the total funding level of the NEA to nearly \$150 million, the same as the President's budget request last April. The bill will next be considered by the full House Appropriations Committee and later by the entire House and Senate chambers. Amendments to add or cut funding could be proposed and enacted at this time.

READ FULL ARTICLE HERE via ARTS ACTION FUND

Upcoming Events

Arts Ed Provider Network
Hosted by Arts for All
June 10, 2016 | Pasadena, CA

LEARN MORE HERE

Arts & Special Education Conference Hosted by VSA

· August 1-2, 2016 | Pittsburgh, PA

LEARN MORE HERE

Confluence: Statewide Arts Convening Hosted by Californians for the Arts • September 26-27, 2016 | Sacramento, CA

LEARN MORE HERE

TRENDING

A Head of STEAM: The Case for Teaching Arts in the Digital Age

"Computers are still driving tomorrow's development. Yes, the world is wired together, which has created more economic opportunity and activity via the Internet. And, yes, powerful computers and sensors -- not to mention access to data and the ability to analyze it -- have empowered scientific breakthroughs. But, is pushing STEM (and STEM alone) still the right approach? The answer is yes and no. That is, what we are going to need is a modern reality that requires STEAM power -- adding arts to the mix -- in order to thrive in the new environment."

CLICK HERE TO READ THE FULL ARTICLE via FORFIGN POLICY

In Wealthier School Districts, Students are Farther Apart

"Some of the wealthiest, most-educated towns in the United States have the biggest academic-achievement gaps between white students and their peers of color. That is one of the depressing facts emerging from a wide-ranging new analysis of more than 200 million test scores of 40 million students from around the country between 2009 and 2013 by Stanford University researchers."

CLICK HERE TO READ THE FULL ARTICLE

2016 Herb Alpert Award in the Arts

The Herb Alpert Foundation and California Institute of the Arts recently honored five exceptional midcareer artists -- Dohee Lee, Simone Leigh, Ishmael Houston-Jones, Cauleen Smith, and Anne Washburn -- at the 22nd annual Herb Alpert Award in the Arts (HAAIA). The awards recognize the past performance and future promise of artists working in Dance, Film/Video, Music, Theater, and Visual Arts; an outstanding candidate in each genre receives an unrestricted prize of \$75,000. To celebrate its 22-year legacy, the Herb Alpert Foundation commissioned an extraordinary short film honoring the HAAIA.

CLICK HERE TO READ THE FULL PRESS RELEASE via Calarts