

ARTS COUNCIL FOR LONG BEACH
2010 ARTS EDUCATION SUMMIT
FINAL REPORT, APRIL 2010

“An excellent choice of workshops and presenters. A day filled with lively engagement, interesting concepts, and most of all new smiling faces!”

“I found it to be the best way to spend my Saturday. Today was more than I could ask for. During these hard times for art and education, today showed me that there is more than just a light at the end of the tunnel. Thank you.”

Program Overview

The Arts Council for Long Beach and the Los Angeles County Office of Education hosted the Arts Education Summit on March 27, 2010 at Hotel Maya in Long Beach. More than 100 artists, educators, and community members attended the summit, which included a musical introduction by the Stephens Middle School Pandrumonium Steel Drum Band, directed by Geoffrey Barb, followed by a poetry reading from Christian Sanchez-Bartz, a Millikan High School student and first-runner up in the California Poetry Out Loud contest.

After welcoming remarks from Long Beach Unified School District Superintendent Christopher Steinhauser and Arts Council Executive Director Craig Watson, Eric Booth, the keynote speaker for the event, took the stage. Eric Booth is co-founder of the Mentoring and Arts Education Program at The Juilliard School, founding editor of Teaching Artist Journal, and author of five books. He works with arts education programs around the country and is a featured speaker at arts events around the world. Mr. Booth discussed the need for high quality arts education and redefining “the verbs of art.”

Attendees were able to ask Mr. Booth questions before lunch, which also served as a networking break.

After lunch, guests attended one of three breakout sessions:

- *Learning in the Arts* Keynote speaker Eric Booth led a session where participants were encouraged to explore the links between learning in the arts and workplace effectiveness.
- *Quality Programming and Resources* Three presenters (Elissa Ennis, Director of Education & Visitor Services, Long Beach Museum of Art; Megan Kirkpatrick, Implementation Manager, LA County Arts Commission; and Christi Wilkins, Executive Director, Dramatic Results) discussed resources available to artists and organizations and how to build (and grow) successful arts education programs.

- *Arts Integration* LA County Office of Education Visual and Performing Arts Administrator Geraldine Walkup discussed how to integrate the arts into the school day. Her co-presenters, Robin Creason and Patricia Kenzy, are both teachers in Long Beach Unified. They shared integrated lessons they have created and shared practical tips for including the arts in their curricula.

The day finished with a networking break and panel discussion. The panel, which addressed arts education and advocacy, included: Danielle Brazell, Executive Director, Arts for LA; Jack Mitchell, K-12 VAPA and Arts Media and Entertainment Consultant, Secondary Career and Adult Learning Division, California Department of Education; Leonard Narumi, Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator, Montebello Unified School District; and Scott Ward, Executive Director, Armory Center for the Arts.

Evaluation

All participants were asked to fill out an evaluation, which was utilized to gather feedback from participants and used to measure the impact of the Arts Education Summit experience.

Please rate the overall effectiveness of today’s Keynote address:

Very Effective	91%
Effective	9%
Somewhat Effective	0%
Not Effective	0%

Comments on Eric Booth’s keynote address included:

- “Could we please clone Eric to present at every school board! Articulate, passionate, motivating: I leave empowered!”
- “Eric Booth was very inspirational. I am motivated to continue learning so I can become a better arts advocate.”
- “Eric was phenomenal! Such pertinent, practical, applicable ideas make it easy to take away and remember the key ideas.”
- “Eric Booth was excellent—well spoken, clear, and ‘right on.’ I really appreciate his clear, concise communication. Inspires me to share all this with others and to continue researching.”

Please rate the overall effectiveness of today’s Panel Discussion:

Very Effective	18%
Effective	36%

Somewhat Effective	28%
Not Effective	0%
No Response	18%

Workshop and Overall Effectiveness

Learning in the Arts

Very Effective	68%
Effective	32%
Somewhat Effective	0%
Not Effective	0%

Quality Programming & Resources

Very Effective	29%
Effective	24%
Somewhat Effective	41%
Not Effective	6%

Arts Integration

Very Effective	100%
Effective	0%
Somewhat Effective	0%
Not Effective	0%

Comments for panelists and presenters included:

- “Amazing and informed.”
- “Mucho food for thought! Very informative. ”
- “Very good- gave me practical sources to relate and contact to plan and move forward.”
- “I felt like I would have like to hear more about community arts and education programs outside of schools... and teen programs!”
- “Presenters were well chosen and articulate.”
- “Getting inspired to teach art is easy, getting cogent, practical inspiration we can use the next time with art in the classroom is rare!”

Please rate the usefulness of the information, experience and/or materials you acquired today:

Very useful	57%
Useful	33%
Somewhat Useful	10%
Not Useful	0%

Please rate the likelihood that you will share or implement the information, experience and/or materials you acquired today:

Highly Likely	80%
Likely	18%
Somewhat Likely	2%
Not Likely	0%

Impact

The general response from the participants was positive. Many attendees commented that they enjoyed the ambiance of the Maya Hotel and food and beverage provided throughout the day. Many commented that they appreciated having networking breaks and one attendee wrote: "[I] found it to be the best way to spend my Saturday. Today was more than I could ask for."

Three main components of the Summit were addressed in the evaluation: the keynote speaker, the breakout sessions, and the panelist discussion.

Eric Booth's keynote address received an overwhelming 91% rating as "highly effective." Attendees comments for Booth and his keynote address included: "did an excellent job of giving us NEW ideas, information, and vocabulary" and "articulate, passionate, motivating: I leave empowered!"

The breakout sessions were generally well received, with many comments indicating that the Arts Education Summit provided attendees with motivating and inspirational information and practical tools and resources that will support their goals. Attendees' comments include:

- "I am motivated to continue learning so I can become a better arts advocate."
- "Helped energize our goals."
- "Getting inspired to teach art is easy, getting cogent, practical inspiration we can use the next time with art in the classroom is rare!"

Eighty percent of participants stated they were "very likely" to share or implement the information, experience, and/or materials they acquired from Summit. The speakers, performances, and activities for the Arts Education Summit are likely to leave a positive lasting effect and impact for participants. One participant commented: "During these hard times for art and education, today showed me that there is more than just a light at the end of the tunnel. Thank you."

Next Steps

The Arts Education Summit received many positive comments and requests for another convening on the topic of arts education. The goal for the Arts Council will be to hold another event in 2011.

One goal for 2011 is to garner greater participation from a wide variety of stakeholders in the community. A greater attendance may be attained through a larger participation by parents, teachers, and school administrators, in addition to an inclusion of participants from the business and political sectors. The Arts Council would like to increase appeal to persons working in business and political sectors by involving speakers, panelists and presenters who will those groups.

Another goal is to achieve greater parent participation through activating PTA involvement and perhaps even holding a separate event specifically for parents.

Based on comments from attendees, the Arts Council will consider the following when organizing the 2011 event:

- Moving the panelist discussion prior to the breakout sessions might be considered as the panelist discussion function primarily as a forum to address the current issues where the breakout sessions may provide tools and resources as a resolution.
- Rotating breakout sessions might be offered for participants who wish to participate in more than one session as several participants expressed desire to visit more than one workshop.
- Some participants also expressed an interest in having more time for discussion of the day's topics.
- Having a larger panel and a longer panel discussion with more time for Q&A.

Most resoundingly, many attendees expressed an interest in more events like the 2010 Arts Education Summit. Many evaluations included comments such as, "So you gonna do this every year? Hope so!"