



- THE NATIONAL NETWORK FOR FOLK ARTS IN EDUCATION

Local Learning connects folklorists, artists, and educators across the nation and advocates for the full inclusion of folklife and folk arts in education to transform learning, build intercultural understanding, and create stronger communities.

Local Learning began as the National Task Force for Folk Arts in Education during a 1993 folk arts roundtable at the National Endowment for the Arts. Today, the core activities and programs of Local Learning provide services to the field of Folk Arts in Education and support practitioners.

We offer a diverse series of professional development workshops that particularly focus upon the art forms that can be found in our own communities.

- Study of traditional arts and their creators contributes not only to students' understanding of culture and community, but also to their ability to think critically, gather and analyze evidence, learn key social-emotional skills, and express their ideas and interpretations through personal creativity.

We convene with the national arts service organizations to ensure a folk arts presence in national conversations and participate in the crafting of national policy and advocacy initiatives.

- Folk Arts in Education has practical tools for policymakers and education leaders who are tackling issues of equity in teacher preparation and professional development.

We offer technical assistance, circulate news of the field through a variety of media and platforms, and develop resources, including through our our flagship digital publication, the *Journal of Folklore and Education* (JFE).

- A peer reviewed publication, JFE provides a forum for interdisciplinary, multimedia approaches to community-based teaching, learning, and cultural stewardship. Find it at www.locallearningnetwork.org
- Our audience includes educators and students at all levels and in all settings, as well as folk culture specialists.
- Building the literature of the field and deliberately engaging a cross-disciplinary audience for folk arts in education strengthens and sustains this work for the next generation.

Local Learning: Bringing a cultural lens to complex subjects since 1993.

