

## Getting Started with Show-Me Arts

1. Talk to your friends. Tell them your ideas for starting a Show-Me Arts group in your school. There is strength in numbers so work together to get a group started.
2. Find a faculty advisor. Usually this is a teacher of a visual or performing arts class (art, drama, choir, band, orchestra).
3. Get permission from your school administrator.
4. Find a place to hold meetings. Decide on a time and place for the first organizational meeting.
5. Spread the word. Make flyers, put a notice in the school newspaper or in the school announcements. Use social networking sites to spread the word.
6. Hold your first meeting. Here are ideas for the meeting:
  - Explain why you decided to start SMA at your school and what you hope to accomplish.
  - Talk about your overall focus. Is there an arts education issue at your school? You may want to start by participating in the Public Service Announcement Project or holding a fundraising trivia night. These are both fun ways to get students involved as arts advocates.
  - Collect the names and contact info for everyone who attends. This will be your membership list.
  - Decide how often you will meet.
  - Now, take action. Set goals, develop a timeline and GET STARTED!

*The Missouri Alliance for Arts Education is here to help you make the most of Show-Me Arts. Don't hesitate to contact us with any questions or suggestions.*

*Deborah Fisher, Executive Director*

**Deborah.fisher@moaae.org (314) 753-5805**

# Show-Me Arts

## 2011-12

### A Guide to Arts Advocacy in Missouri High Schools

*Sponsored by*



*Through a generous grant from*





Missouri Alliance  
for Arts Education

## The Beginning of Show-Me Arts

Show-Me Arts was started in 2008 with one group of students that wanted to improve the arts in their school. They worked with their State Representative to develop a House Resolution calling for more support for the arts in schools.

In 2010, Show-Me Arts students began lobbying members of the Missouri Legislature to pass a Fine Arts Professional Development Initiative to improve arts training for teachers. In 2011 they testified before both the Senate and House Elementary and Secondary Education Committees to build support for Senate Bill 81. They successfully advocated for the bill that was signed into law on June 10, 2011.

This is one example of how students have improved arts education in Missouri schools.

## Start a Show-Me Arts Group in Your School

**Show-Me Arts** is an organization of student advocacy groups. The mission of Show-Me Arts is to develop arts advocates with a goal of making the arts a basic part of education for all students.

Now, it is more important than ever to ensure all students have access to the arts in all grade levels. With increased emphasis on language arts and mathematics as part of No Child Left Behind, the arts are in danger of being left behind.

**Show-Me Arts** is supported by the Missouri Alliance for Arts Education, a member of the Kennedy Center Alliance for Arts Education Network. The MAAE receives funding for Show-Me Arts through a generous grant from the Francis Family Foundation.

**Show-Me Arts** is open to all Missouri high school students. Typically, students from visual and performing arts classes (art, drama, choir, band and orchestra) are the members of Show-Me Arts groups in their schools.

**To start a group in your school**, provide the names and contact information for the members and the faculty sponsor. **Send the info to:** [Deborah.fisher@moaae.org](mailto:Deborah.fisher@moaae.org) or fax it to 314.849-3056

## Show-Me Arts Events 2011-2012

### Show-Me Arts Public Service Announcement:

A television news producer will assist students as they film and record PSAs to air on television and radio stations. The message of the PSAs will be diversity in the arts. All active Show-Me Arts students will be invited to participate in this one-day event. *Date to be determined by the participants.*

**Contact [Deborah.fisher@moaae.org](mailto:Deborah.fisher@moaae.org) or 314.753.5805 to learn more about this project.**

*This project is underwritten by a grant from the Target Charitable Foundation and the Francis Family Foundation.*

**Show-Me Arts Trivia Nights:** The Missouri Alliance for Arts Education will assist Show-Me Arts high schools in producing a trivia night fundraiser for their local chapter and to raise funds for visual and performing arts in Joplin, MO schools as part of a tornado relief effort. *Ongoing.*



**Missouri Citizens for the Arts Citizens Day at the Capitol: Feb. 8, 2012**

**Fine Arts Education Day at the Missouri State Capitol**

**March 20, 2012:** Performances and advocacy events are scheduled throughout the day. There is no fee to participate and all students, teachers, parents and community members are invited. Contact: [Deborah.fisher@moaae.org](mailto:Deborah.fisher@moaae.org)

**Show-Me Arts groups are not required to attend these events. Dates are for information only.**