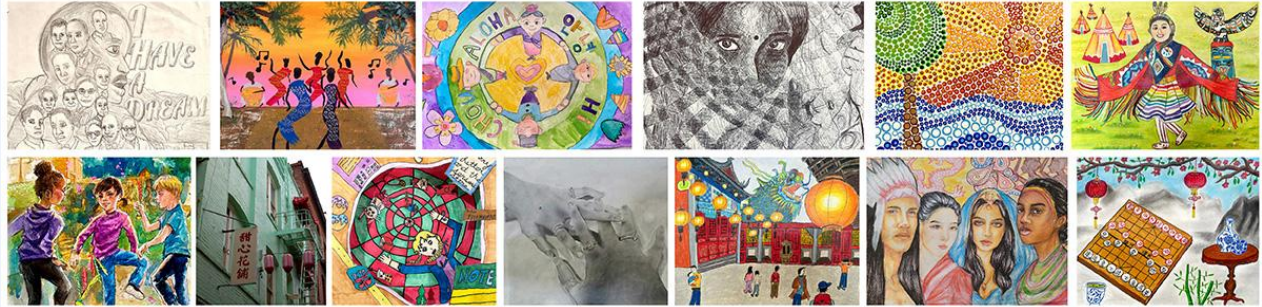




Artspiration Newsletter

March 2025 | Issue 7



Artspiration News

March is Youth Arts Month!



We celebrate the importance of artistic and creative expression for all students in our schools. This celebration of art education in schools was a national initiative created in 1961 by the National Art Education Association, and it has since grown to include a celebration of all arts disciplines. Encouragement and commitment to the arts by students, community organizations, businesses, governmental agencies, and individuals were the goals of the initiative.

You are invited to send flyers and other collateral for arts events you would like to share with the community by the 20th of each month to be considered for submission in the Artspiration Newsletter. Let's celebrate the arts together!

Artspiration-Sponsored Events

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

The 2025 Young Artist Showcase application is open until April 1!



Each year, the Santa Clara County Office of Education announces the 2025 Young Artist Showcase as a way to celebrate arts in our schools. This showcase is open to public school students, grades Pre-Kindergarten through 12th grade, in Santa Clara County. Adjudicators will determine whether the student artwork is to be accepted into the permanent exhibit of student artwork located within the SCCOE campuses and showcased at the *virtual* Young Artist Showcase Celebration on May 23, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. All artwork must be submitted digitally.

This year's artwork theme is inspired by research highlighted by the National Endowment for the Arts in 2004: Arts as Civic Engagement: *Involved in Arts, Involved in Life* (National Endowment for the Arts, 2004). In 2017, the Irvine Foundation funded a study that had similar findings (Rabkin, 2017). There is a consistent correlation between arts participation and civic engagement, and experiences during adolescence are particularly impactful (Rabkin, 2017, p. 5). The arts build connections between people, evoking trust, and are crucial in rebuilding social capital - shared values and resources used towards achieving a common goal or set of goals. Please reference the following study on civic engagement and arts participation by clicking the button below.

Civic Engagement and the Arts

Key Dates

2024-25 YOUNG ARTISTS SHOWCASE SELECTION PROCESS:

- November 1, 2024 – April 1, 2025 | Electronic submissions of PK-12th grade student artwork and media
- Week of April 14, 2025 | People's Choice Awards Adjudication
- May 13, 2025 | Online Student Art Gallery at www.sccoe.org/arts/yas
- May 23, 2025 | Young Artists Virtual Showcase Celebration for all grades: 4:00 p.m.

Click on the button below to access the guidelines in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese.

Visit the 2025 Young Artist Showcase Web Page

2025 ¡Viva el mariachi! Showcase

Get Tickets!



We welcome back the Mariachi Los Gavilanes from Monaco Middle School in Las Vegas to perform, highlighting local groups on April 3, 2025! Click the button below for tickets! **Registration opens on March 1!**

Go to the Webpage



Research

Please click on the links below for studies that show the impact of arts education.



Well-Being and Well-Becoming Through the Arts

This report was funded by the Wallace Foundation and highlights the importance of seven elements of cultural community-based arts programs for youth that nurture a sense of belonging, skill development, and identity. (Osai, E., et al, 2025)

[Download Report Here](#)

Partner Corner



TheatreWorks

Some exciting new programs are being rolled out this semester: the Young Playwrights Project and the Young Storytellers Lab. Please click on the buttons below to get more information. Also, the [arts education section](#) of TheatreWorks' website has been refreshed. Teachers may also sign up for more information at this [portal](#). For more information, please contact Jake Arky, Education Coordinator, at jarky@theatreworks.org.

TheatreWorks - Arts Education



Opera Cultura

Opera Cultura is proud to bring back its **free** arts education school program. This year's school program will be a combined music and theater program led by mezzo-soprano Deborah Rosengaus. Selected students will have the opportunity to participate in our main stage production, "Cuentos," alongside professional artists. Classes are on Wednesdays, April 23, April 30, May 7, May 14, May 21st, & May 28th at the Historic Hoover Theater in San Jose. Click the button to register.

Opera Cultura



The **Arts Education Alliance** is a coalition of national arts education organizations. It includes the Educational Theatre Association, the National Art Education Association, the National Association for Media Arts Education, the National Association for Music Education, and the National Dance Education Association. Its mission, announced in May 2024, is to amplify the value of arts education. They have released a [resource](#)

[toolkit](#) for arts educators and advocates. Click on the link to access the toolkit or click on the button below:

Arts Education Alliance Resource Toolkit

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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