

# Ohio Citizens for the Arts Foundation

## SEEKING HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN ARTS DAY 2016!

The Ohio Citizens for the Arts Foundation is offering a unique community service opportunity for high school students to participate in Ohio's annual Arts Day and Governor's Awards for the Arts in Ohio. Several Ohio high schools will be chosen to send a team of students to Columbus to serve as student advocates. The students will participate in a range of activities highlighting the importance of the arts and arts education. This is a valuable opportunity for the students to participate in the public policy process in a meaningful way.

You are invited to express your interest in having students from your school participate in Arts Day 2016 on Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> in Columbus. Please respond by submitting a brief statement expressing your school's interest and what you hope to achieve by participating in the student advocates program. The statement must be submitted by January 22, 2016. It can be sent by email or US mail (see address below). High schools will be selected before the end of January.

**WHAT:** Arts Day 2016 Student Advocate Program

**WHEN:** Wednesday, May 18, 2016 9:00AM – 2:30PM

**WHERE:** Vern Riffe Center for Government and the Arts and the Ohio Statehouse, Columbus, Ohio

### ARTS DAY ACTIVITIES

- Students attend an Advocacy Day Kickoff at 9AM
- Students meet with state legislators to advocate for the arts and arts education from 10:30AM-11:30AM
- Students attend the Governor's Awards for the Arts and Arts Day Luncheon with members of the state legislature from 11:30AM-1:30PM (OCA Foundation purchases tickets for students and one teacher per high school)
- Students participate in other Statehouse activities after 1:30PM, at teacher's discretion, if travel time permits

### BENEFITS FOR STUDENTS/TEACHER/SCHOOL

- Receive positive recognition for your school
- Collaborate among academic departments within the high school (e.g. arts & government)
- Raise student awareness of the legislative process and citizens' participation in government
- Host a member of the Ohio Legislature in your school for an hour pre-Arts Day orientation to discuss the role of a legislator and the arts funding process
- Work with government affairs expert and a theatre coach to understand the advocacy process and learn positive public speaking skills in preparation for legislative visits
- Make an important contribution to continued state support for the arts and arts education

### REQUIREMENTS PRIOR TO AND DAY OF EVENT

- Select up to ten (10) students with an interest in the arts to participate in Arts Day 2016
- Oversee advance preparation by students
- School-provided release time for: a) two-hour in-school legislative visit and advocacy training, and b) trip to Columbus for Arts Day on May 18, 2016
- School-provided transportation to Columbus for the students and accompanying adult(s)
- One teacher and/or school administrator to "advise" the student participants and serve as a liaison with the Ohio Citizens for the Arts Foundation staff
- Stipend may be available to help defray some travel and staff costs

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Linda Woggon, Executive Director

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