**MEDIA ADVISORY**

**Indiana Arts Education Network**

**Advocates for Arts Education hosting the 2020 Indiana Arts Education Day**

**Elkhart, Indiana** – February 21st, 2020 – The Indiana Arts Education Network hosted Indiana Arts Education Day on February 18th, 2020. The primary focus was to honor many dedicated arts education champions and to reinforce the importance of a well-rounded education that includes the arts with Indiana state legislators.

Indiana Arts Education Day included several activities to help elected officials understand the powerful benefits of a well-rounded education. It started with an orientation at the Percussive Arts Society in Downtown Indianapolis. The guest keynote speaker was Jeff Patchen, President & CEO of the Indianapolis Children’s Museum. There were two wonderful school performances from the choir at West View Elementary in Muncie, Indiana and the high school jazz combo from Pendleton Heights High School in Pendleton, Indiana. Over fifty individual educators and six districts were recognized for excellence in arts education, followed by a special presentation at the state capitol with a resolution made in both the house and the senate. There were 47 total Indiana state senators and representatives in attendance.

Mark Goff, Indiana Arts Education Network committee member and owner of Paige’s Music commented, “The arts not only provide us with a way to express creativity and beauty, there is also a large body of research that shows that arts education helps student succeed both in school and in life. The annual Arts Education Day at the Indiana statehouse is an opportunity to remind our elected officials how important it is to continue to provide a well-rounded education for all Indiana children that includes music & the arts.”

The Indiana Arts Education Network is committed to advocating for all Indiana children to receive a well-rounded education that includes music & the arts, so we will continue to be actively involved at the state level while we expand our support at the district level as well. To that end, we welcome all individuals & organizations who want to be involved to contact us at 317-577-3418 or make a donation at [www.musicforall.org/resources/in-arts-ed-network](http://www.musicforall.org/resources/in-arts-ed-network)

