A GUIDE FOR K-12 SCHOOLS

artlook® Michigan Connects Schools, Communities, and Funding

artlook® Michigan helps connect schools with teaching artists and local arts and cultural organizations, expanding creative opportunities for Michigan students. Whether you are a school, teaching artist, or arts organization interested in working with schools, *artlook® Michigan* is designed to help make the many people and resources supporting arts education more visible and more connected. School and community arts partnerships may be eligible for Michigan Arts and Culture grants, MiLEAP's Out of School Time grants and/or local grants.

How do you get involved in *artlook® Michigan*?

Schools are invited to join over the four-year rollout and then continue to participate annually. For the 2026–27 school year, principals of selected schools have received an invitation to create a school profile and nominate an arts liaison. Those principals and arts liaisons will work together to complete the annual ***Michigan K–12 Arts Education School Survey***, which will provide valuable insights and data to help inform arts education planning, policy, and decision-making at district, regional, and state levels.

We are in year two of a four-year statewide rollout. Additional schools will be invited next year. If your school has not yet been selected, and you are interested in being considered for the 2027-28 invitation, please contact us here. A list of districts invited to participate to date may be found here.

Together, we can create a clearer picture of arts education in Michigan, strengthen connections between schools and communities, and expand access to meaningful arts learning for every student.

GUIDANCE for K-12 SCHOOLS

Please Complete your Michigan K-12 Arts Education School Survey by November 30th

Your district's ***artlook® Michigan*** participation is needed to gather representative data on arts education in Michigan public schools. This is a statewide initiative led by the Michigan Assessment Consortium in collaboration with the Michigan Department of Education and

the Michigan Arts and Culture Council to collect and use data to improve arts education policy, resources, and cross-sector partnerships at state, regional, and local levels.

Participating in *artlook® Michigan* and completing the annual *Michigan K-12 Arts Education School Survey* helps state leaders support districts in providing:

- **increased and deeper arts learning for your students** through an arts education ecosystem model;
- high-quality district-provided arts **instruction and assessment resources;**
- **arts-specific resources and professional learning** for educators, administrators, and community arts partners;
- valuable **district data and insights to help inform arts education continuous improvement planning, policy, and decision-making** at local, regional, and state levels;
- school and community **partnerships** (e.g., school residencies, field trips, out-of-school time programming); and
- connections to arts education **funding and resources.**

Why? Because the research shows that the arts boost emotional regulation, increase attendance, strengthen literacy, and create a sense of belonging for students and families.

You can use your school's ***artlook® Michigan*** data report for:

- School and district **continuous improvement processes**
- **Regional arts education network strategic planning** and asset mapping
- Demonstrating growth in **access** and **quality arts education** programming in your district
- Communicating the impact of arts education toward **district/school goals**

We're excited to welcome your district to *artlook® Michigan*. **We look forward to partnering with you and learning more about the arts experiences happening in your schools and communities!** We hope you will join us in this important effort.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Dewsbury-White, CEO
Michigan Assessment Consortium

Andrew Middlestead, Director
Office of Educational Assessment & Accountability
Michigan Department of Education

INSTRUCTIONS *for artlook® Michigan*

Profile Completion and Michigan K-12 Arts Education School Survey

Step 1: LOGIN Instructions

- **Returning users:** Visit *artlook® Michigan's* Log-in Page and click sign in.
- **New users:** *Visit artlook® Michigan's* Log-in Page, click sign in, enter your email address, and then click "Forgot Password".

Step 2: Create or Update your School Profile (takes ~ 15 min in first year)

Some users may have access to more than one school. Use the drop-down menu under your name to switch between schools. Please select each school, update its information, and submit a School Profile for **all schools** (Step 3).

Note: For schools with 100% Profile completion, please proceed to Step 3.

As part of your profile, name an **Arts Liaison** who will serve as your school's primary contact for the *Michigan K–12 Arts Education School Survey*. Complete this step by October 9, 2026, for Art Liaisons to receive school account access the week of October 12, 2026.

Important: Arts Liaisons nominated after October 9 will be reviewed and added during the next update. In this scenario, the school administrator would be the only person able to log-in and complete the survey and will be listed as the Arts Liaison contact for the school.

Once signed in, select the "Update & Complete" button for your ***artlook® Michigan* Map Profile**. Review data rolled over from the prior school year, update it, and provide information to reflect your school profile for the current school year. When complete, the progress bar will show 100% completed and a profile completion badge will be displayed on the ***artlook® Michigan*** map.

Step 3: Complete the Michigan K-12 Arts Education School Survey by November 30, 2026

The survey takes approximately 45 minutes to complete in the first year and about 15 minutes in subsequent years.

The survey provides a comprehensive picture of a school's arts education resources, programs, opportunities, and needs. The questionnaire explores topics aligned with the *Michigan*

Blueprint of a Quality K-12 Arts Program to assist you in continuous improvement planning for the arts.

SURVEY INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Once logged in, select the ***Complete*** button under **2025-26 Survey**.
   Please note: **The survey is retrospective and gathers information from the previous school year.**
2. Please be sure to complete all four survey sections
   - Staffing & Instruction
   - Community & Partnerships
   - Budget & Planning
   - Review & Submit
3. Once your survey is complete, review your responses via a PDF copy of your submitted survey. Store the response to create a longitudinal improvement history and use the data to inform district and school arts improvement planning.
4. Check the progress bars for both your school profile and school survey to ensure they are complete. Both survey bars should indicate you have reached 100% completion, Badges for completion of the school profile and survey will also be displayed on the ***artlook® Michigan*** map.

Tip: For schools with multiple account holders, including School Administrators and Arts Liaisons, **please ensure that only one account is used to complete the survey at a time**. This will help avoid technical issues.

If you have questions or technical problems with the link/survey, please reach out to us at micreativepotential@michiganassessmentconsortium.org.

Technical Assistance Session for School Survey Completion
DATE: October 15, 2026, 1:00 - 2:00 pm ET
Register Here: https://mac.memberclicks.net/mcptechsupport100726

Questions?
Contact Heather Vaughan-Southard, Director of MI Creative Potential
micreativepotential@michiganassessmentconsortium.org or 517.816.4520

MI Creative Potential is a collective impact initiative to advance access to quality arts education for all of Michigan's students. MI Creative Potential is a project of the Michigan Assessment Consortium with support from the Michigan Department of Education, the Michigan Arts and Culture Council, and the National Endowment for the Arts. The Michigan Arts Education Instruction and Assessment Project (MAEIA) is embedded in this work. MAEIA is a leading state and national resource for arts education, helping to ensure that every student receives high-quality arts learning as part of a well-rounded education.

Frequently Asked Questions about the *Michigan K-12 Arts Education School Survey* in *artlook® Michigan*

Who is conducting the *Michigan K-12 Arts Education School Survey*?

The survey is conducted by the Michigan Assessment Consortium as part of MI Creative Potential, in collaboration with the Michigan Department of Education (MDE), the Michigan Arts and Culture Council (MACC) with support from the National Endowment for the Arts.

What is the purpose of the survey?

Survey results will be analyzed to support collective action to expand access to high-quality arts education for Michigan's students. Results will also be used to assist state agencies and arts education organizations in working together to offer resources, tools, and professional learning to schools and districts. The purpose of this survey is to track the growth of arts education statewide ***not*** to penalize districts, buildings, or school personnel for gaps in arts education.

How will your school(s) participate in the survey?

School principals **will receive an email message from MI Creative Potential with instructions and a link to complete the school profile and arts survey questionnaire within the *artlook® Michigan,* platform.**

Schools are invited to join over the four-year rollout and then continue to participate annually. For the 2026–27 school year, principals of selected schools have received an invitation to create a school profile and nominate an arts liaison. Those principals and arts liaisons will work together to complete the annual ***Michigan K–12 Arts Education Survey***, which will provide valuable insights and data to help inform arts education planning, policy, and decision-making at district, regional, and state levels.

More schools will be invited next year. If your school has not yet been selected, and you are interested in being considered for the 2027-28 invitation, please contact us here. A list of districts invited to participate to date may be found here.

Why do your school responses to the survey matter?

To obtain an accurate statewide picture of K-12 arts education, **all schools are encouraged by MDE, MACC, and the Michigan Assessment Consortium to participate in the survey.** The questionnaire will take about an hour to complete.

Survey results will be reported in an annual publication, the *MI Creative State Report* and will be used to implement a statewide action agenda for arts education.

Who can complete the survey?

The survey may be completed by a building administrator, a district administrator, an arts educator who may serve as an arts liaison, or a small team comprised of these representatives.

Who may serve as an arts liaison, and what are their responsibilities?

Arts Liaisons serve as on-site arts leaders and champions in their school communities.

In each school across the district, the Arts Liaison:

- Serves as the primary point of communication between their school and *artlook® Michigan.*
- Completes the school profile in *artlook® Michigan*, annually.
- Works to ensure that students, educators, and administrators have access to vital arts-related information across all disciplines (visual art, music, theatre, dance, media arts). Shere information provided my MI Creative Potential.
- Acts as an advocate by seeking actionable ways to expand and improve arts education and programming in their school and in the broader community.

Arts Liaisons must be (re)nominated every school year by their administrator. The arts liaison will also be provided with an account to access *artlook® Michigan,* and may assist the building administrator with updating and completing the school profile and school arts survey.