



National Advocates for Arts Education
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MEDIA RELEASE

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The National Advocates for Arts Education (NAAE) welcomed the draft of *The Australian Curriculum: The Arts*, released on Monday by Schools Minister Peter Garrett.

NAAE celebrated that at last all Australian students will have an entitlement to learn in, through and about the five arts subjects of dance, drama, media arts, music and the visual arts from Years F–6. Students in Years 7–10 will be given art form choices in secondary school in line with available resources.

Chair of NAAE, Julie Dyson, said, “The arts curriculum provides for *basic entitlement for every child* – it does not replace the excellent programs already being delivered across Australia. Australia now leads the world in introducing a national curriculum that privileges all five art forms as a learning entitlement.”

NAAE recognises that there is still work to be done in refining the curriculum, and each arts subject association will be working with the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) to achieve further revisions. However, acknowledged are the years of work by the writers, advisers, professional associations and industry members who have advocated for and contributed to the draft curriculum.

Following representations to Schools Minister Garrett and Arts Minister Simon Crean, NAAE will now address concerns about implementation. Dick Letts, Executive Director of the Music Council of Australia, said, “We will be joining with industry and education colleagues to advocate to responsible state and territory ministers for improved teacher education and professional development, particularly in primary schools”.

We look forward to a constructive and fruitful debate through the consultation period, and to the release of the final document and its implementation from 2013.

For media comment: Julie Dyson on 0412 211 513; Dick Letts (02) 9251 3816

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