

CONTACT

NEWSLETTER OF THE ART
EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
OF INDIANA, INC.



WINTER 2025

Table of Contents

President's Message	3
President Elect Message	4
Editor Message	5
District Messages	8
Division Messages	10
Youth Art Month	19
AEAI Award Recipients	26
AEAI Award Nomination information	31
2025 AEA Executive Board	33

CONTACT is the newsletter of the Art Education Association of Indiana. It's published four times a year, spring, fall and winter (winter is digital only), and is sent to ALL MEMBERS OF AEAI. The convention issue is mailed to art educators in the state.

Articles, photos and art must be submitted by email. Photos must be received in a high-resolution jpg, A written release form must accompany any photos sent to editor. For correspondence, please include your name, address, phone number, email, along with your school or business address to:

Lori Kaylor
 2388 W. Division Rd.
 Huntington, IN 46750
lorizita1963@gmail.com

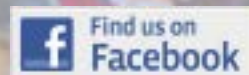
Submit ads in a high-resolution format pdf or jpg format. To request a contract form, please email Lori Kaylor, AEAI Editor, at lorizita1963@gmail.com

Deadlines for submission of articles, photos and advertisements are as follows:

- APRIL 4, 2025 - Spring issue
- AUGUST 1, 2025 - Fall issue
- OCTOBER 3, 2025 - Convention program
- DECEMBER 28, 2025 - Winter issue

AD PRICES FOR Commercial CONTACT MAGAZINE AND CONVENTION PROGRAM

ISSUE:		SPRING	FALL	Convention Program	WINTER	Save with all four (4) publications
DUE DATE:		APRIL 4	AUGUST 1	OCTOBER 3	DECEMBER 28	
1/4 PAGE	COLOR	\$85	\$100	\$85	\$85	\$275
1/2 PAGE	COLOR	\$150	\$200	\$150	\$150	\$500
FULL PAGE	COLOR	\$250	\$300	\$250	\$250	\$800



President Message / Allyson Avery



Happy New Year! It's been a snowy cold start to the second semester but I think my classes are finally getting a groove. If I'm new to you, hello! I am currently in my 4th year teaching high school art, photography, printmaking, and AP Art. I taught in the elementary setting for 17 years, and really thought I always would. You can't predict what opportunities will come your way, like becoming President of AEAI!

I hope we had a chance to catch up at our state convention in New Albany back in November. Many thanks to Monica for all her hard work. It's a daunting task and I had the best time at the convention! Thanks a million!

Youth Art Month is very close, and our chairperson Elyse Abbott has put forth a lot of time preparing to make this event enjoyable for all. One new feature is, "Make and Take" tables for students to be able to create while at the State House. If you have never participated I highly encourage you to do so. The architecture alone is worth the visit. I'm always in awe of the beautiful dome, and it is often our student's first time visiting the State House.

Please don't hesitate to reach out with questions or ideas that will help me better serve the art educators of Indiana. I'm excited to keep growing our organization with the help of our Past President Scott Miller and our new President-Elect Libba Willcox.

Allyson Avery, AEAI President
president@aeai.org



President Elect Message / Libba Willcox



Hello AEAI Members,

My name is Libba Willcox, and I am honored to introduce myself as President-Elect of AEAI. My career began in the high school classroom before I transitioned to higher education, teaching preservice teachers at the University of Georgia and Indiana University Bloomington, and later serving as the Art Education Program Coordinator at Valdosta State University. In 2020, I was excited to return to Indiana to work at IUPUI (now IU Indianapolis), where I can continue my work supporting art educators at all stages of their careers.

I have had the privilege of serving AEAI in several capacities. Since 2021, I have been AEAI's Higher Education Representative. In 2024, I played a key role in coordinating the Early Career Teaching Seminar, collaborating with colleagues to provide professional development for early career educators. In addition, I serve on the AEAI Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Committee and volunteer to help with Youth Art Month.

Professional service is essential to me because it strengthens networks within art education. Whether as a journal reviewer, seminar coordinator, or EDI committee member, my goal is to help teachers and students thrive. Collaboration is at the heart of my work as an art educator and leader, and my diverse experiences—ranging from teaching and community art education to serving as a museum director's assistant—have deepened my appreciation for the valuable work being done across the state to provide quality art education. I look forward to continuing this support in my role as President-Elect.

I have included images in this issue from the 2023 Western Region Leadership Conference and 2024 National Leadership Conference for fun. I am excited about the opportunity to serve AEAI, support the incredible work of our members, and advocate for the future of art education in Indiana.

Sincerely,
Libba Willcox, AEAI President Elect
presidentelect@aeai.org



Editor Message / Lori Kaylor



Here we are, another year. Do you have any routines at school that you do when you return from winter break? We go over our classroom expectations and procedures. It only takes a few minutes to reiterate these things and it really helps the students to reset and remember.

Another thing I love to do, yes, love - is to organize my cabinets and lessons. I try to hit a cabinet, maybe it's only a shelf at that time, but I just take a quick look to see what I need to get rid of (donate to fellow teachers) or order. If I can, I'll pull things out and wipe the shelf down. I continue to move along until I get all of them done. I'm a BIG believer in organizing and marking bins and even cabinet doors. This is so helpful for any guest teacher, especially if I'm home sick and have to write my plans out. I just let them know where to look. Trust me, I've have been written lovely notes that thank me for that thoughtful gesture.

As we prepare ourselves to finish out this quarter and look forward to spring, please consider participating in YAM and think about the possibility of presenting at the fall convention. I know, I know, it's a ways away, but it is always good begin to prepare. Maybe you have a great lesson, or hobby you'd like to present - don't be afraid to fill out the form, teachers LOVE to create!!

One more thing, I am pushing myself to schedule self-care. For me, that's just creating. I have so many art supplies and I just never do them! So I say this to you, take time for you too. There are so many stressors in our lives, and for many of us, even just a few minutes of doodling helps calm the nerves and fosters self-love. If you don't know what to do, there are many YouTube content creators that can help you if you are in a slump or you're stuck in a creative hole. Just make art!

Stay warm and keep those creative juices on fire!
Lori Kaylor, AEAI Contact Editor
lorizita1963@gmail.com

If you have any ideas for a workshop, contact your district representative.

They are always looking for new ideas, and would love to hear from you!

Selectively Marbled Monograms

Lesson Plan for Grades 3-12



Prep: Brush Surface Prep Medium on paper card. Float Water Marbling Acrylics on prepared water.



Float: Print card from water surface. Rinse. Color will cling to area prepared with Surface Prep Medium.



Paint: Once card is dry, use a Sumi brush to paint a monogram in the center of the card.

Water Marbling Acrylic Paints adhere to areas brushed with Surface Prep Medium while uncoated areas rinse away.

Students create cards with selective areas marbled, then paint a monogram in a calligraphy style using a sumi brush.

CHECK OUT NEW lesson plans and video workshops for students of all ages at DickBlick.com/lesson-plans.



Request a **FREE 2025 Catalog!**
DickBlick.com/customer-service/catalogs/

BLICK®

DickBlick.com 800-447-8192



Official Membership Form

Connect with visual arts education professionals from across the country and receive exclusive benefits that can stimulate your career, your classroom, and your creativity.

\$70+ in Subscriptions!

Connectivity!

Leadership Opportunities

National Convention Discounts!

Webinar Series! (\$588 Value)

1 Membership Type (check one)

- New
 Renewal
 NAEA I.D. Number _____

2 Membership Category

- Active Professional First Year Professional Associate
 Preservice* Retired Institutional (includes *Studies in Art Education*)

See membership category descriptions on the back of this form.

*College/University _____

*Expected Graduation Date mm / dd / yyyy

*Verification of student status is required for Preservice membership. Please submit a copy of a valid student ID with this form.

3 Membership Division (check only ONE in which you spend more than 50% of your time)

- Elementary Middle Level Secondary Museum
 Higher Education Supervision/Administration Preservice
 Other _____

4 School Type (check one)

- Public Private Charter Other _____

5 Contact Information

Name _____

School/Organization _____

The following is my Work Address Home Address

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____

County _____

The following is my Home Telephone School Telephone Mobile Telephone

**Telephone _____

*** Email _____

** By providing your cell phone number, you are "opting in" to receive periodic text messages from NAEA.

***By providing your e-mail address, you agree to receive information sent electronically regarding member benefits.

6 Payment Information

- Check Enclosed
 Checks, made payable to NAEA, may only be submitted with this form via physical mail.
 Want to pay by credit card? Visit us online at arteducators.org.

7 Membership Dues

See membership dues rates on the back of this form. \$ _____

8 Subscription and Support

- Subscription to *Studies in Art Education* for the member price of \$20 \$ _____
 Donation to the National Art Education Foundation \$ _____
 Donation to the NAEA Advocacy Fund \$ _____

9 Total Payment Amount

Including membership fee and any added contributions or subscription. \$

10 Complete and submit this form to:

Member Services Team, NAEA
 PO Box 98361, Washington, DC 20090

Contact NAEA

E-mail: Members@arteducators.org
 Join online at: www.arteducators.org
 Fax: 703-860-2960
 Call us toll-free at: 800-299-8321

Were you referred by an NAEA Member? Please let us know!

Member Name _____ NAEA ID Number _____

CODE: NAEA-24

District 1 Representative / Des'Tina Paige



Hello Everyone,

My name is Des'Tina Paige and I am your new AEAI district one rep. We had quite a few district members at last summer St. Mary's retreat. Hopefully we can keep that same level of participation in future meetings and gatherings.

We had an outstanding fall conference in New Albany. Special thanks to all those who made it happen. I was hoping more district one members could've gotten together, but those of us that came had fun for us all.

I will be sending out an email in mid-January after the holidays to all district one members that will include a survey on how I can better serve you and your needs as your new representative. We will have a Zoom meeting once a month to see what events can be planned in our area since it covers quite a bit of counties in northern Indiana.

I have been teaching for 25 years in Indiana and Louisiana, and I have learned so much throughout the years in our collaborative organization. I hope that I can share what I have learned over the years while we continue to teach learn and grow in the arts if you need to contact me, please email me at paigedestina1973@gmail.com, As my AEAI email won't be set up until I am officially voted in 2025.

Des'Tina Paige, District 1 Representative
paigedestina1973@gmail.com



District 3 Representative / Hannah Richardson



Greetings to everyone in District 3,

I hope you're enjoying the refreshing winter chill! This winter I have been reminded of the wonderful work that Indiana art teachers do. I learned that our region, including northern counties of Indiana, is ranked in the top 10 national regions receiving national gold keys through the Scholastic Art Awards! This statistic gives national recognition to the programmatic success of the teachers within Indiana. I'm honored to work among you in bringing the arts to our communities.

As you are looking for more arts opportunities in District 3 consider checking out the Anderson Art Museum. The museum has experienced notable growth this year taking on additional interns including an art therapist. Their programming works to support the arts community providing programming and student and professional exhibitions. The museum partners with the Anderson Community School systems to bring art into the classroom and support the teachers building creative expression into their curriculum. Be sure to check out the student art show exhibit during March 2nd-16th, 2025.

The next meet up for District 3 will be held at the Anderson Art Museum on February 27th, 2024 from 5:30-7:30. We will be meeting to discuss building artistic play into curriculum. Research will also be shared so that teachers have the language to advocate for the unfolding artistic learning. ***Please also mark your calendars for April 26, 2024. Ball State University will be hosting a clay themed spring meeting.*** Contact me to RSVP and for more information. Stay warm!

Hannah Richardson, District 3 Representative
Hannah_richardson@taylor.edu

Elementary Division Representative / Ashley Shea



Hello Elementary Art Teachers!

Fostering student engagement in an elementary art room is both a rewarding and essential part of nurturing our young artists. Engagement during the cold months can be a challenge at the elementary level! However, with the right strategies, we can create a vibrant, inclusive environment where students feel inspired to explore their creativity within our space! Here are some best practices that I have definitely had to “lean on” this quarter of the school year; and how I have incorporated them to enhance engagement in my art room:

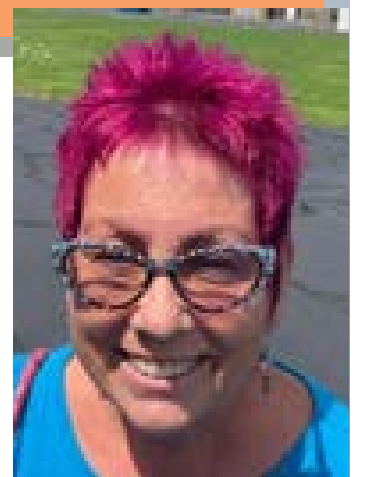
Incorporating Movement and Play: Young learners thrive when they can express themselves physically. Integrating activities like: artist stretches, collaborative art making, kinetic drawing exercises, or art scavenger hunts have helped my little artists get “get the wiggles out” before we begin production time. We recently went on an “imaginary nature walks” around the art room, in which students searched for images to inspire their artwork. Movement-based tasks not only maintain energy levels but also cater to different learning styles as well.

Celebrate the Process, Not Just the Product: Shifting the focus from perfection to exploration, praising the effort, allowing experimentation, and problem-solving over final outcomes. Giving my students time to explore with materials before introducing the big idea to a project or working on the final piece allows them time to build confidence in manipulating. Acknowledging their progress and providing constructive feedback, also allows me time to build strong relationships. My end goal is to foster trust and a willingness to engage fully in the creative process.

Ashley Shea, Elementary Representative
elementary@aeai.org



Middle School Representative / Brenda Betley



After the convention, I wrote about sending lesson plans to me to share with the middle school group. I am happy to announce that I have several lessons that I compiled into a folder in Google. I will add lessons as I receive them. They are primarily middle school art lessons, however, they can be modified for elementary and high school.

This link: [AEAI Middle School Lesson Plan Folder](#) will ask you to request access. There is a place to send me a message; please give me your email so I know who you are and I will give you access. I look forward to receiving more lesson plans to share with Indiana art teachers.

In the meantime, enjoy the cold, snowy weather. Clean out your email, purge your to-do list, and get rid of anything that doesn't give you pleasure. Then you can relax and renew in time for spring!

Brenda Betley, Middle School Representative
bsbetley@gmail.com

CELEBRATE YOUTH ART MONTH

Here's some ideas to help proclaim & promote the arts within your school.

- * Write about the benefits of art education and YAM, in the school newsletter.
- * Put up a bulletin board declaring March as Youth Art Month
- * Post an art quote every day or every week, on your door, during YAM.



Secondary Division Representative / Brenda Jalaie



CORE is Out the Door, Seals are Real

Secondary teachers in Indiana begin 2025 with a lot of uncertainty. Without the CORE 40 in place, we may see changes in our numbers, or our role as educators in our school. Depending on the dynamic of our school, we may have many students continue a quest for higher education, or we may see numbers shift to embrace the concept of joining the workforce directly after high school. Regardless, the impact the arts has on students serves all graduation seals well. I believe we need to focus on the dynamic experiences our classrooms have to offer. We need to continually advertise these concepts to our school counselors and our communities. The advocacy of what we really do needs to be our top priority. How do we state it quickly for the non-art teacher to understand?

Art classes support the Indiana Ready Seals (Employment, Enlistment, and Enrollment) by helping students develop essential skills that overlap across all pathways, including communication, teamwork, problem-solving, discipline, and time management. Through collaborative projects, peer critiques, and portfolio development, students learn how to present their work, manage tasks, and collaborate effectively—skills that are valued in the workplace, military, and higher education settings. By integrating digital tools like graphic design and 3D modeling, art teachers also equip students with technical skills that are in demand across various industries, helping them be ready for diverse career paths.

Additionally, art education fosters critical thinking, creativity, and adaptability, which are vital for success in all three pathways. Students develop these skills by solving problems in their artwork, engaging in group projects, and presenting their work. This prepares them for challenges in the workforce, military, or academic environments. Art classes also teach leadership, responsibility, and professionalism through exhibitions, independent projects, and interactions with peers and mentors. By focusing on these transferable skills, art programs can ensure students are well-prepared to meet the requirements for the Employment, Enlistment, and Enrollment Ready Seals, supporting their future success in various post-graduation pathways.

As we strive to figure out how to navigate these changes, I encourage us all to keep reviewing standards, keep talking to other art teachers, keep connecting with our community, and keep doing the good work we do for our students.

Brenda Jalaie, Secondary Division Representative



Higher Education Representative / Libba Wilcox



Hello Higher Educators,

I hope this message finds you well. As we begin a new semester, I want to celebrate the work we do as higher educators and invite you to consider an opportunity to serve and engage more deeply with our community.

First, I want to express my gratitude for your ongoing dedication to art education. Our division has grown and strengthened because of our collaboration and the commitment of its members. It's been inspiring to witness how our conversations and collective efforts continue to shape the future of our field.

With this in mind, I'm reaching out to encourage you to step into a leadership role within the Higher Education Division. We are currently seeking a volunteer to serve as our next Higher Education Division leader. This role provides a wonderful opportunity to collaborate with colleagues across the state, facilitate meaningful discussions, and contribute to the growth and development of our profession.

If you're interested or would like to learn more, please reach out to me at highered@aeai.org. Your leadership could make a meaningful impact on the work we do together.

Thank you for all that you do to support our students, colleagues, and the broader art education community. I look forward to connecting with you at our upcoming gatherings and continuing the important conversations that drive our work forward.

Sincerely,

Libba Willcox, Higher Education Representative
swillcox@indiana.edu

Advocacy / Clyde Gaw



Greetings Colleagues and Friends,

On January 11th, I attended the memorial service of art educator Dr. Marvin Bartel (1937–2024) of Goshen College. Marvin was a speaker at the 2016, 2010 & 2005 AEAI conferences and presented across the United States and abroad on the importance of creativity and art experience in schools as they promote higher-level thinking skills in the developing minds of children. I had the pleasure of calling Marvin my friend. He was a gentle, loving soul and quiet force of nature who epitomized the notion of leading by example. Marvin's professional, educational and creative accomplishments are too vast to list in this short

tribute, but his impact on art education will live on in countless classrooms of art teachers who knew of Marvin and his pedagogy of quiet learning, personal self expression and authentic experience. Marvin will be terribly missed but his impact lives on. You can access Marvin's website and virtual resources here: <https://bartelart.com/>



Last September I spoke to the Indiana State Board of Education about the initiatives they made to the Indiana high school graduation requirements. I reminded them that it is a contradiction to say "we are doing what's best for children" and then make policies that result in the degradation of programs that are positively impactful to children's educational and intellectual wellbeing.

I say to the membership of AEAI to remain resolute in your commitment to quality experiences for your

students. The best art advocates are our students. When children express the importance of their art classes to families, friends and fellow colleagues, word gets out. Art advocacy from the inside-out is a powerful communication tool and ensures the community understands the importance of school art programs.

I want to thank Elyse Scroggins for her efforts in promoting AEAI's mission of high quality arts education for children in Indiana's K12 schools by chairing our Youth Arts Month program. Elyse and all of the AEAI teachers who participate in this program are advocacy champions and I applaud your efforts!

Continue on next page.

Advocacy / Clyde Gaw

Continued from previous page.

The struggle to ensure high quality arts programs are available to all children in our state continues. Your advocacy efforts at the local, regional and state level are so important. I am in awe of my fellow colleagues when I see your student exhibitions, read your news articles or hear of your professional or community-based presentations. Your advocacy work is so vital to children's educational success.

Since 2005 I have been advocating for arts education as a way forward to real education reform. Art education programs are sources of critical learning experiences within the school day, and their impact on children's intellectual, social and emotional development cannot be understated. From making sense of complicated interdisciplinary content to elevating a child's sense of mental well-being, art education is a vital component of the K12 curricula and its absence or marginalization in a school's offerings reveals a failure of imagination on the part of policymakers and administrators. I will continue to communicate this message as long as I can.

As we move forward into the Spring of 2025, I want to announce that I am retiring from K12 art education at the end of the school year.

The friendships and professional development opportunities I have enjoyed through my membership in AEAI have been profound. I cannot thank all of you enough for improving the

quality of our state by positively impacting the educational experiences of children in the schools where we serve. If you are interested in AEAI's advocacy mission, I encourage you to contact me at rhizome14@gmail.com.

Wishing You the very best art and creative classroom experiences!

Clyde Gaw, AEAI Advocacy
advocacy@aeai.org



NEW PROGRAM!



PHOTOGRAPHY

CONCENTRATION A.S. DEGREE

Want to own your portrait or commercial photography business?

Get on the fast track of getting started in your own photography business in just two short years. Get hands-on experience with professional-level camera and lighting equipment to create a portfolio of work to help you reach your goals. Learn not only the technical aspects of photography, but also the conceptual and artistic aspects that will help you develop your personal photography style. In addition to photography courses, you will also learn about videography, graphic design and web design to help you promote your new business.

For more information, contact:

Ron Wise, Chair of Art and Design, Vincennes University
8-12-888-4465 | rwise@vinu.edu



1002 N. FIRST STREET • VINCENNES, IN 47591
812.888.4465 • ADMISSIONS: 800.742.9198

vinu.edu/graphicdesign

An accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Art and Design, (NASAD).

Learn:

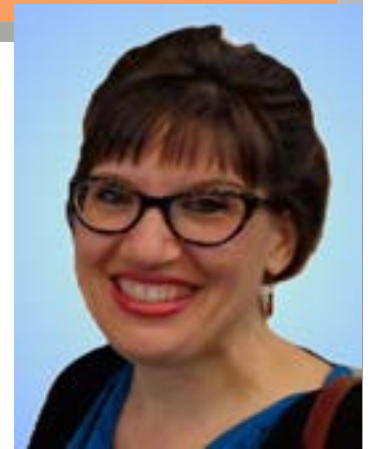
- Use and functions of a DSLR camera
- Use and functions of strobe and continuous lights in the lighting studio
- Use and functions of strobe lights in the field
- Video and audio capture with DSLR cameras, video editing, and visual storytelling
- Film photography and darkroom techniques
- Digital darkroom techniques with Photoshop and Lightroom

Job Opportunities:

- Commercial Photographer
- Industrial Photographer
- Portrait Photographer
- Wedding Photographer
- Ecommerce Photographer
- Sports Photographer
- Fashion Photographer
- Freelance Photographer
- Photo Lab Technician



ED&I Liason / Laura Schroeder



ED&I Committee new year updates: new status, new award, new opportunities to learn!

At the 2024 Convention, the membership voted to amend the AEAI constitution to make the ED&I Committee a standing committee, meaning that it is a permanent body within our organization. Thank you to everyone for your support and encouragement!

Co-chair Jasmine Begeske spoke at the celebration dinner, announcing a new award - if you are or you know a teacher who strives to create an inclusive classroom, who champions diversity through their curriculum and actions, and/or who promotes equity, access, and justice in their school or community, make a nomination for the AEAI ED&I Agent of Change award! The nomination form and details can be found here, and the award will be presented for the first time at the 2025 Convention.

Finally, the free ED&I webinar series is underway. In December, Emma Vosicky, Executive Director of GenderNexus, shared her insights and expertise in the first of four installments of “Dear Teacher: What LGBTQ+ students, families, and advocates wish educators knew.” PGP points are available, and you may attend as many webinars as you wish. Our next event is February 27, from 7:00-7:45 PM ET, and the presenter will be Kristen Matha, Indiana Legal Services LGBTQ+ Project Director. To receive the Zoom link, please [register here](#).



We look forward to seeing you soon! As always, if you have any questions, requests, or ideas for the ED&I Committee, please contact us at edi@aeai.org

Laura Schroeder, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion Liason member
edi@aeai.org

The Art Education Association of Indiana google group listserve is for art educators and others interested in art education to receive emails about art education.

If you would like to be a member email leahmorgan51@gmail.com

School emails often block items sent; personal emails are usually better, but both can be used.



2025 NAEA NATIONAL CONVENTION

 2025 | LOUISVILLE



be inspired! MARCH 20 – 22, 2025

Youth Art Month / Elyse Abbott

Hello all you amazing art educators! It is that time of year once again, to register for this year's YAM event in Indy! Registration info and important documents have been sent via email listserv, but if you did not get an email from yam@aeai.org, please check your spam folder - if you still don't see anything, send me an email to that address, so I can make sure to save your info! If you have not yet registered, there is a flyer with a QR code on the aeai.org homepage you can visit, that will lead you to a Google Form for registration.



Registration will close on 2/20/25, as the event is Sunday March 2nd at the State House in Indianapolis as years past. *Artwork setup will be from 10 - 12pm*, and the *opening ceremony will be from 3 - 5pm*. The sooner you get registered, the better, and will help me plan more accordingly moving forward!

If you select to mail your artwork this year, please be sure to have it postmarked by 2/20/25 to ensure it arrives to me on time for March 2. Include return postage for me to mail your artwork after our YAM display is taken down at the end of March.

This year, I am excited to share that we will be celebrating two young artists for their YAM flag designs. For the K-5 category, the winner was Eleanor LeGate from Evansville, and the 6-12 category was Lucas Shirely from Mooresville. These two students will be recognized at the YAM event for their accomplishment! Congratulations to them!

Teachers will be allowed 10 pieces of art - all of which need to be labeled with the provided label, and matted with a mat no more than two inches. As in years past there will be prizes awarded!

Student Grand Prize Winner: \$500 BLICK gift card.

Teacher of Student Grand Prize Winner: \$1000 BLICK gift card.

Student & Teacher prizes for all grade level category winners win art supplies & gift cards, donated by Blick Art Materials value at \$300 per winner. There will also be Honorable Mentions for each grade level category as well - Lower Elementary K-2, Upper Elementary 3-5, Middle School 6-8, and High School 9-12.

As you all are celebrating Youth Art Month in your own schools and communities, please share by tagging your photos with: #inarted2025 or #yam2025, or feel free to email me photos as well! I want your help in putting together what our great Indiana art educators do to celebrate Youth Art Month, and submit a state portfolio for YAM 2025. But I am asking for your help in order to do so! I would love to hear what all you do with your students, staff and community to celebrate Youth Art Month throughout March! And even more, I would love for Indiana to be recognized for all the wonderful and amazing things we do with our students for Youth Art Month!

If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to ask at the email listed below. Thanks so much, and I can't wait to see you all at YAM 2025!

Elyse Abbott, Indiana Youth Art Month Chair
yam@aeai.org



You are cordially invited to attend the reception and Celebration
on the 2nd of March, 2025

Youth Art Month
2025 Celebration & Art Show
March 2nd, 2025
@ Indiana Statehouse

Reception & Celebration: March 2nd, 2025 @ 3-5 p.m.

Youth Art Month (YAM) is an annual observance each March to emphasize the value of art and art education for all children and to encourage public support for quality school art programs. Established in 1961, YAM provides a forum for acknowledging skills that are not possible in other subjects. The Council for Art Education (CFAE), a sponsor of Youth Art Month, adopted the national theme, "Start with Art, Learn for Life." Art Education develops self-esteem, appreciation of the work of others, self-expression, cooperation with others, and critical thinking skills. All of these skills are vital to the success of our future leaders - our children.

Chosen artworks are representative of our student body & art program. It is a juried show sponsored by AMACO & BLICK Art where students are eligible to win prizes. Artwork from across the state will hang in the halls of the Indiana Statehouse the entire month of March.

Please join us in celebrating the artwork from our school and show your support for our students. Thank you!



Congratulations!

Your child has been selected to be part of the Youth Art Month Statewide Exhibit at the Indiana Statehouse. This is a very special honor!

We cordially invite you to join us for a special reception celebrating our student artists.

Sunday, March 2nd, 2025

Opening Ceremony @ 3 p.m.

Indiana Statehouse

200 W. Washington St.

Indianapolis, IN 46204-2728

Art exhibition will open for viewing after the ceremony at 3:30-5pm.

I hope that you will be able to attend this Youth Art Month reception and celebrate the arts among family and friends! There will be refreshments, and a "make n take" station, as well as photo ops! Thank you for supporting the importance of art education!

Parking: Parking lot off Ohio St will be open to families. Once full, street parking is available. Entrance will be at the North doors (off Ohio St.) & West Doors. There will be security so please arrive 2-2:30pm to have enough time to go through.



ENTRANCE TICKET

This ticket allows participating student plus ONE guest to attend the Award Ceremony on 3/2/25 @ 3 pm located at the Indiana Statehouse.

- Live stream link will be shared by art teacher for families wanting to view online.



ENTRANCE TICKET

This ticket allows participating student plus ONE guest to attend the Award Ceremony on 3/2/25 @ 3 pm located at the Indiana Statehouse.

- Live stream link will be shared by art teacher for families wanting to view online.



ENTRANCE TICKET

This ticket allows participating student plus ONE guest to attend the Award Ceremony on 3/2/25 @ 3 pm located at the Indiana Statehouse.

- Live stream link will be shared by art teacher for families wanting to view online.

2024 AEAI Convention Highlights

Moments captured from the 2024 AEAI Convention in New Albany

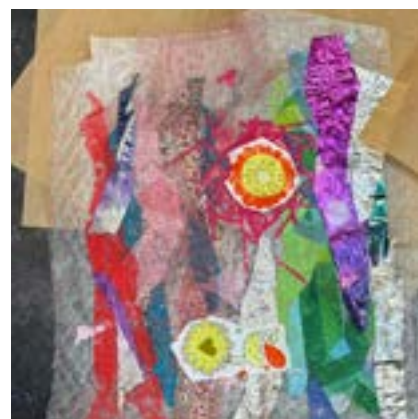
New Albany High School was the location for fun, sharing knowledge and camaraderie, as many art teachers from around Indiana converged for the annual art educators association of Indiana yearly convention.

The three-day event was filled with many workshops. Some of the workshops were: fused plastic (PL*ART), examining attachment techniques with cardboard construction, Pysanky egg decorating and creating batik using the time-honored tradition from Indonesia.

Perusing over the student artwork display, placing bids in the silent auction, and making purchases at the Artisan's Sale, along with fun workshops made for a very rewarding weekend.



2024 AEAI Convention Highlights



AEAI Celebrates Excellence through Awards

This year everyone felt like a star at the fun, celebratory AEAI Convention Banquet organized by Monica Schotter and the Convention Committee. As part of the festivities, the winners of the educator and student art shows and the Youth Art Month flag design competitions were announced. Student scholarships were awarded to Ginger Miller and Leah Hanfland of Herron School of Art + Design at IU Indianapolis and Samantha Brownson of Taylor University.

AEAI Awards Chair Laura Schroeder presented Outstanding Educator Awards on behalf of the Awards Committee, and Scott Miller presented the President's Award. Read on to be inspired by the 2024 honorees, and be sure to nominate outstanding educators before the June 1 deadline!

Nicole Croy, Indiana's Outstanding Art Educator of 2024

Churubusco resident Nicole Croy, photography instructor at Carroll High School (Fort Wayne) and Grace College (Winona Lake) was honored as Indiana's Outstanding Art Educator of 2024. Outstanding Art Educators at levels from Early Childhood through Higher Education are nominated to recognize excellence and service to the profession. Nominees submit resumes and support letters that are evaluated by an anonymous jury of AEAI Board members. Nicole was nominated by Jessica Michels of University School in Milwaukee, her co-Chair of the Society for Photographic Education (SPE) High School Educators' Caucus and by Carroll High School Assistant Principal Kevin Fogle.



Nicole has exhibited her photography often in the Fort Wayne area at venues including ArtLink Gallery, Garrett Museum of Art, Wunderkammer Gallery, and Grace College. She has also shared her work in more far-flung venues in Philadelphia and China. Her work is in the permanent collection of the Fort Wayne Museum of Art and this year she exhibited at ArtPrize in Grand Rapids, MI.

While modeling the career of a working professional artist, Nicole has also given her students extraordinary opportunities to exhibit their work, mentoring them through the prestigious National Scholastic Art & Writing Awards competitions and the YoungArts Program, and also organizing a touring exhibition of student work

Continued on next page.

Continued from previous page.

through ten states and the opportunity to exhibit at the Department of Education in Washington, DC. Nicole's nominators noted that not only does she give her students comprehensive training in the full range of techniques from traditional darkroom photography to digital and alternative processes, but that she also emphasizes and inspires them to practice storytelling through visual art and support one another in the classroom. Nicole's excellence as an educator and artist was recognized in 2013 with a Lilly Teacher Creativity Grant, which she used to transform a box truck into a pinhole camera.

Nominator Jessica Michels noted, "Her own personal art practice demonstrates what we hope for our students, to look at the world with a close lens and then share what we have learned with the viewers." For Nicole, sharing comes not only in the form of exhibiting artwork, but also building relationships among educators and encouraging the exchange of resources and ideas. She has held her leadership role in the SPE High School Educators' Caucus for ten years and also, with Jessica Michels, runs an international online professional learning community of over 8,000 members. She has also served on the Fort Wayne Museum of Art Education Committee and Scholastic Art Advisory Committees. She has been featured in photography textbooks, contributed many lesson plans to national publications, and has presented extensively at SPE, NAEA, and AEAI conventions. At this year's AEAI Convention she shared her expertise with fellow educators in workshops on fusing upcycled plastic trash into art and using opened photographic paper to make lumen prints. She will also be honored at the NAEA Convention in Louisville in March. Congratulations, Nicole!



2024 AEAI Awards

Amanda Bosserman, Outstanding Elementary Art Educator

Shamrock Springs Elementary (Westfield) art instructor Amanda Bosserman was honored as Indiana's Outstanding Elementary Art Educator by AEAI to recognize excellence in practice and service to the field of art education.

Amanda holds a Bachelor's degree from the University of North Texas, where she served as Outreach Coordinator and later President of North Texas's NAEA student chapter. As a preservice teacher she demonstrated her recognition of the value of professional development by arranging a partnership between the NAEA chapter and the College of Art and Design to send the NAEA officers to the Texas Art Education Association conference.

She began her teaching career at Lone Star High School, later moving to Indiana and her position at Shamrock Springs Elementary School, where she quickly became a beloved part of the community. Her nominator, Maple Glen Elementary art teacher Jessica Watson Coleman, noted that Amanda's school is a district hub for many special education services, and that Amanda expertly meets all students where they are and fosters a classroom atmosphere in which each student is inspired and comes to understand art as "a healing tool and an opportunity to express themselves." In his letter of support, Principal Robb Hedges noted that while the students are excited about art class, Amanda creates a productive environment not only through her engaging curriculum and her own passion for art, but also through her manner, which he described as "always calm and respectful." He also described Amanda as "the consummate team player," as she and her art team have taken on leadership roles within the school of seven hundred students, enthusiastically collaborating on and incorporating art into schoolwide events, field trips, clubs, and



programs promoting social-emotional learning and literacy. He also mentioned that in addition to contributing to cross-curricular activities, Amanda invests energy in showcasing her art students, earning the funding to purchase display boards to give her students the experience of sharing their work and enjoying others' work. She has also obtained grants for supplies for her classroom from several sources.

In her letter of nomination, Jessica Coleman praised Amanda's volunteer work beyond Shamrock Springs as a founding leader in Westfield Washington's elementary art teachers' PLC group, which met three times a month during the 2023-24 school year to establish a curriculum for the district and "foster an environment that is committed to art education." Amanda also acts as a strong art education advocate by exhibiting her students' work in her district's art show, at the Statehouse during Youth Art Month, and at her school's STEAM night, which she was instrumental in initiating.

Upon arriving in Indiana, not only did Amanda join AEAI, but she has also advocated for other Westfield Washington elementary art teachers to join and arranged for the district to fund their memberships. In the words of Principal Robb Hedges, Amanda is "an amazing art teacher" whose "students shine in her class." Congratulations, Amanda!

2024 AEAI Awards

Hannah Richardson, President Awards winner

As part of the AEAI awards program, the president may choose to recognize members for extraordinary service. At this year's celebration banquet at the annual convention, in one of his final acts as AEAI President, Scott Miller presented Hannah Richardson with the President's Award.

Holder of a Bachelor of Science in Art Education from Taylor University and a Master of Science in Art Education from Moore College of Art and Design, Hannah serves as a Taylor University Assistant Professor of Art Education & Pre-Art Therapy with a specialty in special needs education. At this year's AEAI Convention, one of her students was named an AEAI scholarship winner. Hannah offered two presentations at the conference, "Learning through Artistic Play" and "Building Resiliency through the Arts." As AEAI District 3 Representative, she also hosted the district workshop. Throughout the year she organizes exciting professional development workshops for East Central Indiana art teachers on topics of interest at venues including the Anderson Museum of Art and the Marilyn K. Glick Center for Glass at Ball State University.

Scott Miller was inspired to honor Hannah with the President's Award not only to demonstrate appreciation of her service on the AEAI board as district representative, but also to publicly recognize that her service goes above



and beyond the typical volunteer role. Not only is she reliable, responsible, and diligent in performing her duties, but she also sees needs within the organization, takes the initiative to propose remedies, and then acts. She has been particularly innovative in approaches to increase AEAI membership both among working art teachers in Indiana and among the college student/preservice population at the state's universities. Attentive not only to the big picture, but also to the details, Hannah is the type of volunteer at events who recognizes the need for unglamorous hands-on tasks and just does them without being asked and before others notice that they are needed. The membership of the association joins Scott in thanking Hannah for her service to AEAI as an organization, her collegial, generous nature with fellow educators, and her commitment to maximizing the quality and impact of art education throughout the state.



Application deadline for
Fall 2025 semester
MARCH 1, 2025

NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE
Doctor of Education (Ed.D)
**Curriculum and Instruction –
Specialization in Art Education**

ABOUT THE DEGREE:

Advance your knowledge and skills as you prepare to teach in higher Education, mentor new educators, take on leadership positions in K-12 and Community settings, or gain credentials for independent scholarship.

This 60 credit-hour doctorate is for **established visual art specialists** who seek opportunities to contribute in higher education and the wide range of other contexts for art education and learning. This is a rigorous and potentially transformative degree that provides not only course work but also opportunities to conduct research, participate in scholarly publication, and gain teaching experience at the university level. The program is fully available online.



INDIANA UNIVERSITY BLOOMINGTON
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
ART EDUCATION PROGRAM

To find out more about the
Program contact:
Marjorie Cohee Manifold
mmanifol@iu.edu

To apply, see:
<https://education.indiana.edu/programs/graduate/doctoral/edd-art-education.html>

Research Faculty: Marjorie Cohee Manifold, PhD; Kevin Tavin, PhD; Gustave Weltsek PhD

2025 AEAJ Award Nominations open!

Outstanding Educator Awards:

- Outstanding Early Childhood Art Educator
- Outstanding K-12 Art Educator
- Outstanding Elementary Art Educator
- Outstanding Middle School Art Educator
- Outstanding Secondary Art Educator
- Outstanding Higher Ed Art Educator
- Outstanding Adaptive Art Educator
- Outstanding Museum Art Educator
- Outstanding Community Art Educator

Other awards:

- Student Teacher of the Year
- Supervisor/Administrator
- Community/Friend of the Arts
- ED&I Agent of Change

Nominate by June 1.

- **Details:** <http://www.aej.org/awards--honors.html>
- **Outstanding Educator/Friends of the Arts nomination form**
- **ED&I Agent of Change award nomination form**

NEW PROGRAM!

GRAPHIC PRODUCTION ONE-YEAR CERTIFICATE

Want to own your screen-printing business or sign shop?

This certificate is the fast track to make it happen! In only one year, you will learn how to screen-print t-shirts and create signs, banners and other environmental graphics for a profit. In addition to the fun, hands-on learning experiences of making these products in our well-equipped labs, learn how to use Illustrator and Photoshop to create the designs and the fundamentals of design to make your designs more creative and more functional. Start a fun and exciting career with the independence of running your own business. Even if you do not want to have your own business, there are many opportunities for employment in this fast-paced and varied industry.

For more information, contact:

Ron Wise, Chair of Art and Design
Vincennes University
8-12-888-4465 | rwise@vinu.edu



1002 N. FIRST STREET • VINCENNES, IN 47591
812.888.4465 • ADMISSIONS: 800.742.9198

vinu.edu/graphicdesign

An accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Art and Design, (NASAD).

Learn how to create:

- Screen-printed T-shirts and other apparel
- Print posters, and labels, license plates, window clings, cozies, key chains, and stickers
- 3D Printed items, such as product models and prototypes, as well as other promotional products

Job Opportunities:

- Screen-printing Shop Owner
- Sign Shop Owner
- Print Production Specialist
- Screen-printing press Operator
- Darkroom and Screen Prep Specialist
- Production Artist
- Sign Fabricator
- Sign Installer
- Sign Production Specialist
- Sign Production Designer



2025 Executive Board

President	Allyson Avery	president@aeai.org
President-Elect	Libba Willcox	presidentelect@aeai.org
Past President	Scott Miller	pastpresident@aeai.org
Secretary	Elyse Abbott	secretary@aeai.org
Treasurer	Lauren Kibbe	treasurer@aeai.org
Awards Chair	Laura Schroeder	awards@aeai.org
Advocacy Chair	Clyde Gaw	advocacy@aeai.org
Nominations Chair	Addie Thompson	
Publicity/Contact Editor	Lori Kaylor	lorizita1963@gmail.com
Convention Coordinator	Es Cole	convention@aeai.com cole10@iu.edu
YAM	Elyse Abbott	yam@aeai.org
Membership Chair	Samantha Shows	membership@aeai.org
INSEA/USSEA	Marjorie Manifold	mmanifol@indiana.edu
ArtMix	Omar Rashan	ArtMix@aeai.org
District 1 Rep	DesTina Paige	district1@aeai.org
District 2 Rep	Kristen O'Dell	district2@aeai.org
District 3 Rep	Hannah Richardson	Hannah_richardson@taylor.edu district3@aeai.org
District 4 Rep	Jessica Rowe & Camille	district4@aeai.org
District 5 Rep	Es Cole	cole10@iu.edu
District 6 Rep	Steve Black	sblack@vinu.edu
District 6 Rep	Ron Wise	rwise@vinu.edu
District 7 Rep	Michelle Chastain	district7@aeai.org
District 7 Rep	Monica Schotter	district7@aeai.org
Technology Rep	Leah Morgan	leahmorgan51@gmail.com
Webmaster	Monica Schotter	webmaster@aeai.org
Elementary Rep	Ashley Shea	elementary@aeai.org
Middle School Rep	Brenda Betley	bsbetley@gmail.com
Secondary Rep	Brenda Jalaie	bjalaie@zcs.k12.in.us
Higher Education Rep	Libba Willcox	swillcox@indiana.edu
Museum Education Rep	Katy Denney	
Student Rep		
Retired Art Teacher Rep	Sidney Allen	sallen915@comcast.net
Retired Art Teacher Rep	Patricia Cummings	cummingsp@hotmail.com
Registrar	Sarah Ackerman	registrar@aeai.org
Historian	Cindy Borgmann	cborgman@iupui.edu
Equity, Diversity, Inclusion Liason	Jasmine Beigeske	edi@aeai.org
Equity, Diversity, Inclusion Liason	Kathy Danko-McGhee	edi@aeai.org