

## APRIL NEWSLETTER

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### ARTS ADVOCACY DAY 2018



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Special Report:  
NOAH Advocacy Committee  
Naj Wikoff, chair and NOAH Vice-President

NOAH was a National Partner in Americans for the Arts' Arts Advocacy Day 2018, which took place over March 12–13. Advocacy Committee chair Naj Wikoff participated in Legislative Planning Committee meetings leading up to the event and attended as a representative of NOAH. Over 1,200 individuals were present to make a case for national and local arts to legislators and lobbyists.

One of the most highly-attended panels during the event was on Arts in Health, where the NOAH white paper was mentioned and praised. NOAH was not represented on the panel, but Wikoff was able to stand and speak, and made connections on behalf of the organization with legislators throughout the day.

Wikoff reports that Arts in Health in the military, arts in aging, arts in hospitals, and arts in the environment are at the attention of legislators, including Senators Diane Feinstein and Tom Udall. State and local arts agencies are eager to learn ways they can become involved in Arts in Health. NOAH White Papers were distributed to legislators and national leaders in the arts field, including NEA chair Jane Chu.

We at NOAH are grateful for Naj and the Advocacy Committee's work in beginning these important national conversations! Our goal is to continue to increase national awareness of NOAH and the field of Arts in Health, while bringing strong representation and resources to these advocacy events.

## Advocacy Works

**Americans for the Arts** President and CEO **Robert L. Lynch** offered this statement in reaction to Congress' proposal to fund the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) at \$152.8 million each:

"This **funding increase of \$3 million** for both the NEA and NEH to the final FY 2018 budget is in stark contrast to a year ago, when the Endowments were facing a proposed termination by President Trump. I am very pleased that members of Congress have decided to invest more funding into the arts—this support from both parties is a testament that **the arts are bipartisan**. In fact, in the budget plan released last night, none of our nation's arts and cultural agencies incurred a budget cut...

**This increase could not have happened without the unified, tireless, persistent work of the arts community and grassroots advocates nationwide."**

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## SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE APPROACHING

Apply by **April 30** to be considered for a conference scholarship of \$250.

[CLICK HERE](#) for the application, and write a Statement of Purpose describing, in approximately one page, your current arts in health work. Explain how the NOAH conference could assist you in meeting goals for this work, and outline ways in which you will be able to contribute to the general dialogue and discourse at the conference.

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## IMPORTANT 2018 CONFERENCE DATES

*"Reimagining the Future of Arts in Health"*

October 8 - 10, 2018

Austin, Texas

REGISTRATION OPENS: Monday, March 19, 2018

PRESENTERS NOTIFIED OF ACCEPTANCE/REJECTION: Friday, April 13, 2018

[SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS](#) CLOSE: Monday, April 30, 2018

EARLY BIRD PRICING DEADLINE: Friday, August 3, 2018

PRE-CONFERENCE DATE: 9 am – 4 pm, Sunday, October 7, 2018

OPENING RECEPTION: 7– 9:30 pm, Sunday, October 7, 2018

CONFERENCE DATES: Monday, October 8 – Wednesday, October 10, 2018

[FIND MORE INFO ON OUR WEBSITE](#)

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## COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT: Research Committee

**Chair:** Ferol Carytsas

**Mission:** To support and advance research and its use in the field of arts in health.

**Committee description & initiatives:**

The committee seeks to position NOAH as a leading resource for arts in health research and evaluation. It aims to create tools and toolkits that increase understanding and accessibility of research, and promote innovative, advanced, and collaborative research in the field.

*The research committee is in the process of developing a research resource page for NOAH members and is excited about the innovative research presentations that will be featured at the conference!*

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## FOUNDING MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:

### Penn State Hershey Doctors Kienle Center for Humanistic Medicine and Center Stage Arts in Health

The Doctors Kienle Center for Humanistic Medicine cultivates empathy and compassion in healthcare. A team of staff and volunteers strive to create an environment that integrates the healing power of art, music and creativity at Penn State Health in Hershey, Pa. In an effort to nourish well-being through the arts, programs are hosted

through the College of Medicine Humanities Department's "Center Stage."  
"With the help of organizations like NOAH, we are seeing a convergence of the arts and healthcare across the nation. We are committed to harnessing this energy and cultivating it through Kienle and Center Stage," says Director Claire de Boer.



Over the past decade, programs have ignited a number of arts-based initiatives, some of which have spurred research projects to investigate and quantify the impact of the arts.

At Penn State Health, professional musicians play cheerful and reflective music in clinical and family areas. Vetted pianists perform soothing and uplifting melodies in lobbies and waiting areas. Summer lunchtime concerts in an outdoor courtyard feature local professional ensembles including jazz and classical music.

Center Stage staff visits patients when they are admitted to the hospital. Patients have the opportunity to view a portfolio of work by regional artists and choose artwork that hangs in their room. Center Stage also has an artist on staff to create mural paintings throughout the hospital.

A Public Art Committee commissions art designed to enhance and inspire the whole community. Community art organizations display their work through rotating art exhibits. Employees and students have opportunities to share art in a gallery or on the performance stage. They also attend guided tours of a superb art museum, dinner concerts in a hospital lecture hall, and art-making workshops taught by professional artists.

Penn State Health's support aims to establish a tangible connection between humanities and medicine.



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