



NATIONAL  
ART EDUCATION  
ASSOCIATION

## **Platform: Art Educators**

### **Position Statement on Collaborations Between the Visual Arts, Design, and Media Arts Educator and the Teaching Artist**

**[Adopted March 2012; Reviewed and Revised March 2015; March 2020; March 2025]**

A teaching artist is a professional artist who shares their expertise and experience with learners and faculty. NAEA supports policy for teaching artists to work in close collaboration with a certified or licensed visual arts, design, or media arts educator who maintains the primary responsibility for classroom learning and assessment. Art educator–teaching artist collaborations are mutually beneficial and have the ability to invigorate and expand creative learning. Partnerships with teaching artists enhance professional development, program development, and learning in the arts. The shared expertise of both the art educator and teaching artist enriches a comprehensive and sequential preK–12 visual arts curriculum. Art educators, teaching artists, and learners form dynamic working relationships that may take place in a variety of settings and/or situations within the classroom or community.

Additional benefits of a partnership between art educators and teaching artists include:

- increased visibility of art education in the school and community
- professional development and reflection for art educators and the larger school faculty
- insight into visual art as a career for learners and educators
- diverse perspectives and role models for learners and art educators
- in-depth experiences with media and techniques
- community collaboration and partnerships