

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING YOUTH ARTS MONTH

SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

RESOLUTION No. 2458 - 2

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 are celebrated in local schools, school districts, community arts organizations, and larger communities; and

WHEREAS, studies have demonstrated that arts integration helps students build critical thinking skills, curiosity, flexibility, communication, innovation, and collaboration, which are traits required for post-secondary and workplace success; and

WHEREAS, in November 2022, Proposition 28 passed, providing approximately \$1 billion of arts funding each year to California public schools; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) launched [Artspiration](#), a countywide initiative that supports arts education for all students in Santa Clara County schools; and

WHEREAS, Artspiration supports professional learning opportunities, advocacy, and student engagement in the visual and performing arts; 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 is also working with other counties in California to bring together those who work with youth in the art community to collaborate together; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE hosts the [ArtsEdConnect Grant](#). ArtsEdConnect is a partnership of the SCCOE and SVCCreates with additional funding from the Warmenhoven Family Foundation and the County of Santa Clara; and

WHEREAS, annual grants include Arts Experience Grant - used for classroom workshops delivered by artists, residency with local artists, field trips, museum visits, attending live theater performances or other similar arts experiences; Arts Materials and Supplies Grant - used for arts materials and supplies that will be used in interesting arts projects that teachers create for their students; and, Arts Experiences and Materials Grant - used for a combination of arts experiences and materials in a coherent project, for example, working with a resident artist to produce a play, including purchasing materials for costumes; and

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

WHEREAS, each year, there is a Young Artist Showcase hosted by Artspiration. The many works of art submitted from this showcase are then displayed at the SCCOE office as part of the largest curated display of student artwork in the state of California; 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 ArtsEdConnect, Create CA, California County Superintendents Arts Initiative, Children's Discovery Museum, City of San Jose - Office of Cultural Affairs, San Jose Mineta 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, SVCCreates, Symphony Silicon Valley, The Red Ladder Theatre Company, The Tech Museum of Innovation; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE, in collaboration with our vibrant community, sponsored the second annual showcase of youth mariachi and folklórico groups. The third celebration of cultural expression and arts education will be held at the Mexican Heritage Plaza in April of 2025; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Clara County Board of Education and the Interim County Superintendent of Schools do hereby adopt this resolution recognizing the month of March as Youth Arts Month, encouraging youth to express themselves in the arts, and encouraging the use of a variety of arts in the classrooms in Santa Clara County.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the County Board of Education at a meeting held on February 26, 2025, by the following vote:

AYES: Jessica Speiser, Raeena Lari, Don Rocha, Maimona Afzal Berta, Victoria Chon, Jorge Pacheco, Tara Sreekrishnan

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None



Maimona Afzal Berta, President
Santa Clara County Board of Education



Charles Hinman, Ed.D.
Interim County Superintendent of Schools