



# Artspiration Newsletter

May 2025 | Issue 9



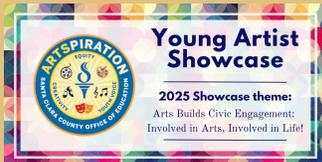
## Artspiration News



May is Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Month! The cultural terms encompass all the cultures of the Asian continent and the islands of Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia. The Library of Congress, National Archives and Records Administration, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Gallery of Art, National Park Service, Smithsonian Institution and United States Holocaust Memorial Museum join in paying tribute to the generations of Asian and Pacific Islanders who have enriched America's history and are instrumental in its future success. (<https://asianpacificheritage.gov>)

## Artspiration-Sponsored Events

### 2025 Young Artist Showcase: The Arts Build Civic Engagement: Involved in Arts, Involved in Life!



### The 2025 Young Artist Showcase People's Choice Awards Announced!

Thank you to those students who entered their pieces! A retrospective of all the pieces

will be displayed online on the Young Artist Showcase page and at our Ridder Park complex. All are invited to attend the 2025 Young Artist Showcase taking place online on May 23, 2025, at 4:00 pm. To register, please click on the button.

The following are the K-12 People's Choice awardees of the 2025 Young Artists Showcase. Please see a selection of the pieces below the list.

**Transitional Kindergarten:**

Katelyn Reyes - *Cleaning Garbage* (Ida Jew Academy and Valle Vista Elementary, Mt. Pleasant School District) People's Choice Award

**Kindergarten:**

Vida Dena - *In the Garden* (Ida Jew Academy and Valle Vista Elementary, Mt. Pleasant School District) People's Choice Award

**1st Grade:**

Advik Arunkumar - *Art builds civic engagement: involved in arts, involved in life* (Bishop Elementary School, Sunnyvale School District) People's Choice Award

**2nd Grade:**

Jane Hwang - *Art is near* (Graystone Elementary, San Jose Unified School District) People's Choice Award

**3rd Grade:**

Aishwarya Vedula - *The Hallway of Inspiration* (Bullis Charter School) People's Choice Award

**4th Grade:**

Eleanor Hong - *"Protect the Ocean"* (Duvaneck Elementary School, Palo Alto Unified School District) People's Choice Award

Vinisha Sathish Kumar - *Little Hands Big Impact* (Cherry Chase Elementary School, Sunnyvale School District) Honorable Mention

**5th Grade:**

James Jackson Jr. - *Our World* (Noble Elementary, Berryessa Union School District) People's Choice Award

Andrew Yen - *Used Shoes Save Lives* (Eaton Elementary School, Cupertino Union School District) Honorable Mention

**6th Grade:**

Luna Lee - *Making Joy* (Jane Lathrop Stanford Middle School, Palo Alto Unified School District) People's Choice Award

Isabella Wu – *Peace in a Pot* (Redwood Middle School, Saratoga Union School District) Honorable Mention

Natalie Sun - *Volunteer at Senior Center* (Miller Middle School, Cupertino Union School District) Honorable Mention

**7th Grade:**

Shihan Yan - *Take inspiration and plant a tree* (Piedmont Middle School, Berryessa Union School District), People's Choice Award

**8th Grade:**

Jiayi (Lydia) Wu - *Unfinished Stories Between Us* (Jane Lathrop Stanford Middle School, Palo Alto Unified School District) People's Choice Award

Abinaya Arivalagan - *Hand In Hand* (Moreland Middle School, Moreland School District) Honorable Mention

**9th Grade:**

Madaline Petersen - *Heart of Service* (Mountain View High School, Mountain View-Los Altos Union School District) People's Choice Award

**10th Grade:**

Elyse Choi - *For My Community* (Mountain View High School, Mountain View-Los Altos Union SD) People's Choice Award

Lucy Montemerlo - *The Art of Becoming Smaller* (Mountain View High School, Mountain View-Los Altos Union SD) Honorable Mention

**11th Grade:**

Amanda Jin – *Media* (Lynbrook High School, Fremont Union High School District) **Best in Show**

Lucas Li – *Parachute* (Lynbrook High School, Fremont Union High School District) Honorable Mention

**12th Grade:**

Clarissa Finch - *Chaos of Society* (Mountain View High School, Mountain View-Los Altos Union SD) People's Choice Award

Randy Miranda Dominguez - *Somo Mas* (Mountain View High School, Mountain View-Los Altos Union SD) Honorable Mention

Please look at a selection of the People's Choice Awardees and those artists who received Honorable Mentions.

Register for the 2025 Young Artist Showcase



**For My Community**  
Elyse Choi  
People's Choice Awards



**Media**  
Amanda Jinn  
Best-in-Show



**Unfinished Stories Between Us**  
Jiayi Wu  
People's Choice Award



**Take Inspiration and  
Plant a Tree**  
Shihan Yan  
People's Choice Award



**Somos Mas**  
Randy Miranda Dominguez  
Honorable Mention



**Protect the Ocean**  
Eleanor Hong  
People's Choice Award

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## Partner Corner

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### Proposition 28/Arts and Music in School News

As of Friday, April 25, 2025, the California Department of Education's **Proposition 28—Arts and Music in Schools Funding** web page has been updated to include:



- A fillable template of the Proposition 28: Arts and Music in Schools Final Expenditure Report. This resource is under the “LEA Web Portal and Reports” tab. It aims to assist local educational agencies (LEAs) as they prepare the information required by California Education Code (EC) Section 8820(f)(2), which is due by October 1 of the end of the three-year expenditure period or when funds have been exhausted. The Final Expenditure Report is submitted through the **Arts and Music in Schools (AMS) Portal**.
- The **Frequently Asked Questions** page has also been updated and includes additional guidance on reporting requirements. Questions 25, 27, 31, 32, 33, 35, and 36 are new additions to the FAQs, while questions 3, 10, 11, 23, 24, 30, 37, and 43 have been updated.
- The 2024–25 Annual Report submission window, as required by EC Section 8820(g)(4), will open in the AMS portal on Thursday, May 1, 2025. The window will remain open until September 30, 2025.
  - This report requires approval from the governing body or the board.
  - The California Department of Education has also provided an optional fillable template for the annual report within the “LEA Web Portal and Reports” tab.
  - Please note that LEAs risk losing funds if this report and the Annual Certifications are not completed before their annual audit.

You may join the AMS listserv by sending a blank message to [join-prop28@mlist.cde.ca.gov](mailto:join-prop28@mlist.cde.ca.gov). Please direct any questions to [Prop28@cde.ca.gov](mailto:Prop28@cde.ca.gov). If you have any questions, you may also contact me at [sfojas@sccoe.org](mailto:sfojas@sccoe.org).

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### San Jose Taiko



Get ready for discovery through drumming in TaikoTown, an exciting online show for kids developed and produced by San Jose Taiko that celebrates Japanese American and Asian American culture and community through the power of TAIKO! Join members of San Jose Taiko as they premiere our pilot episode this May for AAPI Heritage Month.

Educators inspired the development of TaikoTown during the pandemic, seeking online material to keep their young students engaged and instructed. These short episodes serve as ways to uplift culture and community in a joyful, fun way.

The pilot episode will be released online this month. Please click on the button below to access the new materials. We hope you and your kids enjoy these resources!



Photo caption: Members of San Jose Taiko at SCCOE headquarters partnering with the Digital Media team to film a segment of the pilot episode of TaikoTown.]

[Visit Taiko Town Here!](#)



## Prop 28 and Arts and Music in Schools Survey **\*\*Important\*\***

WestEd, in partnership with Create CA, is conducting a survey as part of a study to deepen our understanding of the challenges and enabling factors that districts and schools encounter in utilizing Proposition 28 Arts and Music in Schools funds.

The survey should take approximately 10-20 minutes to complete and can be accessed through the link by clicking on the button on the left.

Please note that all responses will be kept confidential.

### Who Should Complete This Survey?

- Visual and Performing Arts Coordinators
- School District Leaders
- County Office of Education Leaders
- Principals & School Site Administrators
- Charter Management Organization Leaders
- Arts Teachers
- Non-Profit or Community Organizations
- For-Profit Arts Providers

Your perspectives and knowledge are highly valuable, and your participation in this survey will make a significant contribution to creating a comprehensive statewide analysis. The insights gathered will also be pivotal in advancing arts education in California.

## Arts Reading

### Wallace Foundation: Stitching Together the Threads

A Cross-Disciplinary Literature Review on Youth Arts and Well-Being  
(March 2025)

Acosta, J. D., McCarthy, D., Rogers, R. C., Marcellino, W., Rabinowitz, M., González, I., Jacobs, T., & Dion, L. (2025). *Stitching the Threads Together: A Cross-Disciplinary Literature Review on Youth Arts Engagement and Well-Being*. <https://doi.org/10.7249/rra3264-1>

[Click Here to Access the Study](#)

### Hewlett Foundation: Moving as One: Community in the Art of Nā Lei Hulu

By Elsa Kebede and Nathan Jae-Sun Large ~ April 10, 2025

[Click to Read](#)

**The Sound of Music Returns to Students Traumatized by the Eaton Fire** by Karen D'Souza  
EdSource, May 5, 2025

[Click Here to Read](#)

## Technical Assistance and Office Hours

As your County Arts Coordinator, I am available for consultation about all things arts education and can provide professional learning for educators, arts organizations, and community organizations. If you would like to connect, send me an email. In my response email, use the hyperlink 'Book time with Sofia Fojas' to set up a meeting. The meeting link can be found below my signature.

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