



## **Cruse elected to Americans for the Arts' Advisory Council**

WASHINGTON – Dec. 24, 2014 – Members of Americans for the Arts, the leading organization for advancing the arts and arts education in America, have elected Rebecca Cruse as a member of their advisory council for the Arts Education Council. Cruse will advise Americans for the Arts' staff on developing programs and services that will build a deeper connection to the field and the network membership.

Through the [Arts Education Council](#), Cruse will work with fellow arts leaders to participate in and support network-specific programs such as Arts in Education Week, Keep the Arts in Public Schools, and more.

Cruse has been the deputy director of the South Dakota Arts Council since July 2009, where she directs the arts education and accessibility programming and serves as the communications coordinator. She also serves on the advisory councils of the South Dakota Alliance for Arts Education and the Community Arts Network.

"The success of our organization is dependent on leaders in the arts and culture industries, such as Rebecca, who are willing to dedicate their time and expertise to work with peers across our country to shape national programs and messages and help craft services for states, communities and local organizations," said Robert L. Lynch, president and CEO of Americans for the Arts. "We are grateful for Ms. Cruse's dedication to promoting and cultivating arts and arts education nationwide."

Potential council members were nominated in early October and were voted on by members of Americans for the Arts through November 2014. Cruse will serve a three-year term, from Jan. 1, 2015 to Dec. 31, 2017.

Americans for the Arts is the leading nonprofit organization for advancing the arts and arts education in America. With offices in Washington, D.C. and New York City, it has a record of more than 50 years of service. Americans for the Arts is dedicated to representing and serving local communities and creating opportunities for every American to participate in and appreciate all forms of the arts. Additional information is available at [www.AmericansForTheArts.org](http://www.AmericansForTheArts.org).

###