



National Advocates for Arts Education

[Julie Dyson](#) AM, Chair

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NAAE ADVOCACY STATEMENT

8 September 2014

The National Advocates for Arts Education met recently in Brisbane, and welcomed the Federal Arts Minister's adviser, Michael Naphthali, to one of its sessions.

NAAE was pleased to hear that there had been agreement between Ministerial offices (Arts Minister Brandis and Education Minister Pyne) about the importance of arts education, and the centrality of the arts to a liberal education. The meeting noted NAAE's support for Minister Brandis's statement about *'taking the arts to a new place of creative excellence'*.

Members of NAAE agreed that:

- Five art forms in the curriculum are essential.
- Teacher professional learning in the arts requires further attention.
- NAAE would gather with case studies about the rollout of the new Arts curriculum, and the ways in which cultural organisations are promoting ongoing student engagement in the arts with sustainable teacher learning models. This information would be shared with the federal arts and education Ministers.
- Technology cannot replace face-to-face teaching and learning in the arts, particularly in regional, cultural and remote communities.
- Issues of sustainability and accessibility of arts education programs need to be addressed.
- Resourcing teacher learning in the arts is a major issue.
- Creative Education Partnership and Artist-in-Residence programs need further improvement, e.g. more focus on teacher learning.

It was agreed that NAAE would request a meeting with Ministerial staff from both offices in Canberra to pursue these goals.

**NAAE members: Australian Dance Council – Ausdance, Art Education Australia
Australian Society for Music Education, Australian Teachers of Media, Drama Australia,
Music Council of Australia, National Association for the Visual Arts**