NAEA ED&I Commission Statement
of Solidarity with Ukraine

Folk artists Pete Seeger and Joe Hickerson's "Where Have All the Flowers Gone?" echoed sentiments of antiwar protestors during the Vietnam War. Minimally, it asked the world to reflect on the lives, impact, and purpose of war. In 2022, we find ourselves, the NAEA Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion (ED&I) Commission, reflecting on these timeless lyrics. As art educators, the recent attack on Ukrainian families sits deeply in our hearts and minds. We want to provide a safe space for our students, families, and communities that celebrates differences, not divides us.

The attack on Ukraine has resulted in the needless deaths of Ukrainian and Russian people, and weighs heavily on our families we serve: Ukrainian, Russian, military, and our ancestors. The ED&I Commission writes this statement in solidarity for the families we serve, the children we dutifully teach, and the lives that will change forever during this time, regardless of your citizenry. We hear and see you. Our hearts are with you.

As educators, teaching throughout the pandemic has amplified the need for trauma-informed resources as we have experienced sudden loss and displacement of families we serve and our own. The ED&I Commission humbly offers the below reminder that NAEA has several resources available for you and your colleagues to consider when supporting each other through these evolving and uncertain times.

In solidarity,

NAEA ED&I Commission

National Art Education Association. (2020). Getting started with equity, diversity, and inclusion. In *Art Educator Toolkit*.

Heise, D., & Kay, L. (2021). Trauma-informed art education: Learners and each other. *Translations*, *4*.

NAEA Position Statement on Reaching Learners Who Have Experienced Trauma

Special Needs Interest Group Resources

NAEA Need to Know Webcast | Fostering Resilience During Turbulent Times Through Educator Self-Care

NAEA Town Hall: Art Education & Social Emotional Learning: Taking Care of Our Learners and Ourselves