

Perpich Center for Arts Education

What is Perpich

Thirty years ago Minnesota leaders made a bold decision to invest in arts education to impact student achievement, feed the state's economic engine and position Minnesota for global competition. This prompted the creation of the Minnesota Center for Arts Education (later named the Perpich Center for Arts Education). From its inception, the Perpich Center has offered consistent and essential leadership to rural, suburban and urban school districts on research-based, innovative models for the delivery of education in and through the arts.

The center is home to a public arts education library and a two-year, residential high school. Perpich experts also provide outreach with educational professional, curricular and standards development. All services are statewide. This conscious investment in arts education has had demonstrated impact toward the status Minnesota enjoys today as a national leader in education.



Perpich provides students and educators throughout Minnesota the opportunity to prepare for 21st century careers.

2016-17 Legislative Agenda

Perpich Center for Arts Education's services are more essential to the state than ever. We request that the Minnesota Legislature support the Governor's recommendation to add a 1.8% increase to our biennial base budget of \$13,546,000 and to add \$500,000 in FY16 and \$500,000 in FY17 for facility and instructional improvements. Additional support is requested for:

- **Advancing business continuity and outreach work** for rural school districts. Eighty-five percent of Minnesota school districts seek greater assistance from the Perpich Center. These funds incorporate expenses such as mandated compensation increases, fulfillment of the legislative mandate for district planning services, greater financial accessibility to the arts high school, direct services for rural school districts, mitigation of the achievement gap and quality arts education programs.

Recommendation: FY16 \$500,000; FY17 \$500,000.

- **Providing essential technology services** for improved infrastructure and equipment as identified by MN.IT several years ago. Unlike school districts, the agency cannot levy for technology monies. The current system is antiquated, does not address serious security issues, and prohibits innovative online classroom instruction.

Recommendation: FY16 \$649,000; FY17 \$431,000.

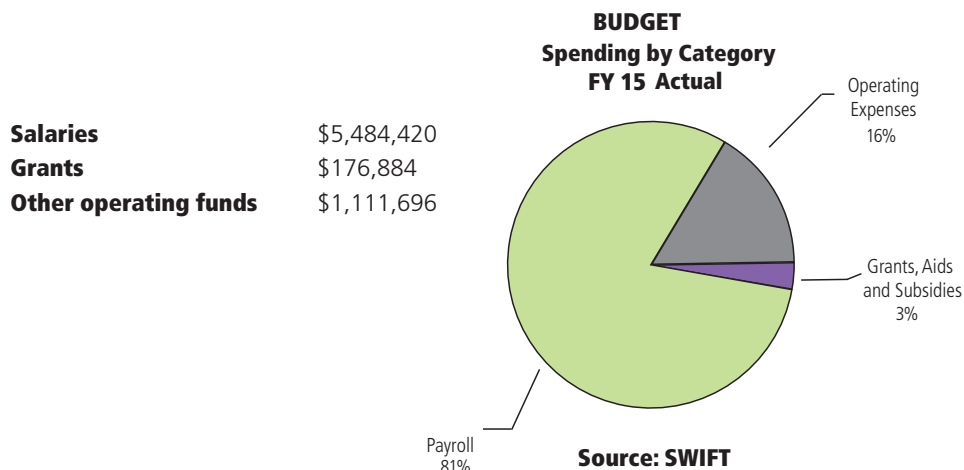
**Making the case
for our 2016-17
legislative request**

The Perpich Center is a valuable asset to the state of Minnesota and to the nation.

- **We are preparing Minnesota students for the future.** Compelling research shows arts education improves student achievement, is one of the most effective means for mitigating the achievement gap, provides skills for the 21st century work with direct impact on economic development and prepares students for global competition.
- **We are equipping Minnesota schools to increase their effectiveness as educators of Minnesota citizens.** In 2010, we launched a ground-breaking program with 40 teachers and nine rural school districts in west central Minnesota (also now in southeastern and northeastern Minnesota), focused on collaborative arts integration. External evaluators found that students in arts integrated lessons are 4.4 times more likely to be highly thoughtful and highly engaged than in regular classroom instruction.
- **We are national leaders in preparing students for postsecondary education.** In 2011, The College Board presented Perpich Center with its first ever award for “Excellence and Innovation in the Arts.” Now offered annually, this award honors the demonstrated improved college entrance test scores of students who have arts education as part of the school curriculum.
- **We are committed to student success.** The arts high school is consistent in reaching 100% graduation with 85% of graduates planning to seek college admissions. We effectively prepare students for life-long, fulfilling careers.
- **We are a model for international educational leaders.** Leaders from China, Brazil, Germany, France, Saudi Arabia, and Japan have visited Perpich Center to learn about arts education as part of their quest to improve achievement or prepare students for careers in the creative economy.
- **We support educators throughout the state and stand ready to meet the demand for more.** In 2013 we provided professional development services for 1,700 teachers in 258 school districts, connecting more than 340 teaching artists or arts organizations to educators. Eighty-five percent of school districts in Minnesota are requesting much-needed resources from Perpich to: improve arts education in their schools, improve the training and performance of their teachers and raise the achievement of thousands of Minnesota students.
- **We are a nationally recognized arts education institution.** The Perpich Center’s reputation for innovation resulted in Minnesota being selected by the President’s Committee on the Arts and the Humanities to participate in the Turnaround Arts initiative, a national program targeting student achievement.
- **We have research-based, ground-tested methods for reducing the achievement gap and can share them through teacher training.** Our programs in outreach and program support allow the state to directly address the pernicious effects of the achievement gap by training teachers in cultural competence and the use of arts education to motivate and engage students

Perpich Budget

Perpich is focused on the Governor’s objective of **functioning with extreme efficiency, innovation and accountable government services.**



Perpich Impact

“Students from low socio-economic backgrounds, who participate in the arts, have an increased chance of attending college and completing a postsecondary degree.” Council for Exceptional Children

Arts programming helps to prepare youth to apply their skills directly to employment opportunities. James Caterall, “Doing Well and doing Good by Doing Art”

“Students who experience arts integrated curricula meet or significantly exceed state and district standardized test averages, even in schools with high populations of at-risk students.” - University of South Carolina-Columbia

“My high school has been involved in the work supported by the Perpich Center for the past two years, and I am impressed. After 26 years (as a principal in Minnesota), it takes a lot to impress me and the professional and personal approach of the Perpich people has been spectacular.” – Rick O. Wolter, principal, La Crescent High School

A sample of Perpich careers

The careers of Perpich Arts High School graduates are extremely varied. While many do go forward in arts-based careers, the majority enter fields that may seem surprising, but which require the innovative, problem-solving skills that are fostered in an arts-focused school.

- Cale Nordmeyer, 2003 visual, butterfly conservation specialist, Minnesota Zoo
- Tom Deris, 1996 media arts, first grade teacher, named 2012 District Teacher of the Year by Prior Lake-Savage Education Association
- David Martin, 2000 theater, surgeon in San Francisco
- Rochelle Zordich, 2008 dance, researcher at Boston Scientific
- Christina Mills, 2000 music, attorney and wind energy policy advocate
- Andy Thaemert, 1997 visual arts, senior creative director for global store design at Nike
- Nicole Messer Callram, 1997 theater, foreign service officer in U.S. Embassy, Kuwait
- Steven James Walker, 1993 visual arts, archeologist in South Africa
- Aril Pate, 2002 visual, art curator at Medtronic

History Perpich Center for Arts Education

- 1985 Enabling legislation passed creating the *Minnesota School for the Arts and Resource Center*
- 1986 Resource Center offered its first program: *Minnesota Arts Experience (MAX)* summer program for teachers and students in more than 50 communities across the state
- 1987 First demonstration of the Arts High School at Camp Courage with 150 students and their teachers from across the state
- 1989 Opened Minnesota Center for Arts Educations' *Arts High School* in Golden Valley, becoming Minnesota's first statewide STEAM school
- 1991 Graduated first class from the Arts High School
- 1994 Legislature gave Perpich Center for Arts Education additional responsibilities, including designing and promoting arts education opportunities for all Minnesota pupils in elementary and secondary schools
- 1996 Partnered with the Department of Education develop and implement the first set of Minnesota academic standards, which included arts standards
- 1997 Received a \$2.2 million Annenberg Challenge grant in collaboration with Minneapolis Public Schools for the Arts and Academic Achievement program that remains in existence
- 1997 Published *Frameworks for Arts Curriculum Strategies*. Distributed it to all Minnesota schools to support teachers in implementation of new arts standards
- 1998 Created the *Minnesota Arts Best Practice Network*
- 1999 Created a partnership with Bemidji State University to offer teacher preparation courses on the Perpich campus using Perpich arts education expertise
- 2000 Helped the Board of Teaching create teacher licensure in Dance/Theater
- 2002 Received a \$2 million grant from the McKnight Foundation to extend the Arts for Academic Achievement program in rural Minnesota and create regional best practices network
- 2003 Helped create new Minnesota Academic Standards in the Arts K-12
- 2004 Published a new state curriculum framework for arts education *Engaging Students in the Arts: Creating, Performing, Responding*
- 2004 Assist Board of Teaching with alternative licensure: Licensure via Portfolio
- 2005 Published the *Artful Teaching and Learning Handbook* for teachers
- 2006 Awarded a \$1.2 million grant from the US Department of Education to expand *Quality Teaching Networks* to work with high poverty students in regional networks
- 2008 Partnered with the Minnesota Department of Education revise Minnesota Academic Standards in the Arts K-12
- 2010 Designed and created a pilot project for integrating the arts across the curriculum in rural Minnesota
- 2011 Received College Board Award for Excellence and Innovation in the Arts for national recognition of exemplary programming in arts education
- 2011 International student exchange with Luoyang, China
- 2011 Accepted to the ArtScience Labs prize competition, one of three U.S. schools
- 2012 Release of "Building a Legacy," a report on the statewide status of arts education in Minnesota
- 2012 Selected to serve on the national writing team charged with rewriting arts education standards for U.S. schools
- 2013 Perpich Arts High School chosen to participate in the Minnesota Department of Education pilot program for teacher evaluation
- 2013 Established cultural arts integration project in Ghana, West Africa
- 2014 Chosen to manage the Minnesota-based Turnaround Arts initiative of the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities
- 2014 Appointed to lead the Americans for the Arts State Policy Pilot Program for Minnesota