

Mandate Working Group Arts Education for All

ELIA and Arts Education for All

ELIA stands for the Arts, advocating for freedom of artistic expression, recognition of the value and impact of the arts, research in and through the arts, and access to creative education for all. Education in the arts fosters creativity, critical thinking, cultural awareness, and emotional expression, enriching individual lives, strengthening society, and inspiring future generations.

The arts, as individual subjects or as part of transdisciplinary frameworks, are still undervalued across many European countries in all levels of education, including life-long learning. Inclusive practices demand that we reconsider not only who can access education opportunities in the arts, but how and at what stages in their life.

ELIA acts as a strong advocate for maintaining and reinforcing arts education within the curricula of primary and secondary schools, as well as within the higher education system. The ELIA Working Group Arts Education for All, in connection with other associations and networks, will work towards the creation of knowledge and evidence, such as the development of the Manifesto 'Arts education for All', which will form the basis of long-term advocacy of arts for all. Special attention will be devoted to the development of common ground amongst different countries, in order to improve mobility and promote the internationalisation of arts students and teachers.

Purpose of the Working Group Arts Education for All (why do we exist)

The Working Group fosters the creation and sharing of knowledge (peer learning) within the ELIA community around the theme of arts education and facilitates interdisciplinary dialogue and cooperation. This exchange feeds continuous efforts to track how arts education is organised in the European space and relates it to global developments. The Working Group's primary purpose is to lead the dialogue within the ELIA community on the topic of 'arts education for all', fostering common ground, shared good practice and the ability to act together.

In particular, it strives to acknowledge and valorize the potential of highly trained art teachers with an active practice, the internationalisation of arts teacher training, as well as to advocate for the importance of arts education at all levels of learning.

The group aims to cover topics such as:

- a) Evidence based general and specific benefits of arts education.
- b) Access to arts education across Europe, and around the globe.
- c) Lifelong training in the arts.
- d) Arts teachers' profiles and competences.
- e) Organisation of arts education in different countries.
- f) Exchange platform for arts teachers and students.
- g) International policy and competencies/skills frameworks on arts education (e.g., by EU and UNESCO)

Working Group Responsibilities (how we work together)

The Working Group will set its priorities in line with ELIA's values and strategic missions as well as relevant developments and challenges affecting the membership. It will develop a two-year activity plan to achieve its objectives.

The Working Group is the driving force behind the Arts Education for All Community, fostering dialogue and actively engaging the community. Its members are dedicated volunteers from the community who are particularly attuned to the focus of the Working Group. The Working Group is an official Working Group of ELIA and serves as the governing body of the Arts Education for All Community, directing and steering the network. Its primary responsibilities include representing the interests of the Arts Education for All Community from across Europe and beyond, addressing relevant topics and issues for the community, preparing events, and contributing to the development

of the ELIA strategy and programs. The Working Group can assign taskforces to work on specific topics, such as strategy and long-term planning.

In particular, the Arts Education for All Working Group conceives programmes and events – together with the ELIA Team and Representative Board – to activate the topic within the ELIA membership and curates the ELIA Arts Education for All Community Hub. As such the Working Group often takes part in major ELIA events. It regularly hosts community hub gatherings in online, hybrid and in-person formats, with the support of the ELIA Team. The Working Group is expected to organise an annual in-person gathering, hosted by a different member institution each time, with every other year's event integrated into the 'ELIA Day' of the ELIA Biennial Conference.

The Working Group is administratively supported by the ELIA Team.

Working Group Composition and Governance

[ELIA's governance rules for Working Groups will apply to the Arts Education for All Working Group.](#)

Membership in the Working Group Arts Education for All is open to ELIA members. The group consists of eight to ten members, including the participation of two members of the ELIA Representative Board. Each member acts on a personal mandate, there is no delegation or substitution. The Working Group's composition shall adhere to ELIA's principles of diversity and representation, whilst also ensuring a sustainable link to and exchange with ELIA's Representative Board and Executive Group.

The selection process for new Working Group members follows an open call procedure initiated by the Working Group, through which member institutions will be asked to nominate candidates. Calls may incorporate specific selection criteria in order to meet the principles of diversity and representation for the overall group composition. The Working Group shall draft a proposal for appointments upon received submissions. This proposal (including justification) is presented to the Executive Group by the Working Group's Chair. The Executive Group formally appoints the new members of the Working Group.

The minimum term for participation in the Working Group is two years, the maximum term is 6 years, whereas the group is composed in such a way that there are overlapping term running times of the various group members. No more than one third of the Working Group should rotate at the same time.

Working Group Members attend meetings and contribute to the activities of the Arts Education for All Working Group. The Working Group meets regularly online in bi-monthly meetings. Once a year the Working Group will meet in person to manage and collaboratively develop Working Group deliverables (e.g., surveys, research, and policy papers, and events). Members are expected to engage in the development of these collaborative deliverables beyond the plenary meetings, as well. Members are encouraged to host physical meetings of the Working Group in their institutions.

By taking part in a Working Group, members understand and agree that their participation and contribution is voluntary and unremunerated, and that any intellectual property created as part of the Working Group shall be owned by ELIA (nevertheless, a contributing member shall have the right to use such intellectual property for their own research and teaching purposes). Whenever feasible, Community Hub events are organised in proximity to, or in collaboration with other events, in order to involve members as widely as possible and to meet ecological and economic sustainability concerns. , for attendees, ELIA and the Working Group as organisers.

The Working Group may not incur any costs unless it has received the prior approval of the ELIA Executive Group for such expenditure. Member travel and accommodation costs are covered by member institutions, unless other funding mechanisms are in place.

The Working Group advises and supports the ELIA Representative Board and Executive Group regarding advocacy initiatives related to arts education on European and transnational policy level. When developing advocacy-related deliverables the Working Group collaborates with ELIA's advocacy manager and follows ELIA's protocols on the publication of papers and running advocacy campaigns.

The Working Group reports to the ELIA Executive Group.