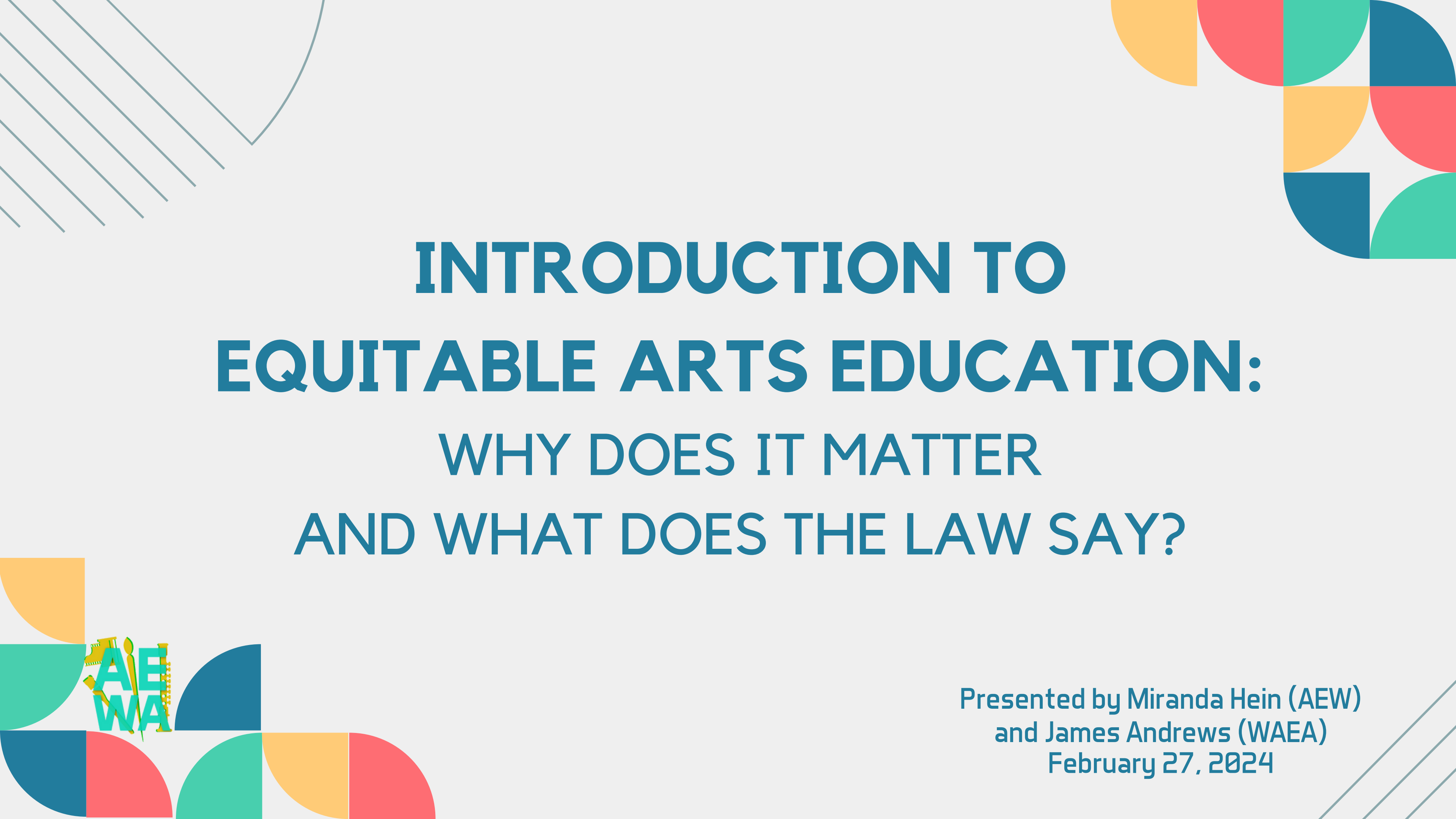


INTRODUCTION TO EQUITABLE ARTS EDUCATION: WHY DOES IT MATTER AND WHAT DOES THE LAW SAY?

Recording will start soon.



INTRODUCTION TO EQUITABLE ARTS EDUCATION: WHY DOES IT MATTER AND WHAT DOES THE LAW SAY?

Presented by Miranda Hein (AEW)
and James Andrews (WAEA)
February 27, 2024

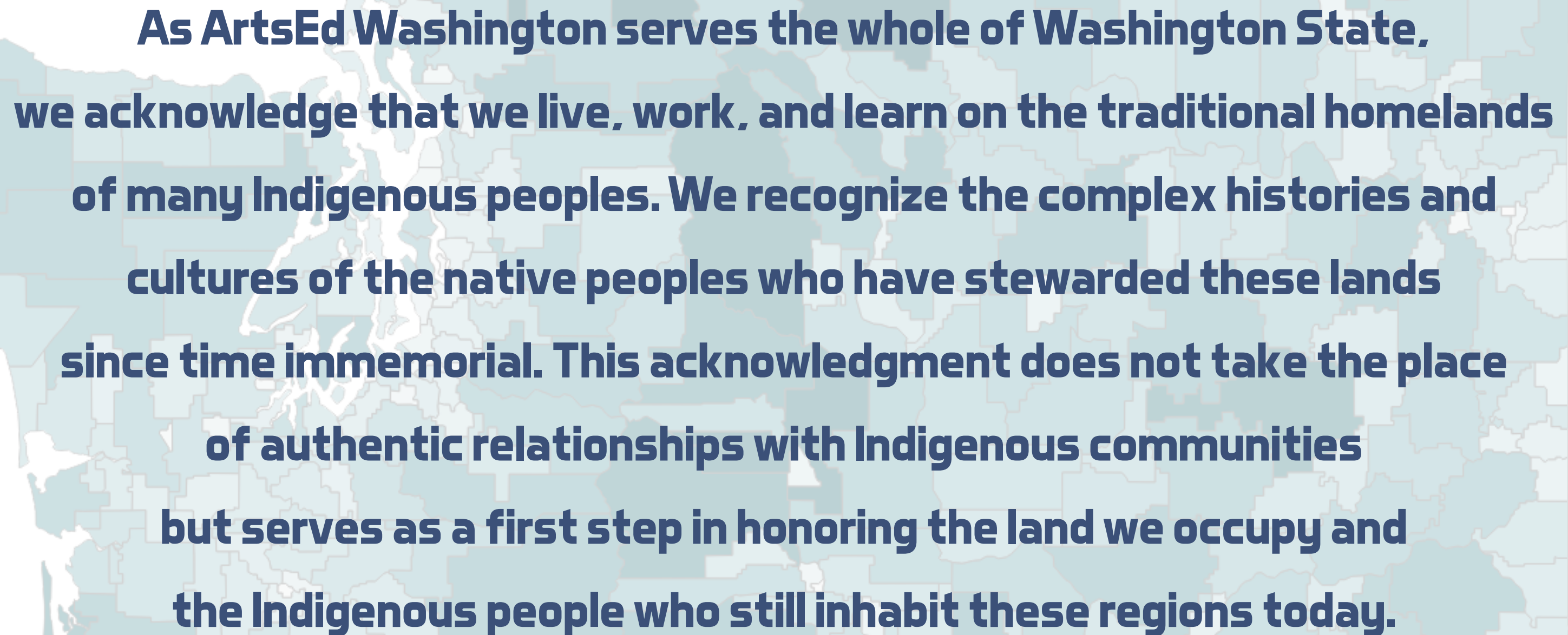
COMMUNITY GUIDELINES

1. We are glad you're here! You are welcome to stay on or off camera as fits your needs. Please note this session is being recorded. Slide deck will also be available on our website within 24 hours.
2. This session is open to people from all backgrounds and all regions of Washington, and subsequent sessions will dive into more audience-specific content.
3. Responses will be invited through several survey questions. Your insights and questions are greatly appreciated although never required.
4. We recognize that topic of public education is complex, and sometimes polarizing. Please help us maintain a welcoming, respectful, and thoughtful environment for everyone involved.

**Although our presentations address state laws and/or regulations, they are intended solely to provide general information and do not constitute legal advice. The allowability (and effectiveness) of any action or activity in particular schools, districts, or regions depends on the underlying facts and circumstances.*

For more specific guidance, ArtsEd Washington recommends that arts education advocates discuss this information with local policy makers and accountability partners.





As ArtsEd Washington serves the whole of Washington State, we acknowledge that we live, work, and learn on the traditional homelands of many Indigenous peoples. We recognize the complex histories and cultures of the native peoples who have stewarded these lands since time immemorial. This acknowledgment does not take the place of authentic relationships with Indigenous communities but serves as a first step in honoring the land we occupy and the Indigenous people who still inhabit these regions today.



WHY DOES ARTS EDUCATION MATTER?



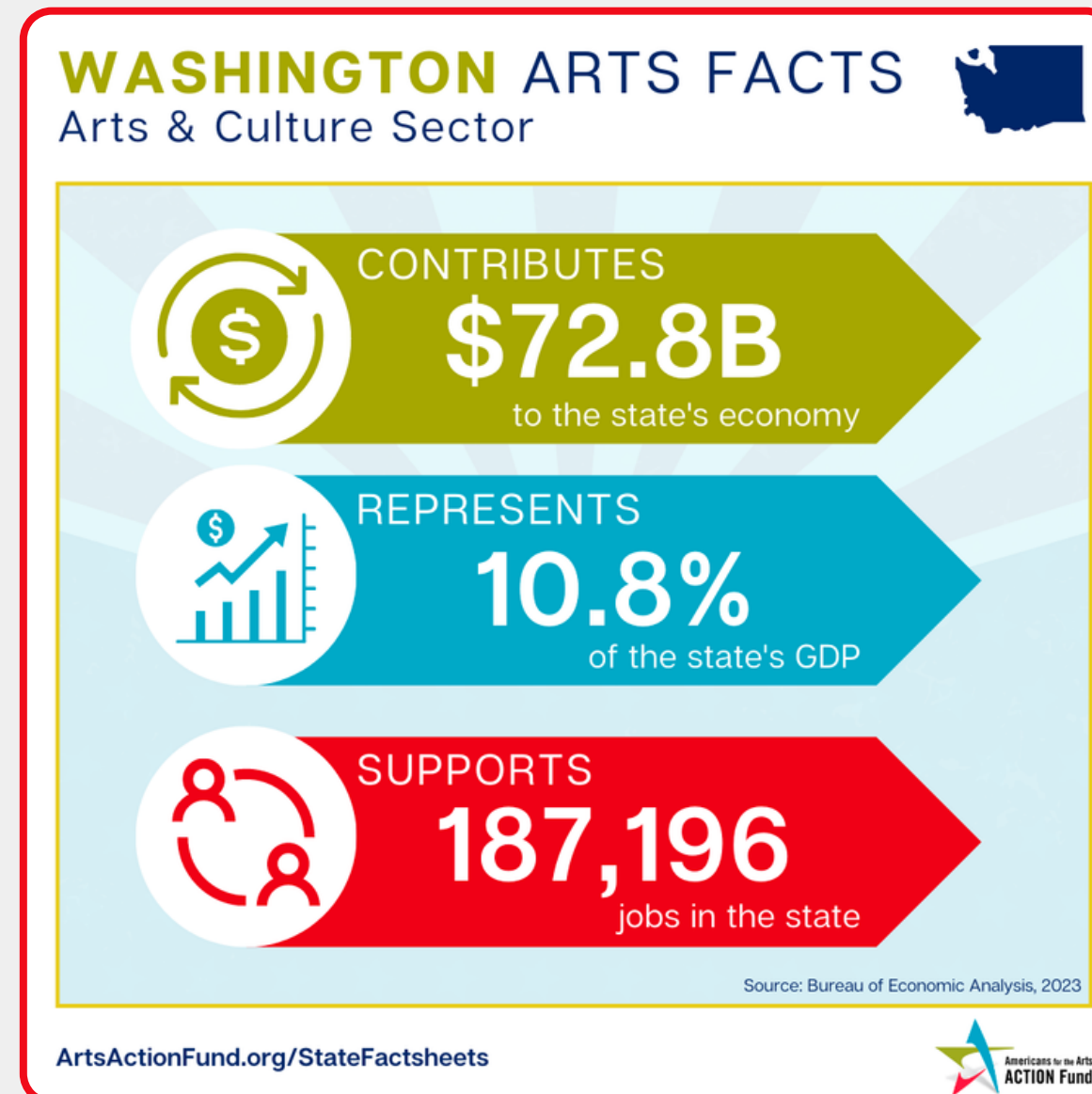
IT DEPENDS ON WHO'S ASKING!

**Music, film, TV, stories,
podcasts, radio, video games,
photography, fashion, decor,
architecture, online user experience:
The arts are everywhere!**

**AND EQUITABLE
ARTS EDUCATION
IS WHERE IT ALL BEGINS!**

Students engaged in arts have statistically:

- higher GPAs
- higher standardized test scores
- higher college-going rates
- lower drop-out rates
- academic benefits across all socio-economic strata.





WHY DOES EQUITY IN ARTS EDUCATION MATTER?



Students engaged in arts have statistically:

- higher GPAs
- higher standardized test scores
- higher college-going rates
- lower drop-out rates
- academic benefits across all socio-economic strata.

Department of Education reports:

Access to arts education for students of color is significantly lower than for their white peers.

Rural communities, and regions with lower socio-economic status also frequently struggle to fund, hire for, or maintain equitable arts programs.





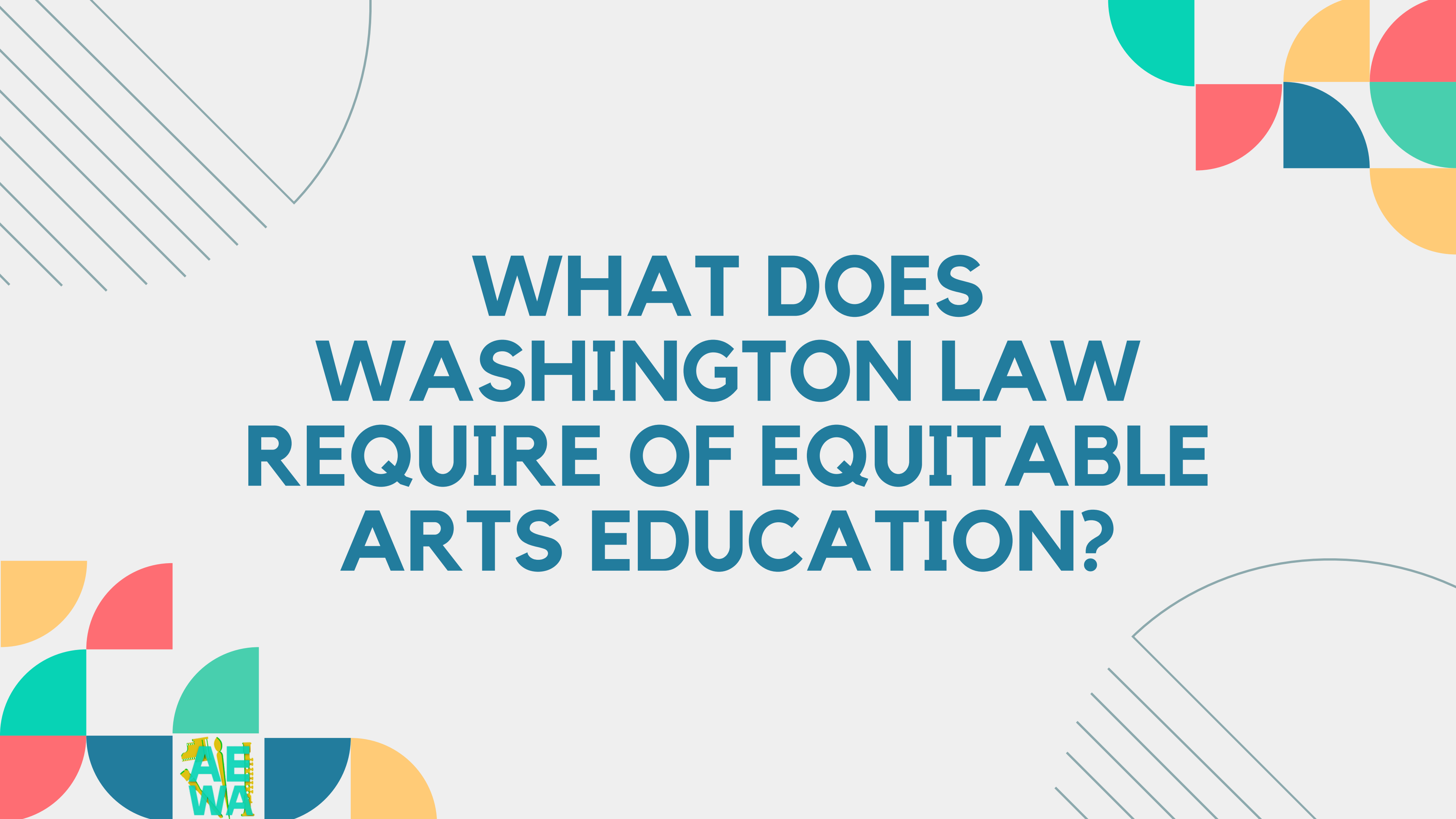
Research from Americans for the Arts

91%
Arts are part of a well-rounded K-12 education.

73%
Arts give them "pure pleasure to experience and participate in."

DATA ABOUT ARTS ED IN WASHINGTON?

Dance - Media Arts - Music - Theatre - Visual Arts



WHAT DOES WASHINGTON LAW REQUIRE OF EQUITABLE ARTS EDUCATION?



HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION: 24 TOTAL CREDITS, 2 IN ARTS*

RCWS

Washington Basic Education Laws*
RCW 28A.230.020
RCW 28A.150.210

ESSB 5878

A new** legal clarification of
“equitable” access

SBE REPORTING

Washington State Board of Education is responsible for ensuring school district compliance with the Program of Basic Education.



REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON

RCW 28A.150.210 states that students should learn subjects such as “mathematics...geography; **arts**; and health and fitness... And develop knowledge and skills to “think analytically, logically, and creatively...”

RCW 28A.230.020 says “All common schools shall give instruction in reading, handwriting, orthography, written and mental arithmetic, geography, the history of the United States, English grammar, **visual and performing arts...**”



ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5878

“ Every student must have access to arts education, as part of basic education.”

“Arts instruction must be accessible by all students, in a manner that is commensurate with instruction in other core subject areas.”

“The arts instructors in each school district, as subject matter experts, shall be consulted” in related decisions at their school.

**Passed in 2022, ESSB-5878 pertains to districts with 200+ students, and to charter schools and State-Tribal Compact schools with 200+ students.

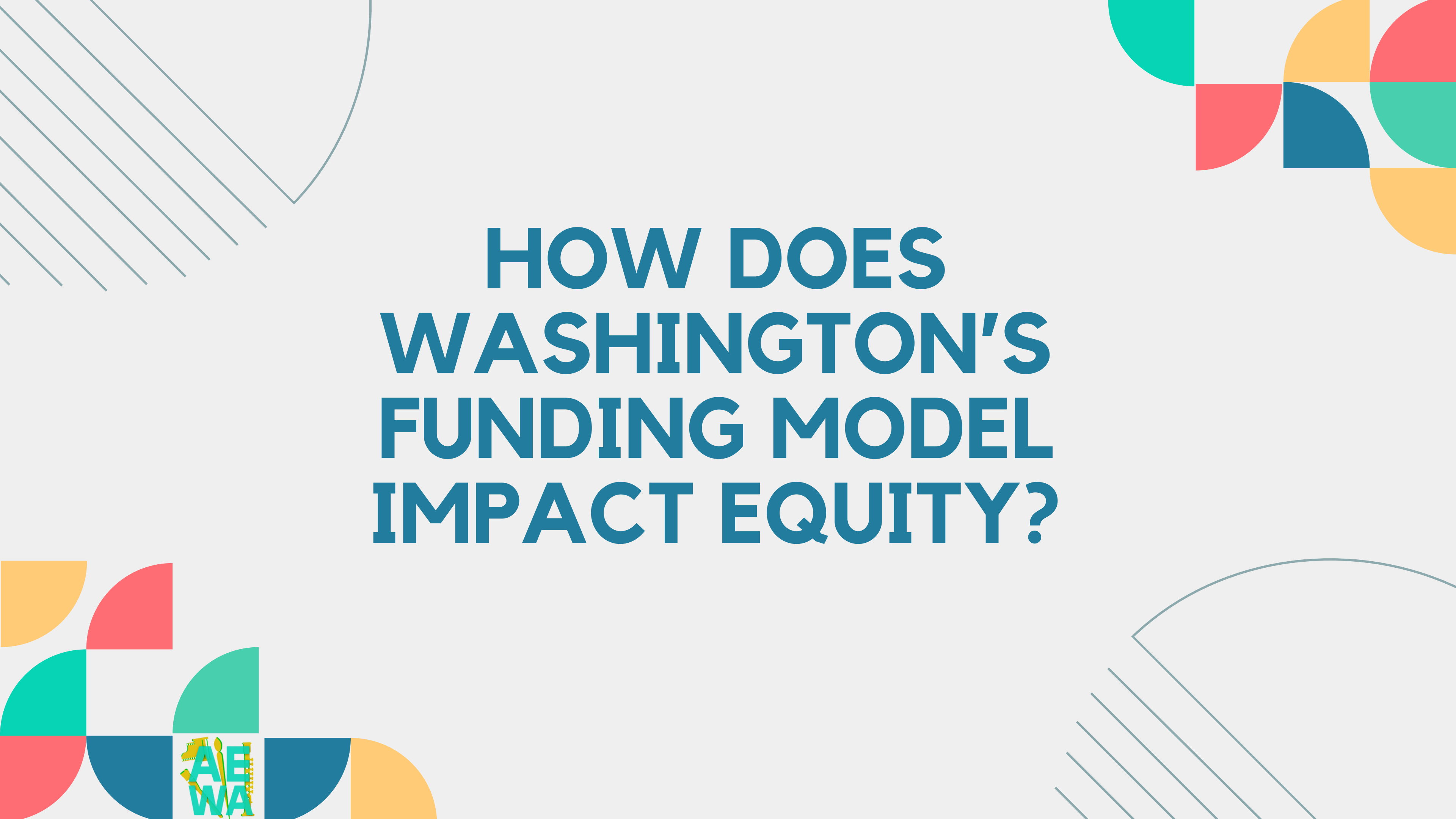


STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORTING

Starting in 2023–2024, districts must report on their compliance with these equitable arts education requirements.

Washington State Board of Education is responsible for ensuring school district compliance with the Program of Basic Education. Their annual survey allows school districts to affirm compliance with the basic education law.

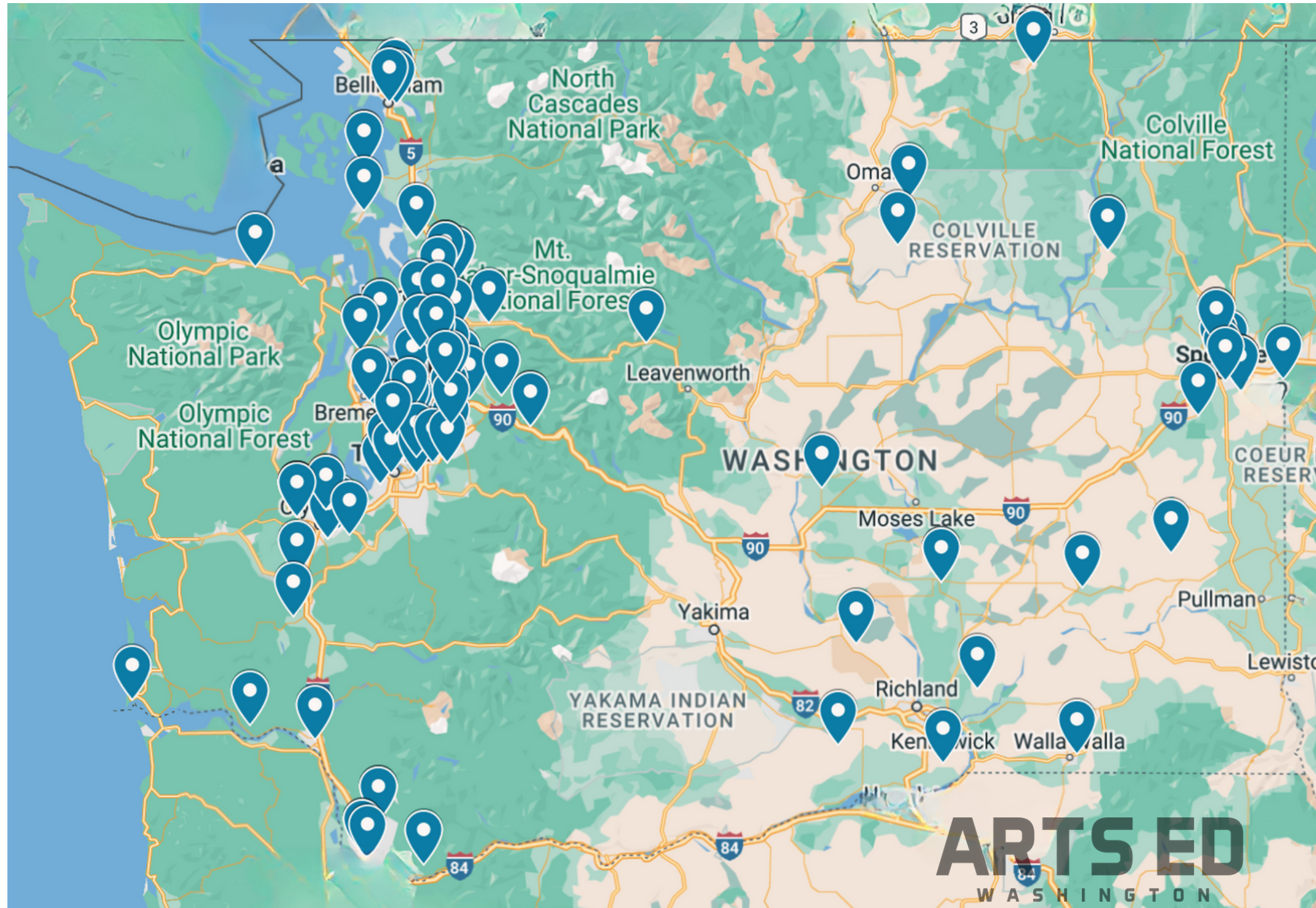




HOW DOES WASHINGTON'S FUNDING MODEL IMPACT EQUITY?



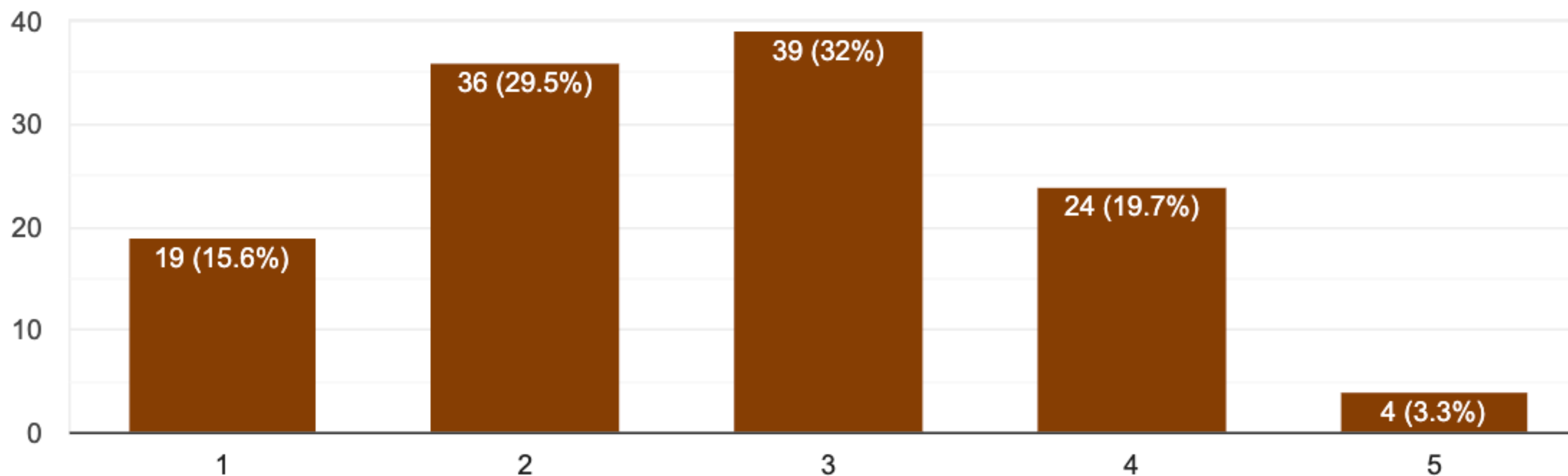
**Thank you to the 122 arts educators who responded to our 5878 survey,
and to the many leaders who collaborated with us in preparation for this presentation series!**



Rate your current understanding of education funding policies in Washington State.



122 responses





It's complicated:

1. "Local control" state
2. Funding vs budgeting
3. Funding based on property values
4. Complex set of regulations
5. Complex set of priorities

Upcoming
ESSER
cliff

Our work:
Keep the arts in the conversation!



WHAT CAN YOU DO NEXT?



TAKE COURAGE!

In this local control state,
you have incredible power to impact
Arts Education in your community!

Advocacy materials and trainings
are available from ArtsEd
Washington!

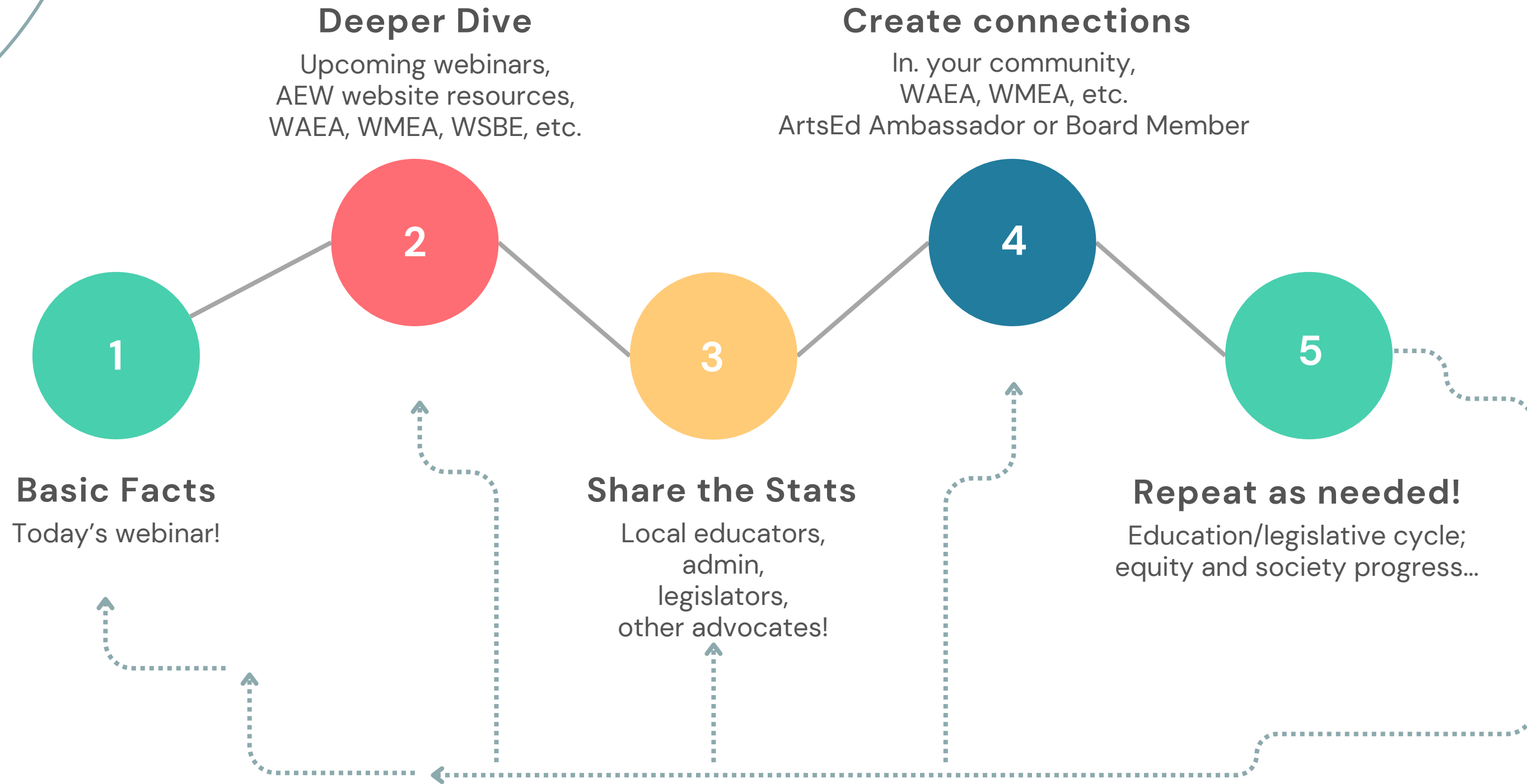
Local school board members and
PTA groups care about your students too.
You can help them understand why
equitable arts education matters.

Positive working relationships
and celebrations of small successes
are beneficial in advocacy efforts.

You don't have to figure
this out alone!



ACTION STEPS!



STAY INFORMED

Washington's Office of Superintendent
of Public Instruction (OSPI) website:

Learning standards

Assessments

Graduation Requirements

Annual Art Show!

Monthly newsletter

***Pay attention to elections for local school board members,
OSPI Superintendent, Governor, etc.**



QUESTIONS?

jandrewsart73@gmail.com
office@artsedwashington.org



CLOSING THOUGHTS:

Keep arts education in the conversation!

jandrewsart73@gmail.com
office@artsedwashington.org





Ways to stay engaged (and informed):

ArtsWA

Find your legislators

WSSDA Student Advocacy

Inspiration League Bill Tracking

OSPI School District Report Card

ArtsEd Washington Downloads

ArtsEd Washington Volunteers & Leadership

League of Education Voters--Youth Advocacy Hub

Attend your local school board meetings!

Vote--and/or speak to legislators if not registered!





THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING ARTS EDUCATION!

We hope to see you again soon!

