RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING YOUTH ARTS MONTH

SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
RESOLUTION No: 2293-5

WHEREAS, Youth Arts Month is an annual celebration supported through the Council for Art Education to emphasize the value of art education for all children and to encourage support for excellent school art programs. It provides a forum for acknowledging skills that are fostered through experience in the visual arts that are specific to learning in the arts; and

WHEREAS, each March Youth Arts month and art education is celebrated in local schools, school districts, community arts organizations, and larger communities; and

WHEREAS, according to the California Department of Education, the arts are taught in nearly 60,000 classes in Santa Clara County. Studies have proven that arts learning strategies and arts integration help teachers to recognize and build upon critical thinking skills, curiosity, flexibility, communication, innovation, collaboration and are the traits required for post-secondary and workplace success; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Board of Education is committed to supporting the arts to inspire and prepare students for success in the 21st century and allowing them to develop as productive, contributing members of a strong community; and

WHEREAS, we share the vision of ensuring that students have access to high-quality arts education that is culturally relevant and inclusive in all forms as part of a comprehensive education that sparks curiosity, imagination, creativity, and joy; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Office of Education houses a large collection of student artwork, obtained through its annual Young Artist Showcase county-wide competition; and

WHEREAS, the 2022 theme for the Young Artist Showcase Competition is “Contact Zones: Places Where We Meet.” This year’s theme encourages students to express experiences in places and/or events where differences meet and interact; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Office of Education’s Artspiration is a county-wide arts education initiative focused on professional development, student engagement, advocacy, and communication. The Arts Equity Community of Practice helps cohorts of educators deepen their practice of culturally responsive teaching and learning through the arts, ultimately benefiting students in Santa Clara County; and

WHEREAS, Artspiration is leading the way in local arts education by providing free training for teaching arts that support students in kindergarten through grade 12 on the California Arts Standards for Public Schools; and
WHEREAS, Artspiration has established partnerships throughout the county and the state to strengthen support and advocacy for youth arts within Santa Clara County, including ArtsEd Connect, Create CA, California County Superintendents Educational Services Association Arts Initiative, Children's Discovery Museum, City of San Jose - Office of Cultural Affairs, Mineta San Jose International Airport, Montalvo Arts Center, New Museum Los Gatos, San Jose Downtown Association, San Jose Museum of Art, San Jose Museum of Quilts and Textiles, San Jose State University, San Jose Taiko, Stanford Live Education, SV Creates, Symphony Silicon Valley, The Red Ladder Theatre Company, The Tech Museum of Innovation; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County Board of Education and County Superintendent of Schools recognize the month of March as Youth Arts Month and supports arts education in Santa Clara County and encourages arts in our classrooms and celebrates students’ creativity, inspiration, and joy through artistic expression.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Santa Clara County Board of Education at a meeting held on February 2, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: President Ortiz, Vice President Chon, Trustees Di Salvo, Mah, Rossi and Sreekrishnan
NOES: none
ABSTAIN: none
ABSENT: Trustee Kamei

Peter Ortiz, President  
Santa Clara County Board of Education

Mary Ann Dewan, Ph.D.  
County Superintendent of Schools